



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks

Parks and Recreation Division

King Street Center

201 South Jackson Street, Suite 700

Seattle, WA 98104

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/parks>

Determination of Non-Significance

Date of Issue: December 1, 2015

Name of Proposal: 2016 King County Open Space Plan Update (non-project action)

Location of Proposal: All King County parks, trails and open space

Description of Proposal: King County Parks underwent a major update to its open space plan in 2010. This update is minor in comparison and emphasizes King County Parks' goals of implementing the county-wide Strategic Plan (recently updated in 2015) as it relates to public engagement, environmental and social justice, and climate change. Many of the other changes simply clarify existing policy or remove duplicative text. Other specific changes include:

- Updated inventory information to reflect existing conditions, classifications, and park names
- Updated budget information for the division including a description of the levy funding and private funding from business and community partnerships and grant programs.
- Clarified the definitions of the five components of the Open Space system (i.e., Recreation Parks, Multiuse Sites, Natural Areas, Working Forests, and Regional Trails) specifically:
 - The Regional Trail System is being managed and developed as more than just a recreational facility, but also as nonmotorized regional transportation corridor that focuses on filling “gaps” in the system, providing connections to regional destinations, and providing equal access.
 - King County will now be developing and implementing forest management plans for forests on all types of park lands, not just working forest lands. The active stewardship associated with a forest management plan will improve the ecological value of our forests.
- Listed the advisory committees that provide input and recommendations on a variety of issues affecting the management of the lands and assets of the park system
- Reiterated King County's commitment to a public input process
- Clarified that King County is continuing its shift from just providing parks and recreation to becoming a steward for open space and natural areas.

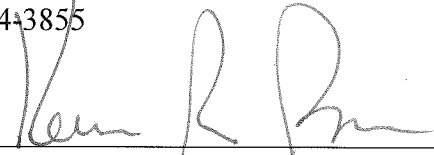
- Defined that the goals of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) align with the division's goals of:
 1. Taking care of what we have.
 2. Growing/connecting regional open space and natural lands.
 3. Improving regional trails system and regional mobility.
 4. Making parks more accessible.
- Updated policies to better reflect King County's commitment to preservation, conservation, and forest stewardship.

Proponent/Lead Agency: King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Parks and Recreation Division

Responsible Official: Kevin Brown
Division Director, Parks and Recreation Division

Address: 201 South Jackson Street, Suite 700
Seattle, WA 98104-3855

DATE: 11/23/15

SIGNATURE: 

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required under Revised Code of Washington 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request (for a nominal photocopying fee). It is also available on the King County website at:

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/services/parks-recreation/parks/about/public-notice.aspx>

This Determination of Non-Significance is issued under Washington Administrative Code 197-11-340(2). The lead agency will not act on this proposal until after **December 15, 2015**. Comments must be submitted or postmarked by **4:30 PM on December 15, 2015**. To provide comments or request additional information please contact:

Important Note: To provide comments or request additional information please contact:

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For email comments, please use the email address noted above and put "Open Space Plan Update" in the Subject line.