

A Functional Plan for Woods Park

A Collaborative Project of:
Southwest Parks Planning Committee
(A Subcommittee of the Southwest Neighborhoods Incorporated,
Parks and Community Center Committee)

Portland Parks and Recreation

Office of Commissioner Jim Francesconi

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FINAL DRAFT

A Functional Plan for Woods Park

REVISED – August 18, 1999

Introduction and Background

Introduction

This plan is a prototype for a streamlined planning process called a Park Functional Plan that is designed to provide basic direction to neighbors, citizens and Park staff in the appropriate use of, and protection for, parks that do not have management plans or master plans.

A Park Functional Plan consists of a vision for the park, an outline of general policy, and park space designations for desired park uses. It specifies appropriate management and ongoing community involvement and takes into account how a park relates to, and is connected to, other parks, to trail and bicycle systems, and to natural resources.

This plan was developed by a citizen and city staff partnership which included representatives from the Southwest Neighborhood Incorporated (SWNI) Parks Committee and the Crestwood Neighborhood Association and staff from Portland Parks and Recreation (Parks) and Commissioner Francesconi's office. To avoid confusion with the numerous committees and subcommittees involved in planning work in the southwest, this group is referred to as the Working Group. The Working Group also developed a more detailed description of the park planning process in a document called Planning for Southwest Parks – A Proposed Process for Planning Parks in Southwest Portland using Limited Resources, available from Portland Parks and Recreation or SWNI offices.

The Working Group selected Woods Memorial Park (Woods Park) as the prototype for a Park Functional Plan for the following reasons:

- Woods Park has little development,
- Is mostly used for its habitat,
- Suffers from environmental degradation in some areas,
- Is not complicated by a lot of competing uses,
- Needs to have stewardship activities, which are of great interest to the community, coordinated under a common vision.

Purpose

The purpose of a Park Functional Plan is to provide a document that guides the development, operations and maintenance and stewardship of a park in lieu of more detailed park master or management plans.

All improvements, developments and stewardship activities should be consistent with this plan unless the plan is amended or replaced through a public process equivalent to, or better than, the process used to adopt this plan. In the event of changes to the park or its natural areas, those changes will be reviewed to determine if the plan is still relevant.

Description of Woods Park

Woods Park has long been a local treasure, serving as an outstanding natural area park. This 32-acre park is located in Southwest Portland north of Taylor's Ferry Road, east of 48th Avenue, west of Capitol Highway and south of Marigold St.

The park is a semi-developed habitat park whose primary amenity is its natural area. About 98% of the landscape is native including oaks, Douglas fir, cedar, willow, red and blue elderberry, Oregon grape, trillium, thimbleberry and others. The remainder is non-native trees and shrubs.

The park is part of the Fanno Watershed, containing the headwaters of the two forks of Woods Creek. Although most of the park was logged about one hundred years ago, there are still some historic trees. It offers a natural setting that attracts wildlife in the quiet woods, along the creek and in the meadow. Most of the park is steeply sloped.

The following information about the park is summarized from the *Fanno Creek Resource Management Plan, February 1998*, prepared by the Bureau of Environmental Services.

Forest stands along the creek through the park are considered a mixed forest with a number of old-growth remnants and are dominated by conifers (western red cedar, Douglas fir, and western hemlock). The shrub understory near the creek contains about 30 to 75 per cent Himalayan blackberry (less of a problem higher on the slopes), with salmonberry, vine maple, Indian plum, and red elderberry also common. The herbaceous layer is dominated by swordfern and ladyfern, with horsetail, creeping buttercup, western buttercup, and large-leaved avens in smaller amounts. Very little English Ivy is present along the creek but represents a significant percentage along the top of banks in the higher areas of the park.

The riparian area is significantly disturbed although very little development has occurred within the riparian corridor itself. There is a significant debris field remaining from a large right-bank landslide at about the middle of the park. All areas surveyed in this reach of the creek have been affected to some degree by landslides or small bank failures. The presence of older, healed slides along with new areas of disturbance indicates that development at the tops of the slopes has exacerbated the natural instability of the slopes in this drainage.

Trails along the creek are a source of both physical and human (and canine) disturbance. Where trails are located immediately adjacent to the stream or along the tops of the streambanks, foot and bicycle traffic accelerates erosive processes.

Wildlife habitat values in all areas along the creek through the park were rated as high in the survey performed for the Management Plan. The calls or songs of a ruby-crowned kinglet, black-capped chickadees, dark-eyed juncos, and Steller's jays were heard. A rufous-sided (spotted) towhee, fox sparrow, northern flicker, hairy woodpecker, and Townsend's chipmunk (*Tamias townsendii*) were observed. A red-tailed hawk feather was found, and raccoon tracks and evidence of pileated woodpecker use and other woodpecker drilling were observed.

The park is zoned as open space with environmental protection ("P") or conservation ("C") zone overlays. Environmental zones and restrictions are described in the Portland City Code 33.430.

The park is used for walking, exercising dogs, picnicking, nature observing, casual Frisbee playing and teen activities. Over the years, the park has been the site of the annual SWNI Spring Cleanup, Crestwood Headwaters Group Watershed Fair and Planting, Crestwood Neighborhood Party, scout projects and school projects.

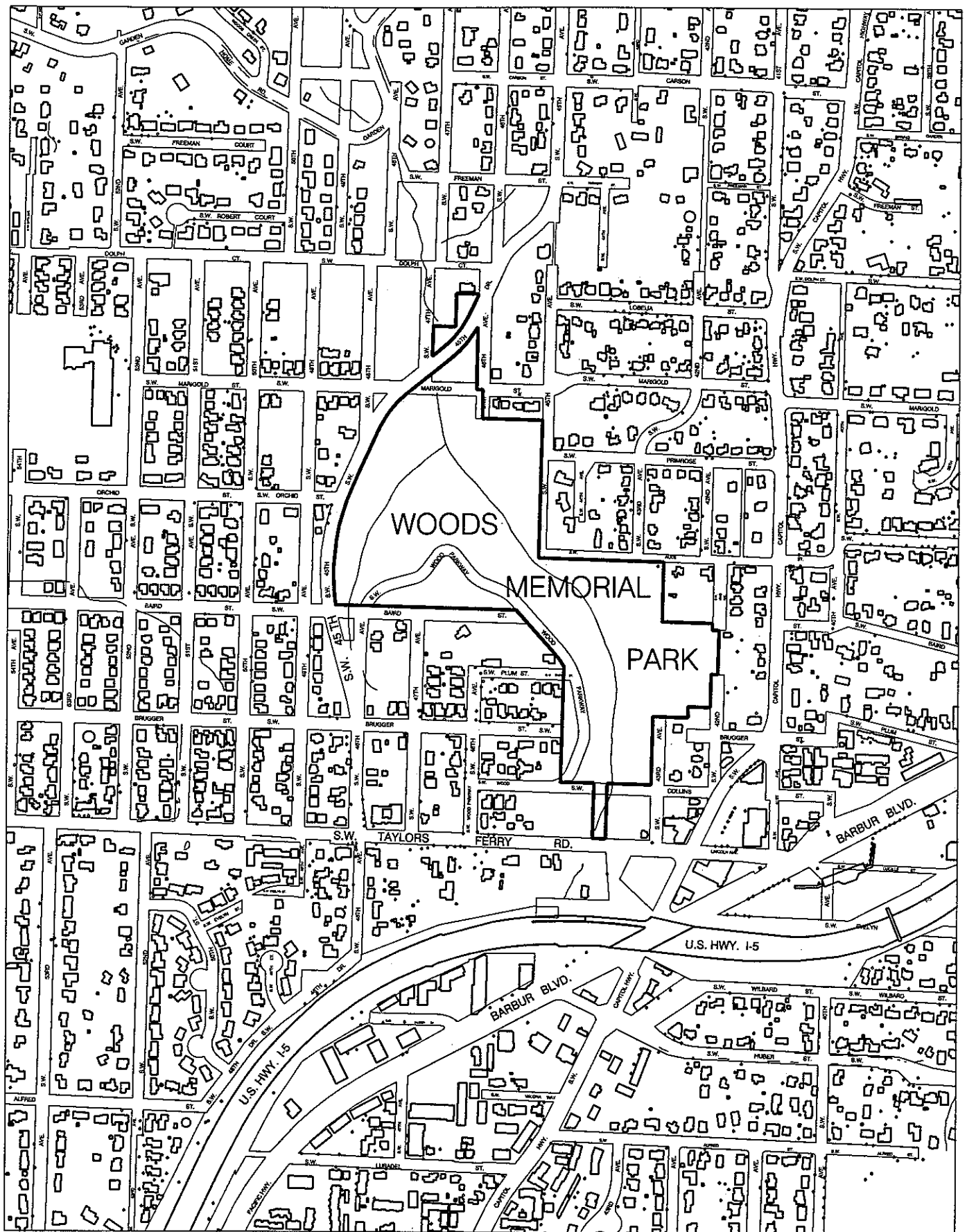
History of Woods Park

Woods Memorial Park was a gift to Multnomah County from the Southwest Hills Kiwanis Club on December 15, 1950. The deed stipulated that the *"site was to be...used for park and playground purposes only...."* Multnomah County, in turn, transferred ownership of the park to the city of Portland through Board Order #88-115, approved on June 30, 1988. As with the original dedication of land, Multnomah County included in its Bargain and Sale Deed to the city a stipulation to insure use of the site for park purposes. In the event it is not, title to the property automatically terminates and the park reverts to county ownership.

Since dedication of the property in 1988, a few small parcels of land at the park's periphery have been added to its boundaries. They too were given with the stipulation that if not used for park and recreation purposes, they are to revert to Multnomah County.

At the time the city acquired the property, there were remnants of an old ballfield and backstop, and the foundation of a restroom. The decision was made to remove the backstop and to manage the park as a natural area. The ball field evolved over time into a meadow and a concrete slab from the original restrooms has become a convenient location for picnic tables. The road has deteriorated somewhat over time. While the old road seems inconsistent with a natural area park, the public uses it as a convenient, dry and safe walkway. It is also used for emergency and maintenance vehicle access and for special occasions such as neighborhood picnics, watershed fairs, and the annual SWNI Spring Cleanup.

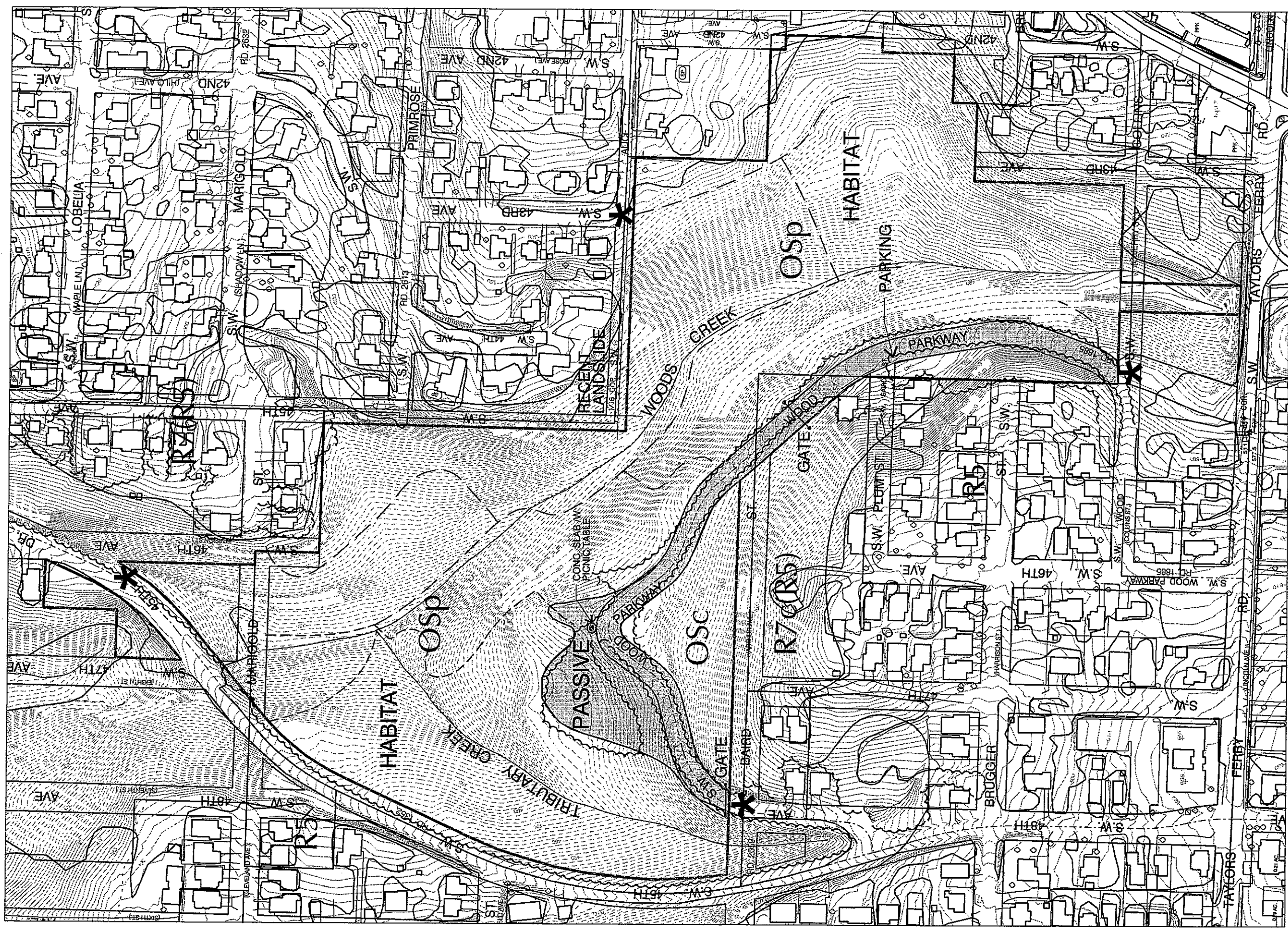
No plans or improvements have been made to the park prior to this Functional Plan, which will establish policy, and determine functional areas, appropriate uses, and improvements for the park.



Woods Memorial Park Location Map

Scale: 1"=600'



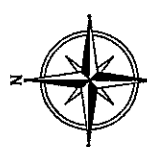


Woods Memorial Park

EXISTING CONDITIONS & PARK SPACES

✱ : ENTRY POINTS

Scale: 1"=200'



Problem Statement and Constraints

The overarching problem for Woods Park, as identified by both staff and community members, is a lack of a coordinated vision. There is no method for achieving consensus among neighbors, users, user groups, and Parks on park values and no policies to guide the use, management and development of the park. Problems include:

- **Inconsistent management:**
Both Parks' District staff and Natural Resources staff are involved in maintenance and management and have different priorities. This makes it difficult to address some issues or to decide whether or not to install items such as a drinking fountain or better lights.
- **Inefficient use of citizen volunteers:**
Many volunteers have helped to rebuild trails, but these efforts are neither part of an adopted plan nor guided by professional staff.
- **Unaddressed physical development problems, including:**
 - 1) An abandoned ball field
 - 2) A closed roadway
 - 3) A concrete slab where a restroom once stood
 - 4) Only two trashcans and one picnic table
- **Degraded natural resource conditions:**
 - 1) Landslides caused by excessive storm water runoff and drainage from adjacent properties.
 - 2) Trails in poor condition and in questionable locations. The trail system is semi-maintained, some trails are blocked, or in the wrong places. Steep, muddy and eroded trails have significant impacts on the creek.
 - 3) Riparian (streamside) problems - erosion, blocked fish passage and denuded and degraded stream banks. Poor or non-existent habitat for animals or fish species.
 - 4) Invasive, non-native plants such as English ivy, Himalayan blackberry, English laurel and holly.
- **Undesirable use problems:**
 - 1) Illegal dumping of debris
 - 2) Many off-leash dogs throughout park
 - 3) Late night gatherings of youth using alcohol and illegal substances
 - 4) Occasional homeless camping

The Planning Process to Create a Functional Plan for Woods Park

The Working Group used the following process to develop the Functional Plan that will protect the park's resources and guide its appropriate use. For a detailed description of this process, see Planning for Southwest Parks.

Background Information

Prior to any public meetings, the Working Group conducted research and gathered information about the park itself. They developed a profile of the existing conditions in the park, a site analysis, an overall problem statement, descriptions of current problems, the park's constraints, degraded conditions, and problematic uses along with its opportunities.

The Charrette Process

The Working Group then planned two public workshops, called charrettes. These charrettes involved the community in establishing a clear overall policy direction for Woods Park, and addressing how Woods Park was to be used, developed, and managed with continued involvement from the public. (See Appendix A for a detailed summary of the Woods Park charrettes.)

Post-Charrette Process

Following the charrettes, the Working Group held several meetings in order to gather and compile public comments from charrette exercises, evaluations and e-mail, to draft the Functional Plan, and to summarize the planning process and policy recommendations.

The final documents were distributed for comment at the SWNI office and via the SWNI and Parks website, as well as by direct mail to participants in the charrettes. Notices about availability of the documents were published in the SW Neighborhood News and posted to the 'listserv' - a discussion group for SW Portland neighborhood activists.

Approval

Following the review process, the Functional Plan will be presented to the SWNI Parks Committee and then to the full SWNI Board for approval. Park staff will present the Functional Plan to various managers in Parks and Recreation and to then to the Parks Director for approval.

Following the dual approval process, the Parks Director will recommend approval to the Commissioner in Charge and present a Report to Council. The presentation will include a sunset date for the Functional Plan.

The Functional Plan for Woods Park

The following are the results of the planning process for Woods Park.

Overall Policy Statement

Woods Memorial Park is a neighborhood natural area park, valuable for passive recreation and for the open space, native plant, and wildlife and creek resources it provides.

Future Vision for Woods Park

Despite its fairly large size, Woods Park is viewed mainly as a park that serves the surrounding neighborhood, rather than the region. The community's main priorities for the park are to preserve its open spaces and natural resources in a manner that makes them safe and accessible. The community views the park as a great asset for educational and stewardship activities.

This vision of a neighborhood park influences the kind of facilities that are appropriate for the park. Key priorities for improvement include better gates, trails, signs and lighting.

The following states the community's priorities as vision statement:

Woods Park is a neighborhood asset that provides a safe and quiet respite from urban pressures characterized by:

- Forests with mature trees, native vegetation and wildlife, creeks and a quiet open meadow habitat that are ideal for nature appreciation, informal recreation and picnicking.
- An accessible, well-maintained, well-mapped, well-drained and well-engineered pedestrian trail system for hiking, jogging, walking a dog on leash, enjoying flora and fauna and quiet reflection.
- Connections to other neighborhoods and green spaces in the regional Parks trail system.
- Excellent signage at lighted entrances and throughout the park, designed to invite visitors to enjoy the park in a responsible manner, to take advantage of the trail system to explore the park and to connect to regional trails and greenspaces.
- Many educational and stewardship opportunities.

Uses Not Intended

The community vision for Woods Park does not include significant active recreational facilities or attractions that would conflict with the preservation of the natural resources or its status as a neighborhood park.

Amenities such as tennis courts, and soccer or baseball facilities are not appropriate. Neither are irrigated lawns or formal landscaping. Motorized vehicles and bicycles are appropriate only in paved areas of the park. Dog off-leash areas are not appropriate here.

- Consider a suspension bridge for one bridge if an economical design can be found and if it improves accessibility while minimizing creek impacts.
- Make trail surfaces consistent with a natural area park and easy for local stewardship groups to maintain.

The final results of the trail system redesign will be an approved trail map, detailed trail and bridge designs, with construction and maintenance standards. These will be attached to this Functional Plan. Trail and bridge construction and maintenance should take maximum advantage of the resources offered by scouts and community groups. Trail and bridge work should be completed in five years.

Enhance Gateway Entrances

The present entrances generally do not invite users to the park and do not provide adequate security. The following improvements are listed in approximate priority order:

- Add signs and maps to welcome visitors.
- Provide garbage cans and pooper-scooper bag dispensers.
- Add streetlights at both entrances.
- Relocate the east entrance closer to Plum Street to provide better public surveillance. Leave some room for parking between Plum and the relocated entrance.
- Provide educational and interpretive materials.
- Enlarge parking near the gates.
- Make the entrance more inviting, perhaps by adding a pedestrian entrance next to the swinging vehicle gate.

Security and Fire Protection

Security is a significant concern for Woods Park. While the park is not heavily used, it is very close to a very active urban area at Barbur Blvd and Capitol Highway. Relocating the east gate near Plum and providing lighting at both vehicle gates will help significantly.

Those attending the charrettes would like to see increased patrols by the police and by citizen groups. It was also felt that a fire hydrant should be provided near the Plum St. gate, since no fire hydrants are in the area.

Clean Up and Restore the Meadow

The meadow area is generally viewed as a significant open space asset for unprogrammed activities. It needs to be cleaned up and leveled. Native grasses and infrequent mowing are suitable for this location.

Solve Drainage and Landslides Problems and Restore the Creek

A major landslide at Alice and 44th Avenue occurred in February 1996 and became a significant feature of Woods Park. This particular slide may take a significant amount of time to resolve because of potential legal issues and the high cost of cleaning it up. It is emblematic of larger drainage and slope stability problems throughout the park.

Numerous slides and slumps occur along the eastern two-thirds of the creek, due largely to excessive stormwater runoff from adjacent properties and streets that is directed onto unstable steep slopes. This impacts the habitat along Woods Creek throughout the park. These problems are documented in the *Fanno Creek Resource Management Plan, February 1998*, prepared by the Bureau of Environmental Services. These drainage and landslide problems will be difficult and costly to solve but must be resolved in order to preserve the significant natural values of the park.

Relocating trails away from the creeks and building bridges and landings that encourage the public to enjoy the stream responsibly will help prevent future stream habitat degradation. Significant creek restoration is also needed. BES should work closely with Parks and local watershed groups to restore and monitor the creek on a priority basis within the next five to ten years.

Project Implementation/Stewardship Agreements

A clearly written Park Functional Plan will guide park use and development but it must be coupled with effective community involvement which will be outlined in a Stewardship Agreement. This will provide clear, well-publicized management arrangements that will:

- Ensure protection of natural resources.
- Maintain the park in a manner consistent with the policy and vision documented in the Functional Plan.
- Prevent conflicts between and among uses and various stewardship efforts.
- Provide excellent educational opportunities.
- Promote productive, rewarding stewardship activities.

Because of the community interest in helping to maintain Woods Park, a Stewardship Agreement will be developed to coordinate community and Park efforts to develop and maintain the park. A group will be formed to work with Parks on the Stewardship Agreement which will be incorporated into the Functional Plan. The components of a stewardship agreement are included in Appendix C.

To be effective, it is strongly suggested that park management be overseen by the Parks Natural Resource section, in coordination with the Parks Volunteer Coordinator. Contact information should be included in the Stewardship Agreement and also posted at the park itself to notify interested persons that they should contact Parks Youth and Community Coordinator.

This will ensure economical development, which promotes a sense of community, stewardship for public resources and the environment, and the value of hard work and teamwork.

Appendix A

Summary of the Woods Park Plan Charrettes

What is a Charrette?

A charrette is an architectural term for an intensive design project of limited duration. The charrette process used to develop this Park Functional Plan consisted of two planning workshops held near or in the park. These were part of a larger planning process that involved numerous citizens and city staff. The Woods Park charrettes were a prototype and a test case for a new way to bring citizens into the park planning process. The objective of the park charrette is to establish a clear overall policy direction for a park, culminating in a Park Functional Plan, by developing consensus between Parks and the community.

Woods Park Charrettes

Two Saturday charrettes were held on February 27, 1999 from 9 am to 1:30 pm and March 20, 1999, from 9 am to noon. An optional Woods Park tour was available prior to the first charrette. The charrettes were held at the West Portland United Methodist Church at 4729 SW Taylor's Ferry Road.

Approximately 30 adults and youth attended the first charrette and 25 came to the second charrette. Participants included neighborhood association representatives from Crestwood, Ashcreek, Hayhurst, Marshall Park, Collins View, Markham, and Homestead. SWNI Parks Committee was represented, as well as the Crestwood Headwaters Group. Others came representing the Boy Scout District, SW Trails, Crestwood/Smith Parent and Teacher Association, Friends of Terwilliger, and Friends of Trees. Several staff members from Portland Parks and Recreation and one from the Portland Planning Bureau participated. Commissioner Jim Francesconi's staff assistant facilitated the meetings.

The organizing team, which became the Working Group, consisted of: Margot Barnett (SWNI Parks Committee); Jere Retzer (Crestwood Neighborhood); Doug Weir (Homestead Neighborhood, Friends of Terwilliger); John Sewell (Parks Bureau); Jim Sjulín (Parks Bureau); and Kathy Turner (Commissioner Francesconi's office).

Charrette #1 – February 27, 1999

The first charrette began with background information about community-based park planning and the charrette process, as well as information on the Southwest Plan, and how Woods Park fits into the big picture of SW Portland Parks and Parks 2020 Planning process. The problem statement, site analysis of Woods Park and the challenges faced by Woods Park were presented.

Participants then split into three equal groups and rotated through a series of "stations" to discuss:

- The values that were important to them in developing Woods Park
- How they preferred to use the park.
- Specific needs for the park, including management and stewardship needs.

Further discussion included how the park related to, and is connected to, other parks in the region. The facilitators summarized the comments of each group, addressing the values, uses and needs. The entire group then prioritized these.

Priority Charts for Values, Uses and Needs

The following charts are the result of the planning process. A high positive number indicates high importance by many people and a high negative number indicates little interest by many people.

Priorities for Values at Woods Park

Priority Scale (#of votes) (+) = High (-) = Low	Values: What do you like about the setting?
+ 16	Pedestrian Trail Use
+ 15	Open Space – Preserve and Restore Natural Area and Character
+ 13	Part of Connected Natural Park Areas
+ 10	Wildlife and Flora Habitat
+ 8	Solitude, Quiet, Respite from City
+ 7	Neighborhood, Local Area Focus
+ 7	Creek is a Magnet
+ 6	Safe Area for People
+ 6	Educational Opportunity
+ 1	Centerpiece of Neighborhood
- 2	Educational Opportunity
- 2	Solitude
- 2	Neighborhood, Local Area Focus
- 8	Gathering Place for Neighbors
-14	Regional Destination
-14	Distinct Active/Passive Areas

Priorities for Uses at Woods Park

Priority Scale (#of votes) (+) = High (-) = Low	Uses: What do you like to do in the park, what would you like to see happen?
+ 17	Walking (Unprogrammed)
+ 15	Nature Enjoyment (Unprogrammed)
+ 14	Stewardship (Programmed)
+ 11	Education (Programmed)
+ 6	Security Watch (Programmed)
+ 6	Dog Exercise/Off-Leash (Unprogrammed)
+ 5	Dog Exercise/On-Leash (Unprogrammed)
+ 5	Picnics (Unprogrammed)
+ 2	Frisbee (Unprogrammed)
+ 1	Play Equipment (Unprogrammed)
- 2	Dog Exercise/On-Leash (Unprogrammed)
- 2	Security Watch (Programmed)
- 4	Picnics (Unprogrammed)
- 6	Frisbee (Unprogrammed)
-12	Dog Exercise/Off-Leash (Unprogrammed)
-12	Play Equipment (Unprogrammed)

Priorities for Specific Needs at Woods Park

Priority Scale (#of votes) (+) = High (-) = Low	Specific Needs: If you could add or change anything about the park, what would it be?
+ 14	Trail Redesign (grade, proximity to creek, engineering, materials)
+ 12	Stewardship Agreements (Friends Groups, Security, Pest Control, Ivy Abatement)
+ 10	Enhance Trail Connectivity and Links to Neighborhoods
+ 8	Gateway Entrances: Add signage and maps
+ 8	Have Open Meadow for Flat, Open Area
+ 7	Security (Lighting within Park, Patrolling, Fire)
+ 6	Garbage and Pet Litter
+ 6	Suspension Bridge added to Trail System
+ 4	Solve drainage problems
+ 3	Road Removal
+ 3	Gateway Lighting
+ 1	Surfacing of Trails
+ 1	Revert Flat Open Area to Natural Forest
+ 1	Entranceway Design
+ 1	Add Basketball Hoop
- 1	Gateway Lighting
- 1	Signage and Maps
- 1	Garbage and Pet Litter
- 2	Entranceway Design
- 2	Suspension Bridge added to Trail System
- 3	Revert Open Area to Natural Forest
- 3	More Picnic Tables
- 3	Add Person/Dog Drinking Fountain
- 5	Lighting within the Park
- 5	Add Basketball Hoop
- 8	Road Removal
- 9	Improve Ball field
-10	Rename the Park

Finally, the group divided for two exercises:

- 1) Mapping the preferred area uses
- 2) Discussing the effectiveness of the charrette planning process.

Participants in the mapping exercise helped define spaces within Woods Park and provide suggestions about specific uses. They defined two primary areas - habitat and passive. Other issues included accessibility to park and trails and neighborhood connectivity.

Comments on the charrette process focussed on how to make the process more inclusive.

Suggestions included:

- Shortening the meetings.
- Holding evening weekday meetings as well as Saturday meetings.
- Pre-mailing written presentation materials with answers to anticipated "most asked questions".

Participants turned in evaluations and comments, which were later tabulated.

Charrette #2 – March 20, 1999

The goals of this charrette were to achieve consensus on a conceptual site plan and on policy statements that addressed how the park is to be used, developed, and managed and address how the public can stay involved.

The results of the first charrette were reviewed along with the purpose of the charrettes. The second charrette built a more complete picture of the plan by offering a preliminary policy statement, refining information and map ideas and by soliciting citizen preferences for a more detailed set of alternative site plan designs and options for the park. The processes for getting the plan adopted and formalizing stewardship agreements were explained.

Three conceptual site plans were posted around the room:

- 1) The greenway aspects of Wood Creek.
- 2) Specification of two major areas within the park - Habitat area and Passive area.
- 3) Access points into the park.

A broad view of a conceptual plan for a trail system was presented that would support habitat area uses, limit the impact on the creek and wildlife quality, accommodate good trail design with key access points, and provide linkages to the neighborhood. The conceptual plan pulled the trail away from the creek, and reduced overall trail distance in the park.

An exercise was conducted to allow participants to choose possible park improvements from a menu of options for Woods Park. Participants individually ranked and approved or disapproved various options for park improvements. Several slides illustrated possible options to consider. People were encouraged to think in broad terms about costs in making decisions, considering that the least costly changes are most likely to happen earlier through a wider range of channels. (See Summarized Results of the Menu of Options at the end of this Appendix.)

Stewardship Agreements were discussed. The Stewardship Agreements follow the Park Functional Plan and coordinate the activities of different groups and stakeholders. These agreements tell the community and Parks how the park should be used, improved, maintained, and managed. Stewardship Agreements are crucial to insure a coordinated plan between the community and Parks.

Stewardship Agreements will have a specific time span for review. See Appendix C for further information on Stewardship Agreements.

Parks will designate a contact person to coordinate and track the scheduling of activities to avoid conflict or overlap. A community contact person will be appointed to follow through on each volunteer project.

Draft Functional Plan Comment Period

There will be a comment period during which time the Draft Functional Plan will be reviewed by designated City bureaus and offices, Metro, citizen groups, non-profits, and other interested parties. Following the comment period, the Parks Working Group will revise the document.

Implementation of Plan – Plan Approval Process

The following is a *draft* outline of an approval process:

1. Approval by Portland Parks and Recreation
2. Approval by SWNI Parks Committee and SWNI Board
3. Joint report to the Commissioner in Charge of Parks
4. Joint report to City Council (packaged with other Functional Plans)

Summarized Results - Menu of Options for Woods Park

Compiled from 18 surveys. Numbers shown in () indicate number of selections made in the menu of options.

I. GATEWAY REDESIGN

A. Gate Location – (focus on Plum Street)

Summary: Significant support for moving the gate nearer to Plum Street. Enlarging area near gate for more parking also recommended.

1. Move gate:
 - 1st choice – (12) Nine of these suggested nearer to Plum Street
 - 2nd choice – (4)
2. Enlarge area near gate for more parking:
 - 1st choice – (4)
 - 2nd choice – (10)

B. Gate Amenities

Summary: Several changes were strongly recommended:

1. Add signage (17)
2. Provide garbage cans (16)
3. Provide well-maintained pooper-scooper dispensers (14)
4. Add lighting (13)
5. Provide educational and interpretive materials (11)

C. Gate Design

Summary: The selections were closely divided on the gate design. Other gate designs were also suggested.

1. Keep swinging horizontal gate:
 - 1st choice – (6)
 - 2nd choice – (5)
 - 3rd choice – (4)
2. Design removable vertical entrance posts:
 - 1st choice – (6)
 - 2nd choice – (5)
 - 3rd choice – (5)
3. Wooden Trailhead gate:
 - 1st choice – (4)
 - 2nd choice – (5)
 - 3rd choice – (6)

II. ROAD REDESIGN

A. Road Status

Summary: Most people wanted to leave the road as it is. However, there was strong secondary interest in either downgrading the road to a wide trail or resurfacing it to gravel. There was wide consensus on not wanting to downgrade road to a narrow path. Several people suggested minimizing the width of the road to a width that would still accommodate emergency vehicles.

1. Leave Road as it is:
 - 1st choice – (9)
 - 2nd choice – (3)
2. Downgrade road to wide trail:
 - 1st choice – (5)
 - 2nd choice – (5)
3. Resurface to gravel:
 - 1st choice – (3)
 - 2nd choice – (8)

III. SECURITY

A. Lighting

Summary: The strongest support was for lighting at entrances only. Hooded or shielded lights received support.

1. Lighting at entrances only:
 - 1st choice – (11)
 - 2nd choice – (5)
2. Leave as is:
 - 1st choice – (5)
 - 2nd choice – (3)
3. Lighting along existing road:
 - 1st choice – (0)
 - 2nd choice – (7)

B. Patrols

Summary: Participants would like patrols, however they were closely divided on neighborhood patrols vs. sweep patrols by Parks and Police.

1. Sweep patrols by Parks and Police:

1st choice – (9)

2nd choice – (8)

2. Neighborhood patrols:

1st choice – (8)

2nd choice – (9)

C. Fire Protection

Summary: A fire hydrant near Plum Street is recommended. Highest priorities based on written-in comments were:

1. Add fire hydrant near Plum Street (10)

2. Leave road wide enough for emergency vehicles (2)

IV. TRAIL REDESIGN CONCEPT

A. Location and Design

Summary: There was general agreement to use standard, well-defined trail building techniques and expert engineers, and to design trails environmentally to reduce damage to habitat area, solve drainage, and protect creek banks from erosion problems. Those who stated that they wanted a different trail redesign offered minor adjustments.

1. Support trail redesign concept as presented:

1st choice – (8)

2nd choice – (3)

2. Suggest different trail design:

1st choice – (5)

2nd choice – (2)

Different trail redesign suggestions:

a. Match interest points to trail destinations (3)

b. Build trail parallel to 45th for views and connection to north of park (2)

c. Connection to Taylors Ferry (2)

d. Add trail along 45th to connect Orchid and Marigold Street ends (2)

e. Marigold better than Orchid for E-W foot travel (1)

f. Reduce width of road, don't turn it into a narrow trail (1)

g. Entrance at 43rd and Collins high priority (1)

h. Useful entrances at Alice and Marigold (1)

i. Change access from Marigold to Orchid (1)

B. Trail Creek Crossings

Summary: The strongest support was for wooden bridges over creek crossings, but there was significant secondary support for a suspension bridge.

1. Wooden bridges over creek for all crossings:

1st choice – (14)

2nd choice – (3)

2. Suspension bridge for one crossing:

1st choice – (4)

2nd choice – (11)

C. Surface of Trails

Summary: There was wide consensus for well-drained trails. Hard compacted earth received the most support; however, gravel or wood chip surfaces received noteworthy secondary support. (The primary other surface suggestion was for bark rock or wood chips -11)

1. Hard compacted earth:

1st choice – (8)

2nd choice – (5)

2. Surface with gravel:

1st choice – (5)

2nd choice – (6)

3. Other surface:

1st choice – (5)

2nd choice – (5)

D. Accessibility of Trails

Summary: Strong recommendations for creating one wheel-chair loop and reducing steep trail grades wherever possible. There was opposition to widening of all trails and to leaving trails as they are.

Strong recommendations included:

1. Wheel-chair access for one loop of trail (18)

2. Re-engineer trails to reduce current steep grades (15)

There was strong opposition to the following:

1. Widening of all trails (12)

2. Leaving trails as they are (11)

E. Linkages to Neighborhoods

Summary: Strongest support for trail redesign concept as presented. A significant number of people would accept leaving the linkages as they are. Other suggestions were made, but all point to the need for soliciting neighborhood preferences.

1. Support trail redesign concept as presented:

1st choice – (14)

2nd choice – (0)

2. Leave as they are:

1st choice – (0)

2nd choice – (9)

V. DOGS

A. Lawful Management

Summary: The strongest support was for allowing dogs on leash throughout park trails.

1. Dogs on leash throughout park trails:

1st choice – (14)

2nd choice – (1)

2. Dogs on leash only in passive (not habitat) area of park:

1st choice – (3)

2nd choice – (6)

Appendix B

Definitions: Park Spaces and Development Guidelines

Note: The definitions used during the Charrette process have been revised since the Woods Park Charrettes. The following revised definitions are from Planning for Southwest Parks – A Process for Planning Parks in Southwest Portland Using Limited Resources. The full document can be obtained from the SWNI office or from Portland Parks and Recreation.

PARK SPACES

A critical element of the Park Functional Plan is to determine what areas are appropriate for different kinds of use. Certain park lands can easily handle intensive active use such as sports fields while others are fragile and must be protected. The Working Group determined that there are four basic park spaces – Active, Passive, Habitat and Transition. These space distinctions will be based on the need to protect resources and the need to provide recreation to the community. They are described below.

ACTIVE SPACE

1. Description: Areas in parks that are suitable for and often used for intensive recreation. Active spaces are often open, with trees or shrubs along the perimeters, providing areas for sports fields, large built facilities such as swim centers and sports complexes and areas for large celebrations and events.
2. Purpose: Active spaces provide for uses that have potentially high impacts on the resource for organized, sometimes intensive, sports, spectator sports, celebrations, and instruction.
3. Examples: All appropriate recreation activities are allowed and major alterations to the land may be appropriate. Waterfront Park is an excellent example of a park with many active spaces. The meadows, although unstructured, host many of Portland's festivals, ranging from Rose Festival to a Blues Festival. Other examples of active spaces are sports fields and stadiums located throughout the city in neighborhood, community and special parks. Group picnic areas are included in active areas, as are community centers, aquatic centers, and such special uses as Portland International Raceway. Specific uses include, but are not limited to:
 - Tennis courts
 - Stadiums, aquatic, community, and art centers
 - Basketball courts
 - Multi-use sports fields: soccer, football, softball and baseball
 - Volleyball courts
 - Playgrounds
 - Skateboard facilities
 - Off-leash areas for dogs
 - Group picnic area
 - Amphitheaters

PASSIVE SPACE

1. Description: Areas in parks that are suitable for unstructured uses and low intensity recreation. Passive spaces are planned landscapes that may vary from open meadows to areas with shrub beds, ornamental plantings, trees, benches, tables and pathways. These areas are often irrigated. Minor development and alteration to the landscape may be appropriate depending on the particular site and use.

2. Purpose: Passive spaces provide for informal park use, with low impact on the land, often solitary and quiet in nature. These areas are available for casual park users that come to a park for respite from the surrounding urban area to enjoy the park's beauty, its sense of spaciousness, and to recreate informally. Unlike active areas, its purpose is not to provide for organized sports or activities.
3. Uses are as diverse as the public using the space. They include, but are not limited, to:
 - Walking
 - Individual picnics
 - Reading
 - Kite Flying
 - Sun bathing
 - Meditation
 - Play areas
 - Leashed pet exercise
 - Bicycling on trails or paths

NATURAL AREAS

1. Description: Areas with important or unique natural resource values. Natural areas often conform to the City's designated 'environmental protection overlay zones'. They can be forested areas, meadows, wetland areas, and riparian areas. Natural Areas can include habitat spaces that conform to specific natural settings, such as Northwest Coast or Cascade upland forest or riparian areas, or Willamette Valley meadow or wetland areas. Development which has limited, minimal impact on the resource is allowed. Public access may be restricted to protect the resource. Development may include interpretive signs, benches and other minor elements, except at trailheads which may have parking areas and restroom facilities.
2. Purpose: The primary purpose is to provide beneficial fish and/or wildlife habitat for native species. It may help support stream buffers and wildlife corridors, and it can provide significant benefits to water quality and stormwater management as well as wildlife and aquatic organisms by providing shade and natural, vegetative filtering of runoff into streams. Additionally, these vegetative corridors provide significant local infiltration of runoff into the ground, which helps sustain steam flows in the early months of the summer dry season.

Another purpose of natural areas is to provide for outdoor recreation and nature study, but only to the extent that it does not infringe on the primary purpose of the natural areas.

3. Examples: Natural areas can encompass an entire park, such as Marquam Nature Park, or be a riparian, wooded, or meadow area within a traditional park. Examples include the heavily wooded northwest corner of Pier Park, or the wooded and wetland areas of Gabriel Park. Appropriate activities have minimal impact on the resource and are confined to specific areas.

Activities may include:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| Walking and hiking | Restoration and maintenance |
| Education and nature study | Reading, resting, meditation |
| Wildlife viewing | |
| Leashed pet exercise (pets may be excluded completely from very sensitive habitat) | |
| Bicycling (bicycles may be excluded from very sensitive habitat spaces, or trails with high levels of pedestrian use) | |

TRANSITION SPACE

1. Description: Areas where uses change from active to passive or habitat to active. These spaces vary widely in their character depending on the types of activities or areas that are being separated.
2. Purpose: To buffer users and resources from unwanted impacts and to provide a gradual transition from one activity or use to an adjacent one.
3. Examples: These spaces vary from a path that separates an active ball field from a quiet view point to a cultivated area that separates a habitat space from a picnic area.

PARK SPACE DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

The following guidelines were developed by the Working Group to address typical projects and activities appropriate to each type of Park Space – Active, Passive, Habitat and Transition Spaces. Additional guidelines that address the park function of corridors is also included. These are advisory in nature, and should be followed where appropriate, but may be altered depending on specific site conditions and recreation needs. These guidelines were developed to address issues in SW Parks, but efforts have been made to broaden the language so they can be applied to all Portland Parks, if this is a desired outcome of the Parks 2020 process.

GUIDELINES FOR ALL DEVELOPMENT

Consider soils and water quality in all park development. Adequate drainage and erosion prevention are key considerations. Preserve and enhance trees and native vegetation wherever possible.

ACTIVE SPACE DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

Typical development will accommodate high intensity use and may significantly alter the landscape. Typical development may include athletic fields and sports facilities, play areas, group picnic areas, community centers and other buildings, pools, parking lots, dog off-leash areas, and other specific intensive uses. Maintenance requirements are frequently high.

Direct runoff to swales or infiltration basins. Preserve mature trees and native plant materials where possible. Separate active spaces from passive spaces and natural areas where practical and desirable by appropriate transition zones.

Locate regional facilities that attract high numbers of users near multi-modal transportation facilities and provide adequate off-street parking. Site athletic complexes and other regional facilities so that lights, noise and traffic do not unduly impact neighboring residential areas.

Examples of Active Recreation Activities and Resource Needed:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Resource Needed</u>
Athletic Complex	Large (10 acres), reasonably flat, away from residences.
Sports Fields	2 to 3 acres, flat/open areas, buffered from residences.
Community Center	4 to 5 acres, close to public transportation, off-street parking.
Group Picnic Area	Large shaded or open area near parking and lawn/play space.

PASSIVE SPACE DEVELOPMENT

Most parks provide some passive recreation by virtue of being green, open spaces that are different from the surrounding built environment. Passive recreation areas vary widely in appearance and in

use. They may be natural, semi-natural or highly maintained but are unstructured in terms of the activities that can occur. The condition and value of the resource limit the use. Passive recreation can occur in areas that are programmed for other things, such as flying a kite on an unused ball field. The areas may have natural resource values.

Typical development of passive space is limited and has little impact on the landscape. Development may enhance the landscape but does not involve massive disruptions. Development includes few, if any, structures(restrooms) and no organized activities. Maintenance requirements may be relatively low, however, depending on whether the area is manicured and irrigated.

Examples of Passive/Unstructured Recreation Activities and Resource Needed:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Resource Needed</u>
Walking Paths	Soft-surface or pavement
Sitting/resting	Benches/lawn area
Dog walking (on leash)	Paths or lawn area
Visual relief	Green places, vistas, trees and plants
Kite flying/Frisbee tossing	Unobstructed open field
'Pick-up' sports games	Open field or unscheduled sports field
Picnicking (family or small group)	Tables - 1 or 2

NATURAL AREA SPACE DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

These areas have a particular functional ecological value such as wildlife habitat, water quality benefits, urban forest resources, stormwater detention or resource restoration. These areas are often some of the few remaining examples of the natural landscape. Often these environmental functions are compatible with passive recreation activities and provide passive recreation and education opportunities as a secondary benefit. In some cases, or at some times, public access is restricted to protect the resource.

Any development here enhances preservation and protection of the resource, or restores the resource. Limited facilities support the use and enjoyment of the resource and educate the public about the resource. Scientific research is encouraged. Some areas have Comprehensive Plan designations such as Environmental Protection or Environmental Conservation zones, Greenway or Scenic Resources that provide protection and allow certain uses.

Trail development should allow the public to view streams, wetlands and other interesting habitat without impacting the resource. Well-drained, durable gravel trails or soft-surface trails are appropriate in low use areas. Paved trails may be appropriate for ADA access in areas of particular significance. Raised walkways are preferred for sensitive wet areas. Trailheads may be developed with parking, restrooms and educational signing. Lighting is to be avoided in Natural Areas.

Examples of Natural Area Activities and Resource Needed:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Resource Needed</u>
Walking/hiking	Designated trails
Education/Interpretation	Paved or soft-surface
Resting, meditating	Functional habitats w/ significant educational values
Habitat restoration	Occasional benches or sitting areas.
	Degraded or overused natural resource.

TRANSITION AREA DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

These areas provide for a change in activities, usually from active to passive or habitat spaces. Different plants, slopes or habitats may be used to signal the transition from one activity to another. The transition may be as simple as a path between two kinds of spaces or as great as a wide lawn area or large planted buffer.

Development of a Transition Space is highly dependent on the nature of the differing activities, the need for safety requirements and the condition of the particular site. In some cases, there is no need to develop a particular transition space. The distance between activities may be sufficient to act as the transition space.

Designated habitat areas are most likely to need transition spaces, especially if they are located near an active recreation area. The transition should provide habitat protection and signal to the park user that a different kind of activity is appropriate.

CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES:

These are linear systems that may be watershed-based stream corridors or land-based trail corridors, parkways and boulevards. They may be public or private. Typical activities include walking, biking, driving, nature study and scenic enjoyment. Corridors that link parks and natural areas form important connections that enlarge the park system.

Development, if any, is dependent on the particular site.

Appendix C

Information about Stewardship Agreements

Purpose of Stewardship Agreement

A Stewardship Agreement is used to implement the goals, priorities and projects of the Functional Plan. It spells out the agreed upon roles and responsibilities of participants and ensures that there is good ongoing communication among the parties to the agreement.

Elements of the agreement will follow the Park Functional Plan which provides the general guidelines for management and procedures to be used to develop the park.

Participants in the Stewardship Agreement

- Portland Parks and Recreation staff responsible for maintenance, volunteer coordination and security. *Note: Parks is ultimately responsible for all activities in the park.*
- Friends Group, if there is one.
- Neighborhood association (if they want a role in stewardship).
- Watershed Council, if applicable.
- Representative of neighbors immediately adjacent to Park, if they want a role in stewardship.
- Active organized user groups who use the park regularly for educational or project purposes.
- Other bureaus, if Functional Plan implementation involves integration their work; e.g. Environmental Services for stormwater management or Transportation for connecting trails.
- Community or School Police liaison if security issues are part of Stewardship Agreement.

Elements of the Stewardship Agreement

This varies according to the specific Park Functional Plan and the skills, resources and needs of the community partners in the agreement. The agreement may be very basic or more complex depending on the amount of public involvement in ongoing park maintenance, development and programs.

The agreement will spell out:

- The specific duties of each party (e.g. activities, supply of materials, numbers of work parties to be conducted, etc.)
- General work schedule.
- Contact person.
- Procedures for coordinating with other ongoing projects and activities in the park.
- Periodic meetings to review activities if needed.
- Term of the agreement or conditions requiring annual review or renewal.

The agreement may also specify additional conditions such as:

- Required training of participants.
- Standards to be applied, such as surface composition or design for trails.
- Responsibility for supervision of minors.
- Signing of insurance information forms.
- Reporting hours worked.

Types of Activities

The types of activities that could be covered in simple or complex types of agreements are listed below:

Activities in Simple Agreements

- Litter control
- Clearing of hard surfaces in park
- Communicating with park staff and or police regarding hazards

Activities in Complex Agreements

- Community security patrols
- Stream restoration projects
- Non-native plant removal
- Graffiti removal
- Trail building/maintenance
- Care for landscaped areas
- Developing interpretative materials

Coordinating Activities

A key element of the park Stewardship Agreement is to define the responsible parties to carry out the specific activities, to develop guidelines to coordinate the multiple ongoing projects and to avoid conflicting activities.

The specifics of coordination will vary according to the complexity of the Functional Plan and the number of stakeholders involved in the agreement. A single contact in Parks will be the primary contact for initiating new projects and scheduling ongoing activities and a community contact person will be designated for the various stewardship activities in the park.

Contact the Natural Resources section of Portland Parks and Recreation for further information.

