

QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES

Individual Adults

Notes:

- Individuals' comments not using the questionnaire format are also included here. These comments were placed under the topic area that seemed most appropriate.
- The same number is used under each question topic for each individual who commented. For example, #1 under I. General Comments, and #1 under topics II. through VII., are all from the same individual.

I. General comments

1. Find out what the residents of Lane County want from their parks. Lane County has an excellent inventory of park owned land. Can our parks be more multiple use oriented?
3. They should not be entirely dependent on fees. Parks & open space are health of population issues.
4. Please strive to keep the fees low so that we can all enjoy the parks. I feel that some of the fees are like double taxation since we pay taxes and are being asked to pay user fees, too.

I sincerely appreciate the equestrian trails and access at Lane Co Parks. Please keep them open.

5. Please refrain from use of all chemicals
6. Some "natural" areas – interpretive trails (wetlands trails) – maybe grants through watersheds?
7. Now that we are both retired, we use the parks a lot more. We appreciate parks!
9. Make sure wheelchair accessible bathrooms & appropriate curb cuts to all areas.
10. Parks are vital to this area's economic health and life-style. Maintain the Urban Growth Boundary and make the parks enticing and useful to a broad base of people.
11. Please include Nature Preserves/Sanctuaries as an important park objective for some parks. These would have minimal development, or perhaps none at all in some cases. Development would be limited to nature trails, observation platforms, etc. No motorized traffic or pets. The goal would be minimal disturbance to the plants and animals in the park.
12. Strive to inform and involve park users in your plans and activities. Operate transparently and with accountability.
13. Please proceed very carefully re preserving environmental values in undeveloped parks. I hope there will be a chance for public input re any development of undeveloped parks.
14. What is County master plan for maintenance \$ renovation of existing parks?
15. Some kind of restroom facility that can stay open all year like porta-potties.
16. Look at how other cities have used and conserved wilderness areas. The Nature Conservancy magazine calls attention to "Chicago Wilderness" & "Portland Wilderness".
17. Make them better known county-wide – better marketing. Use may be confined to those nearby many parks.

18. We live near Hileman and Whitely it would be nice to see just a little sprucing up. Clean up, a small area of planting and some informative nature signage . . . anything that would encourage respect.
19. County Parks are of two kinds – developed and undeveloped. These are for different uses and require different types of care and costs. All of the developed parks are more used and seem to be in good shape.
20. Is there any reference to the types of grants the Parks has received over the last few years. Also, involve communities, watershed councils, or agencies in the ongoing design, maintenance and functioning of parks.
22. There is an array of possible uses for the 71 units of the Lane County Park system. Many forms of recreation and nature study can co-exist in a single park unit. Some of the different activities are not compatible with one another, however. We should ensure that recreational uses do not impact outstanding wildlife habitat or unique plant communities.
29. I was hoping you could enlighten me about the prospects of a mountain bike park within the Eugene city limits (within riding distance by bicycle).

Background - I and some others started a mountain bike club called the Willamette Valley Freeriders last year, to complement the DoD group but more focused on technical skill riding and, also accommodate youth who do not have the ability to get out of town to ride trails. The intention was to work with land managers to create an area catered to the more technical aspects of mountain biking, general trail maintenance, and community involvement for the promotion of the sport.

We are already in discussion with Eugene City Park & Rec. officials about a particular area, but we would be interested to learn more about what the Lane County master plan has to offer.

30. Lane County should promote the formation of FRIENDS organizations for as many parks as possible. The parks need more attention and these groups can accomplish a lot. It requires an interface, but would have to think the benefits outweigh this cost.

Incorporate an environmental/ecological element to all planning and facilities maintenance effort. Any improvement or action should not only improve the recreational value but also the environmental quality of the park.

In and around Eugene-Springfield.. work to implement the Rivers to Rides vision as much as possible, forming alliances with the cities to get this done.

31. We would like to be able to use the County Parks. We have a federal pass for disabled persons to have free access to federal lands, a "Golden Access Passport". It is a lifetime pass that allows access to BLM, USACE, NPS, and USFS lands.

Even if we could have a membership fee, like a year's pass, that would be appreciated. It would be nice to have at least a discount because both my wife and I have disabilities.

Armitage is where we would most likely use the pass, because it's closest to where my parents live.

33. I believe Lane County should do a Natural Resources Assessment on any parcel in its ownership --especially before disposing the property, or disturbing it by doing vegetation management or other recreational development. Primary in the NR assessment should be identification of:
 - rare plant, animal and fish species (or if not in appropriate season, presence of potential habitat) - rare habitats (generally, anything with a very high % native cover that is not a young Doug-fir plantation would be of interest)

- streams, ponds, wetlands
- other features

If significant features are found, they should be managed to protect and enhance them. Compatible public access could be a part of that, but not for certain in every case. If the NR assessment is done out of season, then potential habitat could be identified for survey in the proper season.

I think Lane County Parks should have a significant role in the acquisition, protection and management of valuable natural habitats, which includes compatible public recreation (and it may not be possible, or only low-impact recreation may be compatible). The sites currently add, and would continue to add if managed well, to the native biodiversity of the county. No other agency takes responsibility for that!

34. I belong to the Junction City Jeeps a local four-wheel drive club based out of Junction City, OR. I and others in the county have wondered if you have plans on building on Off Highway Vehicle park in Lane County? I've been privileged to attend meetings for a OHV park they are planning on building in the Linn/Benton area and it got me to thinking why don't we have such a park? Lane County has some of the best parks for hiking, biking, walking and even sight seeing but nothing for the OHVing community.

OHV is the fastest growing out door sport with the least area to recreate in. Do you realize that there are 8 ATV dealerships in lane county? Numerous 4x4 customizing shops and thousands of off roaders. They extend from the young to the families and even the handicapped. Why is there no place for us to recreate? Any information would be wonderful.

II. Most important issues that should be dealt with in the County Parks Plan, and why

1.
 - i. Assessing all park properties.
 - ii. Economic future for Parks Dept.
 - iii. What do residents want from parks system.
 - iv. What kind of upgrades or additions can we do to improve income for Parks.
2.
 - i. The demand for accessible natural areas is growing. Bird (and other wild life) viewing, interpretive signage, wetlands, trails, natural area restoration, native species, etc., are all desirable. While the private sector may choose to compete with active recreation opportunities, there is no profit in natural areas and therefore only government agencies and an occasional non-profit to meet this need.
 - ii. As small cities grow, the need for recreation facilities will also grow but the small jurisdictions will lack the resources to meet the need. Ball fields in particular would be welcome in the Veneta and Cottage Grove/Creswell areas.
 - iii. There are numerous regional efforts (e.g. Rivers to Ridges, watershed councils) related to parks, recreation, and natural areas. Lane County Parks needs to be an integral player in these efforts – the physical size of our facilities and distribution across the County makes this a top priority.
 - iv. Think about a greenway/blueway from Camas Swale to the confluence of the Coast Fork and Middle Fork of the Willamette and then on to Springfield. Accessible trails, connect Mt Pisgah to Eugene/Springfield by bike path/trail.
3. Fees keep low income out of parks.
4. Maintaining the existing parks, providing adequate boating access on rivers and lakes, and working to finish the Eugene to Crest Trail.
5. Care of the land. It's a gift.

6. Demographics – closely available open natural green spaces.
7. Vandalism. Theft from vehicles. Clean-up.
8. No changes
9. Keep them accessible. Keep them safe. Keep them maintained.
10. I like it best when some parks are geared for, say, water sports, and others for hiking or tent camping, others for trailers, others for mixed use. I don't want all camps to try to be all things, because the quieter activities lose out to the more intrusive ones.

Also, more family-oriented parks. Playground areas in some parks?

11. Manage some parks for Nature Preserves – see above. Do not mix incompatible uses such as trail bikes and bird watching, horse trails and hiking trails, etc.
12. Stable funding that is diverse and not over dependant on revenue from Fern Ridge sites.
15. Vandalism of facilities, signs and other illegal activities.
16. Maintenance costs, multiple use, citizen involvement, local decision making
17. Acquiring land now for the future of wild things and humans. Try to get as much contiguous property as possible.
18. Acquisition of an adequate amount of public places especially where development may pressure – encourage use and appreciation.
19. Undeveloped parks are wonderful; I prefer them but the public does not even know about most of them. There should be frequent maps in the newspaper, Eugene Weekly, on websites, etc.
20. Vandalism, inappropriate uses of the parks. Degraded parks that become a nuisance to local communities. Parks that contribute to degraded natural resources –sedimentation of the creeks, overturned toilets, garbage.
21. Address maintenance and safety concerns at existing facilities before developing new ones. Number of visitors may change but safety should always come first.

III. Suggestions for dealing with these issues

1. People are traveling less and looking for recreation opportunities closer to home. Hopefully this survey will tell us what they citizens want from parks.
2.
 - i. The County needs to develop the skill base and resources to plan and act on development and protection of natural areas.
 - ii. The County can act as a convener or facilitator in pulling together partnerships and strategic business alliances to develop, maintain, and operate regional sports complexes in key areas.
 - iii. Parks Manager should work closely with his or her counterparts in other agencies. Multiple parks staff should engage in regional efforts – not just management.
 - iv. Consider public-private partnerships and other resources to invest in revenue generating facilities like a state of the art campground.

3. If persons cause problem, staff should monitor activities, discuss behavior and ask to leave.
5. No chemicals used.
6. Organizing neighborhood "grass root" needs and solutions.
7. More volunteers for clean-up. We'd be glad to volunteer to help clean up parks in our area. Elijah Bristow, for example.
8. Let them remain as they have been.
9. Have disabled people on planning boards. More staff.
10. Different parks dedicated to appealing to different types of users. More play equipment. Tent camping that doesn't require hiking with equipment and water.
11. Set aside separate areas for conflicting uses and enforce the rules.
12. Operate efficiently and leanly, partnering with non-profits and user groups for assistance in operating specific sites. Charge fees for activities that require developed facilities and make sure those fees generate a reasonable return to the parks. Promote parks as tourist destinations.
15. Motion detecting devices with lights & video monitoring at least signs telling of such.
16. Look at how other cities have used and conserved wilderness areas. The Nature Conservancy magazine calls attention to "Chicago Wilderness" & "Portland Wilderness". Look at "Chicago Wilderness" plan. What did and didn't work.
17. Do not accept "developer deals". Funds can be raised from citizens and grants if you market the need well.
18. Map of County parks in the phone book? Acquire funds through progressive taxation not bonds, and buy or solicit donated lands.
19. To show people where these parks are. There should be signs designating them, at least a small parking place and a trail or two.
20. Form partnerships with communities, ask for their advice and assistance.
21. Prioritize

IV. Operational changes you'd like to see

1. Value added services can and should pay for the operations of the Parks Dept. All parks should be open to the public for free. Value added services should have fee charges.
2.
 - i. Develop low maintenance structures.
 - ii. More interpretive signage

- iii. More multi-lingual signage or use of universal/international symbols in signage
- 3. They should be under Recreation and Parks & Open Space.
- 4. I would like to see the special permits required at Mt Pisgah abandoned.
- 5. No chemicals used.
- 6. You do good work! Worked for Lane County Parks. I can suggest no operational changes without budget increases; best answered by employees in the field.
- 7. The fees at Mt. Pisgah concern me. I wonder if use has dropped because of them.
- 10. Park operations have been very helpful and adequate to our needs in the past. More hands-on supervision to keep parks safe would be nice but expensive.
- 12. Adopt practices supportive of natural resource management, including; protection of watersheds and water quality, protection of sensitive native ecosystems, promotion of low impact recreational opportunities, and removal of invasive noxious vegetation.
- 13. Stop charging for parking at Mt. Pisgah. Little net income is generated. The \$55,000 unattended machine will be destroyed by vandals before it can even pay for itself.
- 16. No development of parks (or sale) without approval by local communities.
- 18. Small changes/projects 1 or 2/yr. to enhance their attractiveness (i.e. plan for low/no regular maintenance but slowly steadily "improve"). We don't have to enhance what's there – nature is beautiful in all its splendor – but Hileman and Whitely seem "trashed".
- 19. I feel very strongly that no changes should be made at any undeveloped parks. The only facility that some of these parks need is a restroom. (A phone would be nice, too).
- 20. Local citizen/community advisory boards. Utilize non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for funding assistance.

V. Specific parks, areas, or type of recreational use you'd like to comment about

- 1. Baker Bay – offer more kid activities (play equipment, swimming accessories), camp sites, boat moorage, and expand day use facilities. I have lived within 2 miles of Baker Bay and the last 15 years I've been there less than 5 times. Improve experiences and find reasons to go to the parks.
- 2.
 - i. Begin some real planning for Three-Mile Prairie in the Florence area to protect it and make it accessible to the general public – not just those who use it as a place to party.
 - ii. Prepare Vickery for use and open it for hiking, birding, etc.
- 3. Separate car/tent camping from RV's
- 6. More interpretive trails/historic & natural & geological
- 7. We truly enjoy birding & turtle watching at Elijah Bristow!

8. Wetlands on city limits but controlled by BLM or Lane County bordering Idylewood subdivision. Leave it be the same. "Three Mile Prairie Park".
10. Separate areas for motorized sports and non-motorized sports. Picnic tables everywhere there are "tent spaces." Harbor Vista is great the way it is--as are many others!
11. Three Mile Prairie – Florence - Manage as a Nature Preserve/Sanctuary. Development should be limited to nature trails, at the most. Ban motors and pets. This would benefit the entire Florence Area as many species, especially birds, travel widely and could be enjoyed all over town. Many species need undisturbed areas for nesting, wintering, feeding, etc. or they will not be able to maintain populations in the Florence area.

North Fork Siuslaw River – The addition of parking and nature observation platforms would be a great addition. It does not have to be a lot of parking at an individual site. There are beautiful wetlands in this area, but there is no place to pull over and observe the wetlands. In the one park along the river, there needs to be a bird and wildlife viewing platform. There is an active birding community in Florence and many people would utilize these facilities.

12. I would like to see county parks offer more camping opportunities, both close to Eugene/Springfield and at more remote sites. Group camps, cabin/yurt rentals, and tent/trailer sites are needed and could be operated to raise funds.
13. I doubt there is a great need for more camping facilities – wrong to plan for everyone to have a space on July 4 or Labor Day and then have to maintain ½ empty campgrounds the rest of the time.

Please permanently protect Big River from logging. And don't start logging in other parks.

15. Would like the bike paths continued across Bellline onto the River Loop 2 Street., along the river if possible.
16. Maintain Mt. Pisgah as an undeveloped wilderness area. Develop other parks for multiple use.
17. The Wildish property at HBRA is a prize we must obtain!
18. Hileman & Whiteley again – Hileman could be given a welcome feel (still keep the cars out) and clean up old garbage. Whitely see above & below.
19. Mt. Pisgah is a very popular park near enough to Eugene and Springfield that is treated by people as a local park. People hike there sometimes daily and twice daily. In the past 2-3 years when there have been fees, people come less often because they cannot afford it. Charging fees to hike is really interfering with peoples' health. Most, if not all of the trail work and mowing is done by volunteers! It is a beautiful natural area. During the winter when there are no charges made there are many more cars in the parking lots and along the road proving that charging is interfering with use. It certainly has caused a lot of ill will towards Lane County Parks.

It certainly is true that we need money to run Parks and Open Space but I would prefer to see fees raised at the developed parks, e.g., Orchard Point, Dorena, Richardson, because people with boats and people who want to camp for a weekend or picnic with a group can usually afford a few dollars more because they won't be using those parks daily as the folks who hike at Mt. Pisgah do.

I really like Zumwalt Park very much. No fees dogs can run loose, etc. but it is not used as much as Mt. Pisgah- Buford Park because it is further away from the population density and people have not even heard about it.

It should be possible to buy yearly County Park passes at any park that charges daily fees. People should not have to go Parks Offices, GI Joes, or the Internet to buy annual park pass.

20. Upper Siuslaw Falls is in poor condition. The nearby community of Lorane does not utilize it very much because of poor sanitation, garbage, and security.
21. The campgrounds should be run on the same basic rules. This makes it easier for the Parks personnel and the camping public by they local or visitors.
22. Valuable wildlife and plant habitats should be identified so that conflicts with other uses do not take place. At Mt. Pisgah the confluence area of the Coast Fork and Middle [Fork] of the Willamette River contain some extremely valuable habitat for wetland and riparian species. There have been negotiations with a private landowner to acquire for parkland the north slope of Mt. Pisgah along with several miles of streamside on the Middle Fork of the Willamette.

I am concerned about the construction of a Horse Arena in this sensitive area. What are the final plans for arena development? How much asphalt covered parking area will there be? Will there eventually be a large indoor arena here? The plans should be made clear to the public. On some days well over a hundred people hike to the summit of Mt. Pisgah to enjoy the view. How will arena construction affect the ambience of the park?

Here are 26 units of the park system with no improvements whatsoever. Many of these units are completely unknown to the general public. Some of them are very scenic and shelter interesting plant and animal communities. There is danger that some of these unknown and as yet unappreciated parcels of land may eventually be sold as "surplus" property. A few of the unit would be ideal for hiking trail development:

Vickery Park is just off Camp Creek Road. These scenic 81 acres rise from the north shore of the McKenzie River. There is outstanding opportunity to develop a scenic loop trail here.

Kinney Park near Gimpl Hill Road is in near pristine condition. It contains a wetland, a Douglas-Fir forest and an oak-pine savannah with a diversity of plant life. A low-impact trail could be constructed around the wetland and through the forest.

Clear Lake Dunes northeast of Florence covers 140 acres. Another 67 acres west of the park is administered by Lane Community College. LCC does not allow visitors on their property without permission. It is difficult for access to the county owned 140 acres without going through LCC land. At present off-road vehicles gain access to both properties. A trail would open the 2 parcels to hikers and allow the public to monitor what goes on in the park. If neighbors and others have trail access illegal, uses could be reported immediately and hikers could enjoy this scenic area.

Big River Park covers 40 acres in the hills south of Cottage Grove. The park has apparently never been logged and contains some groves of large Douglas-fir. There is a logging road along the eastern boundary. A hiking trail looping through the park would provide access for nature study.

Several years ago members of the Native Plant Society toured some of the undeveloped Lane County parks. We were interested in studying the plant communities and making plant lists. Some of these parks have a great deal of natural beauty and are in relatively pristine condition. We visited Clear Lake Dunes, Keppel-Vickery along the McKenzie River, Cinderella near Creswell and Kinney on Gimpl Hill Road.

23. My wife and I live just south and adjacent to Blue Mountain Park on the east side of Mosby Creek. Nearly five years ago the park land next to us was clear cut. We frequently walk up the BLM road (21-2-19) on the other side of this clear-cut. Presently we ask that you not clear cut additional park lands, especially those directly abutting the creek itself.

If you decide to clear cut further lands please consider updating, with public input, the Blue Mountain Timber Management Plan of 1985. As this plan is now written it does not mention clear cutting. If clear cutting is what the Parks department intends to do we think the language of the plan should reflect this intention.

I would also like the Parks Department to inform citizens as to how funds raised through its Blue Mountain Timber Management program are used in supporting park goals. With that information each of us could better decide if we want to support or oppose timber management practices at Blue Mountain Park. I know you probably have enough work to do without adding additional tasks and I also suppose this information is public information. Perhaps you could devote a small amount of time to educating those of us interested in this so in the future we could gather and evaluate the information ourselves.

I also would like to be informed two weeks ahead of time of any additional logging operations in Blue Mountain Park. That gives us time to prepare ourselves.

24. We live in Veneta and have a small but perfect sailboat for Fern Ridge. We are local artists and love living in this area especially with the lake so nearby. It WAS a lake during the late spring-late fall months and we recreated at least 4 days a week there. We have a lot of friends and family members that also enjoyed the lake. Now we understand there may be no water for up to 5 years!? We have considered moving since that is one of the main factors for our lifestyle and choosing a place to live and retire. It seems to me (as well as many others we have talked with) that there should be a way to make things move faster in repairing the dam. Safety is everyone's concern but it seems that 3-5 years is too long. How about if the State or Army Corp of Engineers could do the work in 1-2 yrs? Meaning have: 20 people work instead of 5 to speed up the operation. I have worked in Govt. jobs before ; ODFW and USFS and know how some of the operations work, and quite frankly, how money and time is wasted. Please consider ways of making this area a better place to live as well as bringing revenue to this area. There must be another way than "waiting" for the monies to come in. It could take well over a year just to figure the costs to rebuild alone. And then again to wait for the that state/county/govt. money to pay for the rebuilding (and it usually is underestimated which then again delays scheduled datelines half-way through the project). I really don't mean to sound so negative but it is a reality. I just wanted you to know how I feel. Many people think I am wasting my time and energy and "they will do what they want to do when they want to do it" attitude. Just thought it may be worth my opinion. Thank you for your time in reading this. Hopefully something good will come out of all of this. The San Juan Islands are looking good and the water is always there!
25. The Fern Ridge Reservoir is an exceptional location for us to sail our 16-foot wooden sailboat. My husband and I drive from Lake Oswego just to go sailing at this fabulous location ! We stay over several nights on each trip at a local hotel. We are definitely some of those tourists who greatly enjoy Lane County's hospitality and contribute "tourist dollars" to the local Lane County economy . We are anxiously awaiting the repair of the Fern Ridge Reservoir Dam. Thank you for updating us with the latest website information !
26. I was pleased to learn from you of some further initiatives to stabilize funding of the Park system. County Parks are tremendously important to the present and future of Lane County. As a dean, I spent more than five years trying to persuade nationally prominent scholars to accept offers from the University of Oregon which were usually lower in dollar figures than what other Universities were offering. I was successful surprisingly often, and the environment was one of my regular selling points. Lane County has lots of wild land to attract hardy young hikers, but parks are the place where many older folks and families with small children experience the outdoors. They are essential to our economy and well being.

Increased and stabilized funding to repair the decades of neglect at many parks has got to be the first priority.

More campgrounds near Eugene-Springfield are needed and should be a source of continuing revenue. When I worked to bring the national meeting of professional mathematicians here, quite few more people wanted to camp than could find spaces conveniently close to town. Grants may be available to at least begin some of this work.

I was a close friend of Howard Buford. (I was one of four speakers at his memorial service.) For that reason and many others I LOVE Howard Buford Recreation Area. I grew up in Harvard's Arnold Arboretum, but when I returned to Harvard as a graduate student I also spent lots of time in the many "Reserves" around Boston, now well within urban development. These had been set aside more than a century ago by far seeing planners. HBRA reminds me of these large tracts of natural land. Eventually urban development may well surround Mount Pisgah. Maintaining the natural character of most of this land is essential. The existing HBRA master plan is a good outline of what needs to be done and avoided.

Mount Pisgah Arboretum (MPA) greatly values its good relations with Lane County Parks. Through private fundraising and extensive volunteer help, it has been able to create facilities which are (for the most part) freely available to all visitors. Our parking lots and bathrooms have provided facilities of great value to LCP and its visitors. I hope the Master Plan revision may even mention this valuable partnership.

As you must recognize from what I wrote for the MPA response, I consider the acquisition of the Wildish land to be near the top of priorities for the County and LCP.

To have such a desirable tract of land in single ownership and contiguous to the county's largest park is an opportunity that must be pursued aggressively. If Wildish Company would become a willing seller at a reasonable price, I think Bonneville Power Administration mitigation funds could be obtained. If this land were ever subdivided and developed it would be a disaster for HBRA and indeed for all of Lane County. Years ago I was free to hike this land and had the energy to do so. It just calls out to be park land. It is the land on the HBRA side of the Middle Fork which is essential. Conceivably a deal could be struck giving Wildish permission to develop the significant acreage on the other side of the Middle Fork at the upstream end of HBRA in return for a lower price for the rest. At least some of their land across the Coast Fork is essential to the park system. A level bike path from Eugene-Springfield to Mount Pisgah depends on it. Such a bike path is one of the things I want to see in my life time. (I hope it will come while I can still use it.)

I was thinking of attaching much of what I wrote for the MPA response, but I will take pity on those who have to read all this stuff. I fervently believe what I wrote!

The importance of this Wildish owned land to the future of central Lane County cannot be overemphasized. Please make its acquisition a high priority for Lane County Parks.

27. I'd like to see acquisition of key open spaces and natural areas close to the urban growth boundaries. Two key areas are the Coburg Hills and the lands adjacent to Buford Park. This is should be a top priority since the number of people visiting Buford Park has increased substantially in the last few year.

I'd like to see the haul road that runs along the Middle Fork of the Willamette from near I-5 around to the back side of Buford Park become a pedestrian and bicycle path. This road is now mostly on Wildish and state property. If it were connected with the river paths in Eugene, you could ride a bicycle all the way to Buford Park along beautiful cottonwood forests and amongst precious wildlife habitat.

28. My husband and I . . . attended the Feb. briefing in Florence. As a result, we have been wracking our brains to think of anything we could add to complete our personal questionnaire because of all the excellent comments you recorded that evening. Quite frankly, we found that meeting to be so valuable with all the well-considered suggestions, thoughts, etc. that there is not much to add.

We have been in Florence just over 3 1/2 years and have appreciated and enjoyed many of the county, state and federal parks here. We have lived in many cities in the east, and always found the most pleasant were those who maintained a respectable area of parkland.

Our personal concerns are about the Three-Mile Prairie Park on Rhododendron. This is an area with wetlands, dunes, mature trees and varied wildlife. As such, we would not want to see it sold for development, but rather to be kept as a natural area with possible interpretive nature walks or other non-destructive to the environment activities. One large natural area under private ownership farther north on Rhododendron has been sold for construction of many homes, one of the last in the area. How nice if we could keep this park from the same fate. We also have concerns about the availability of adequate water if this town continues to build residential property on almost all available land.

32. Follows is a letter I composed to encourage some of the local groups [Cottage Grove area] to participate in this process. . . .

I would like to encourage the members of this organization to become involved in helping Lane County to chart the next 25 years for parks and open space. Furthermore, I want to encourage Lane County Parks to acquire a specific property near Cottage Grove.

This property is 2 ½ miles from the center of town (9th & Main) adjacent to the city owned portion of the Row River trail. It's tax lot designation is Sec. 35 T.20S. R.3W. W.M. 8600. It is currently owned by Tom and Candice Chrestman. The property was indicated on the design of the Row River Trail as one to be acquired as a park to enhance the recreation potential of the Row River Trail. It has been used for the past few decades as a storage lot for scrap metal and previous to that as a shake mill site and a dump. The owner has indicated that he wants to build a rental house as an income generator.

I suggest that the best use of this land is as a public open space. It is proximate to town, only a 40 minute walk or 10 minute bike ride. It offers access to the Row River at a point just below the confluence with Mosby Creek and ½ to ¾ mile upstream from the City owned Masonic Park and East Regional Park. A floating devise introduced to the river here could be extracted near the BMX track with easy return portage by way of Snauer Lane. The site is also adjacent to Mosby creek Road.

The other Lane County parks in the South Lane area are distant from the population center: Baker Bay, the closest, is 8 miles from town, Vaughn Park is about 12 miles, with Dorena covered bridge adjacent, LaSells Stewart and Wildwood Falls are another 5 miles up the road with Bohemia Saddle being quite remote over 30 miles away and requiring a two hour drive. Similarly, Blue Mountain park and Big River park are sufficiently remote as to require driving or spending most of the day walking or bicycling to reach them.

Even the most optimistic view of the near future indicates that oil is going to become more costly. It is imperative that we restructure our society so as to not require automobile trips to enjoy the natural beauty that surrounds us. In visioning the role of Lane County Parks in enhancing our living standards we must take into consideration the changes that we will be confronted with in the time frame of the updated plan.

Therefore, I recommend that the members of this organization individually participate in the public process in updating the Parks and Open Space Master Plan. I also request that the organization consider the potential for tax lot 8600 and respond as an organization requesting the acquisition of that property.

35. This is a proposal to create a county park on land currently owned by Lane County. The new park could either become an addition to South Beach Park or become another separate park. Here I will refer to this new proposed park by the name of Glenada Dunes Park – this is for convenience, as the final name could be different.

Glenada Dunes Park is located across the Siuslaw River from Florence, less than half a mile west of the bridge (see map on next page). The large dunes are a prominent landmark when one looks west and across the river from Old Town Florence. These dunes are an ideal location for a county park for the following reasons:

- i. Possibly the most beautiful spot in the Florence area, with drop-dead-gorgeous vistas of the Siuslaw River, the city of Florence and Old Town, the coastal dunes, and ocean sunsets. This is the only remaining non-private local land where one can admire this sort of encompassing view.
- ii. Located just a short distance from Old Town Florence, Glenada Dunes Park is easily accessible by canoe and Kayak from the river side. It is also easily accessible on foot through a trail leading from the South Jetty Road or from a public parking lot in the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area (day use fee or annual pass required for parking).
- iii. It is an ideal location for hiking, sandboarding, photography, observing wildlife, enjoying the view with a friend, or simply to sit and relax while engaging in personal meditation.
- iv. These dunes appear to be in a unique geological balance. While most dunes are traveling waves (some dunes are known to have traveled hundreds of miles), Glenada Dunes Park is bound on the east side by a small stream. The stream traps forward advancing sands and carries them to the Siuslaw River. The river in turn moves the sand back west, re-feeding the trailing end of the dune. (Note: this assertion is based upon casual observation, not a scientific conclusion).
- v. Glenada Dunes Park is an ideal stopover for local water trails used by paddlers on canoes and kayaks. Paddling is a rapidly growing sport worldwide and many communities are creating water trails to attract visitors. These visitors are excellent contributors to local economies since they often come in groups, stay at the hotels, eat at the restaurants, and purchase supplies and souvenirs. In the Florence area, the Port of Siuslaw is spearheading the effort to create a local water trail system. The system will build on existing de facto water trails already used by paddlers, such as those shown on the map on the previous page. Glenada Dunes, together with Rock Dock Park, South Beach Park, and the Florence Dock, can provide the anchor points for the water trail running downriver from Old Town. A short version of the trail, from the Florence Dock to Glenada Dunes Park, would allow even casual paddlers to rent a kayak locally and take a short trip from Old Town to the dunes. More seasoned paddlers could venture on a day trip from Old Town to Rock Dock Park (Crab dock), preferably going out with the tide and returning with the flood, while enjoying Glenada Dunes and South Beach Parks for resting, photography, exploring, or picnicking.
- vi. The tidelands adjacent to Glenada Dunes Park are prime shellfish aquaculture grounds and are in fact currently used for oyster culture. Shellfish culture has been shown to greatly benefit estuary ecosystems because oysters, mussels, and clams filter and clean the water. Oysters and mussels also provide habitat for numerous small aquatic species, which in turn become food for fish and birds. In addition, shellfish aquaculture is a renewable resource that can create local family-wage jobs and significantly benefit the local economy. In the Florence area, shellfish culture is almost completely untapped and is in its initial stages. Preserving Glenada Dunes as a park benefits this effort by assuring that nearby tidelands and their water quality are not compromised, as they likely would be if the area were to be sold for residential development with the addition of numerous septic tanks and other contaminants produced by urban activity.
- vii. Finally, preserving Glenada Dunes Park will help maintain the local look and feel and the natural views from Florence, thus adding value to Old Town and the Florence area in general.

VI. Specific goals and policies you'd like to see included in the plan

1. Look for more multiple use opportunities in our park system. Look for ways to improve such as outdoor stages, sports complexes, bicycles, ATVs, running, walking, swimming, and historical.

2. I would like to see a Lane County Parks Foundation or some other mechanism for developing resources to support parks for capital improvement, natural area restoration and preservation, active recreation facilities, and regional collaborative efforts.
3. Professionalize staff – master plan to vision education - programs to prevent vandalism - preserve parks
5. 0 chemical use
6. Price cuts or FREE to elders & children
7. Trails for hiking and birding. The more the better! Longer trails connecting parks and/or going to the Cascades.
8. No changes.
10. Enforced quiet hours at campgrounds where neighbors are near.
11. Adopt maintaining or increasing plant and animal diversity as a goal of the county park program. This would not have to be the goal of every park, but should be the goal of some parks.
12. Concentrate future park development at existing developed facilities. Limit extensive development to existing natural or restorable sites. Favor uses and activities that benefit the greatest number of park users with the lowest impact to the resource.
15. Would like the bike paths continued across Beltline onto the River Loop 2 Street., along the river if possible.
16. Look at how other cities have used and conserved wilderness areas. The Nature Conservancy magazine calls attention to "Chicago Wilderness" & "Portland Wilderness".
17. Develop strategies for collaboration with other agencies, i.e., the State of Oregon. And, can you get any Federal funds?
18. What's working in other parts of the country?
19. See comments above in V.
20. County Parks should assess the impacts of the parks on the other resource values such as water quality. There should be an attempt to estimate the carrying capacity of the parks. There should also be an assessment of social impacts on neighboring communities.

VII. Possible ways that County Parks could collaborate with your business or organization

1. Can we work together as a region with cities? Look to improve relationships and work together to serve the residents and possibly save money.
3. Cooperate with groups such as Friends of Hendricks Park, Mt. Pisgah, environmental groups etc. in putting on educational programs.
5. Learn about vegetation management with human bodies. NW Youth Corps, kids in school, kids & parents, use all of us.
6. Waste water treatment systems., through state water pollution certification (DEQ testing & CEV's)

9. Lane Independent Living Alliance (LILA) would be a good source for accessible issues.
14. Who does one contact with future questions?
16. Collaborate with local communities. Community farms & greenhouse.
17. I am a member of the board of Mt. Pisgah Arboretum & see the arboretum and Lane County as one another's best cheerleaders.
18. We'd be willing to maintain a path in Hileman i.e. clip/cut blackberries or down limbs and pick up trash. We do a little already. We'd lead 1 or 2 walks if wanted.
19. See comments above in V.
20. The Siuslaw Stewardship Group, Siuslaw Watershed Council and the Siuslaw Soil and Water Conservation District all offer opportunities for partnership and collaboration to access the rural western Lane Communities and funding for a wide range of projects which would enhance the value and function of Lane County's parks We continue to hope that the Park Director will be more responsive to our offers of partnership.
35. I am forwarding this proposal to create a new county park because I know the area well, and Glenada Dunes Park stands on its own merit as a superb candidate area for a county park. I would make this recommendation under any circumstances. But in addition, my company, Oaesys Corporation, owns the adjacent tidelands and grows the oysters there. Thus we have a vested interest in seeing these dunes preserved as a park, since this would also help preserve the value of our tidelands for shellfish aquaculture. As such, we are willing to further support Glenada Dunes Park by donating the following services:
 - i. Create and maintain an entry point on our tidelands for paddlers to access Glenada Dunes Park from the Siuslaw river water trail. At the very minimum, this would include automatic permission to cross our tidelands plus dedicated space to land and secure kayaks and canoes. We may also add other improvements to the entry point later, all at no charge to visitors or the county.
 - ii. Adopt Glenada Dunes Park as an official sponsor by providing volunteer maintenance services such as periodic removal of trash and keeping an eye out for the general well-being of the park.

We realize that one obstacle to making Glenada Dunes a county park might be that Lane County Parks may not be able to allocate extra funds for maintaining the new park. But by having us provide the above services and leaving the park as a natural and unimproved open space (as it should be left), I think that Lane County Parks would not need to spend any extra money whatsoever for this new park.

VIII. Additional comments

6. Thank you!
7. I think it's tremendous you are looking for community involvement!
10. Good job so far! thanks for doing this survey.
16. Thanks for the parks! More bike trails!
17. Positive collaboration is critical.
18. Whiteley Landing desperately needs the sign reposted saying "No Driving Into the River". It was very helpful in stopping the off roading and made it possible to tell people to stop. Thank you.

[Other thanks]