

# Cashmere Shoreline Public Access Plan

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This Cashmere Shoreline Public Access Plan documents how the City has planned for parks and recreation in the community, particularly along the Wenatchee River and Mission Creek, pursuant to WAC 173-26-221 (4)(c), including identifying specific public needs and opportunities to provide public access through an open public process. This plan is based on the City's *Comprehensive Plan* land use, parks and recreation, and capital facilities elements, as well as a detailed parks and recreation functional plan. The City's efforts address a variety of shoreline access opportunities and circulation for pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles between shoreline access points, and include recommended projects and actions.

## Shoreline Public Access Laws and Rules

Public access refers to the ability of the general public "to reach, touch, and enjoy the water's edge, to travel on the waters of the state, and to view the water and the shoreline from adjacent locations" (WAC 173-26-221(4)(a)). Public access can be physical access such as via a trail or park and/or visual such as a view corridor from a road.

Public access is a preferred use per the Shoreline Management Act (RCW 90.58.020). The Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Guidelines require that public access be provided with most new development, except that more flexibility is allowed where there is a coordinated public access planning process (WAC 173-26-221(4)(c)). When public access is addressed in a SMP, it implements the "public trust doctrine" which is a common law principle holding that "the waters of the state are a public resource owned by and available to all citizens equally for the purposes of navigation, conducting commerce, fishing, recreation and similar uses." While the doctrine "protect(s) public use of navigable water bodies below the ordinary high water mark," the doctrine "does not allow the public to trespass over privately owned uplands to access the tidelands."<sup>1</sup> Generally, public or private landowners are limited in terms of liability when there are unintentional injuries to any public access users based on state law at RCW 4.24.210.

## Shoreline Recreation Goals and Plans

The City of Cashmere's 2008 *Comprehensive Plan* includes Park and Recreation goals that seek to improve the existing parks and recreation facilities, as well as add new ones:

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<sup>1</sup> See the State of Washington's Department of Ecology's website at: [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/sma/laws\\_rules/public\\_trust.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/sma/laws_rules/public_trust.html). Accessed March 24, 2010.

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- Plan for a recreational trail along the Wenatchee River from Goodwin Road to the East End of the Sewage treatment plant.
- Establish a plan for improvement of the kayak park and improve direct river access at Riverside Park.
- Provide efforts to support or develop a river trail access plan on dike.
- Establish a plan to develop a park at the mulch site, and connect a trail system on dike to connect to Riverside Park.

Based on these *Comprehensive Plan* goals, the City prepared the *Comprehensive Park & Recreation Plan 2009-2015*. The plan identifies numerous parks and recreation improvements which include converting other government-owned properties into passive and active parks areas, including the sewage treatment lagoons, mulching center, portions of power substation properties, among others. This will add substantially to park and public access opportunities in the community.

Some key *Comprehensive Park & Recreation Plan* goals and policies include:

- Develop a well-maintained, interconnected system of multi-functional parks, trails, recreation facilities and open spaces that is attractive, safe and available to all segments of the City's population, and supports the community's established neighborhoods and small town atmosphere. (PRG 1.0)
- Ensure that new park and recreational services are provided concurrent with new development. (PRG 2.0)
  - All new development shall provide funds or park lands for concurrent park development and maintenance. (PRP 2.1)
  - Require on-site (or nearby off-site) development of recreation facilities or appropriate and usable park land in conjunction with the approval of any development project. (PRP 2.3)
  - Require development projects along designated trail routes to be designed to incorporate the trail as part of the project. (PRP 2.4)
- Develop, operate and maintain parks and recreation facilities in a manner that is responsive to the site, and balances the needs of the community with available funding. (PRG 3.0)
- Cooperate with other jurisdictions, public agencies, and the private sector to provide park, open space and recreation facilities. (PRG 4.0)
- Protect and preserve as open space areas that: are ecologically significant sensitive areas; provide significant opportunities for restoration buffers between uses and link open space; provide trails and/or wildlife corridors; or enhance fish habitat. (PRG 5.0)

## Parks and Recreation Plans and Public Review Process

The City’s parks and recreation goals and plans have been created with extensive public review as described in the table below. Public review opportunities have included citizen committees, open houses, surveys, public meetings and hearings. Notices were made to a wide variety of agencies as well as citizens.

Parks Documentation and Process	Description
Comprehensive Plan and Parks and Recreation Plan	<p>City of Cashmere Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Adopted 2008, including parks and recreation goals and policies.</p> <p>Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan 2009-15. Adopted 2009. Plan includes planning process, existing system, goals and standards, and implementation including a capital improvement program.</p>
Public Involvement Process	<p>Comprehensive Plan: Planning Commission meetings and legislative hearings.</p> <p>Parks and Recreation Plan: Meetings with user groups, open houses, parks and recreation survey, news ads, public meetings and workshops, Parks and Recreation Commission meetings, and legislative hearings.</p>

## Current and Planned Facilities in Shoreline Jurisdiction

The following table summarizes public access features found along the two Cashmere shorelines, based on the “Shoreline Inventory and Analysis Report for Shorelines in Chelan County and the Cities of Cashmere, Chelan, Entiat, Leavenworth, and Wenatchee” dated March 2009.

Waterbody	Shoreline Acres	Parks & Public, Open Space Acres	Trails– Existing & Proposed Feet	Visual Access	Other Shoreline Facilities
Mission Creek	71.55	4	602 (0.11 mile)	Visible at some road crossings. Limited visibility due to width, vegetation, land use, etc.	None
Wenatchee River	166.20	65	14,522 (2.75 mile)	Visible in the vicinity of US 2, Riverside Park, and higher elevations.	Take-out ramp for rafters and kayakers, picnic area, sport courts and playfields.

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Along the Wenatchee River the City has planned for improved shoreline recreation access both at current parks and at other public lands to be converted to recreation uses. Additional trail miles are also planned on a dike as well as along public roads. The City’s current and planned facilities are shown on the Public Access maps located at the conclusion of this document.

### Community Parks and Recreation Standards

The City’s *Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan* includes level of service standards for different facilities community wide. These standards were considered in the development of specific parks and recreation improvements for the current and future population in Cashmere.

Facility Type	Level of Service Standard
<b>Parks and Open Space</b>	<b>acres/1000 population</b>
Mini	0.5
Neighborhood	2
Community	7
Regional	8
Open Space Areas	5
<b>Trails</b>	<b>miles/1000 population</b>
Trails	0.5
Pathways	0.25
Bikeways	0.25

### Public Access Analysis & Objectives by Shoreline Reach

The City has planned an extensive trail along the Wenatchee River, improvements to existing parks, and new parks and recreation opportunities at public sites along the river. Mission Creek has fewer existing and planned parks, recreation, or trail facilities, but is largely developed with small lot single-family dwellings. Public access conditions are presented in order of numbered reaches as mapped in the “Shoreline Inventory and Analysis Report for Shorelines in Chelan County and the Cities of Cashmere, Chelan, Entiat, Leavenworth, and Wenatchee” dated March 2009.

Waterbody and Reach	Current Shoreline Facilities	Planned Shoreline Facilities	Discussion
<b>Wenatchee River</b>			

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<b>Waterbody and Reach</b>	<b>Current Shoreline Facilities</b>	<b>Planned Shoreline Facilities</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>CCA 01</b>	None	CCA 01 R: Treatment Plant Natural Area	Current wastewater lagoons to be converted. Planned recreation includes observation platforms, interpretative trail, passive areas, restrooms, and parking.
<b>CCA 02</b>	CCA 02 L: Open Space	CCA 02 R: Proposed Riverfront Trail	Riverfront trail to be multi-use such as pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian.
<b>CCA 03</b>	CCA 03 L: Cashmere Museum & Pioneer Village CCA 03 R: Cashmere Avenue Park	CCA 03 L: Proposed Riverfront Trail CCA 03 L: Future Park (Jarvis site)	Trail – see above The site is currently undeveloped with trees and shrubs. Future plans call for a passive mini-park.
<b>CCA 04</b>	CCA 04 L: Open Space CCA 04 R: Existing Trail (partial), Fishing Easement	CCA 04 R: Proposed Riverfront Trail	Trail – see above
<b>CCA 05</b>	CCA 05 R: Riverside Park	CCA 05 R: Riverside Park improvements	Future improvements include Riverfront Trail, picnic facilities, watercraft ramp, passive and active play areas, restrooms, and parking.
<b>CCA 06</b>	None	CCA 06 R: Riverfront Trail	Trail – see above
<b>CCA 07</b>	CCA 07 R: Trail	CCA 07 R: Riverfront Trail	Trail – see above
<b>CCA 08</b>	CCA 08 R: Visual access from street rights of way	None	Area is in single family residential use. Limited future development potential due to presence of small lots.
<b>CCA 09</b>	CCA 09R: River Street Park	CCA 09 R: Riverfront Trail and River Street Park Improvements	Trail – see above River Street Park improvements include play area, picnic area, and sidewalk extension.
<b>CCA 10</b>	None	CCA 10 R: Riverfront Trail	Trail – see above

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<b>Waterbody and Reach</b>	<b>Current Shoreline Facilities</b>	<b>Planned Shoreline Facilities</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
CCA 11	None	CCA 11 R: Mulching Center Park	Riverfront Trail, fitness trail, observatory, sport courts, sports fields, picnic area, and parking.
CCA 12	None	CCA 12 R: Riverfront Trail	Trail – see above
CCA 13	None	CCA 13 R: Riverfront Trail	Trail – see above
<b>Mission Creek</b>			
CCA 01	CCA 01 R: Visual access from street rights of way.	None	Area is in single family residential use. Limited future development potential due to presence of small lots.
CCA 02	CCA 02 R: River Street Park	CCA 02 R: Riverfront Trail and River Street Park Improvements	CCA 02 R: Trail – see above River Street Park – see above CCA 02 L: Appears to be sliver of a right of way for railroad or road.
CCA 03	CCA 03 R: Community Pool	None	Site has outdoor swimming pool, picnic area, some shade trees and grass, with some parking.
CCA 04	Some limited visual access from rights of way.	None	Area is in single family residential use. Limited future development potential due to presence of small lots. There is one City-owned lot along the stream south of Pioneer Avenue. The property near the intersection of Pioneer Ave and Mission Creek is right-of-way, and not suitable for public access.
CCA 05	CCA 05 R: Natatorium Park, School Fields and Facilities	None	

Waterbody and Reach	Current Shoreline Facilities	Planned Shoreline Facilities	Discussion
CCA 06	Some limited visual access from rights of way.	None	Same as CCA 04. There is another City-owned lot along the stream adjacent to Chapel Street. The City property contains an old water pump house that is no longer in use; it is not suitable for public access.

The City’s plan creates significant new opportunities for shoreline parks and recreation in the community, and will likely meet community needs beyond the City’s capital planning period that presently extends to the year 2015. For example, the City’s plan calls for a minimum 2.13 miles of trails throughout the City by the year 2015, but the plan provides approximately 2.86 miles in the shoreline jurisdiction alone.

### Implementation

The City will implement its shoreline public access plan through the capital investment plan contained in the *Comprehensive Park & Recreation Plan 2009-2015*. The capital investment plan will be included in the City’s budget in the appropriate year that the facility is to be implemented. The City anticipates this plan to be updated on or before the close of 2015. The Shoreline Master Program update also contains public access and recreation standards designed to be compatible with and support the shoreline public access plan. The City may also revisit its shoreline public access plan during periodic reviews of the SMP, anticipated every eight years. (RCW 90.58.080)

### Supporting Maps

The following attached maps are provided for reference and in support of the shoreline public access plan:

- Public Access maps prepared for the Shoreline Master Program update, July 2012.