

2014 ANNUAL AMENDMENTS: POINT DEFIANCE PARK POLICY AND CODE

Application #2014-02

January 8, 2014

Point Defiance Park zoning



2005-2008 Concept Plan



Point Defiance Park

The Next 100 Years; Protecting The Legacy

Preferred Concept Plan

Date: February 2008

VISION - To develop a Plan for the Future while staying True to the Vision of the Past

MISSION - Achieve a balance of Past, Present, and Future... Recreation, Leisure, Education, Conservation, Preservation, History, and Progress

OBJECTIVES :

1. Preserve, respect, and enhance the integrity of the Park's history and natural beauty
2. Create an exceptional pedestrian environment
3. Enhance the visitor experience through education, recreation, leisure, and safety
4. Create a destination and gathering space
5. Provide financially sustainable opportunities to enhance revenue for maintenance and operations
6. Encourage water related / dependent activities
7. Complete missing link between Ruston Way and Point Defiance

STRATEGIC PARKS AND PROGRAM SERVICES PLAN :

- Provide accessible, convenient, safe and attractive parks and facilities.
- Support active living that contributes to a healthy community.
- Protect and restore the natural environment for conservation and learning.
- Foster stewardship of historical / cultural assets for experience and learning.
- Provide affordable and high-quality recreation and educational experiences for a diverse community.
- Partner in responsible economic and community development.
- Create an innovative, efficient and effective organization that is responsive to changing community needs.
- Create diverse, stable, and predictable funding strategies to provide the resources required to build, maintain, and operate our system of parks and programs.
- Maximize the benefits provided by Tacoma's unique park and recreation resources.
- Maximize community resources through partnerships to provide a system of parks and recreation opportunities.

7 GIG HARBOR VIEWPOINT
CONCEPT: To develop a destination that showcases the spectacular scenery and offers visitors a diverse range of recreational opportunities.

- OUTER LOOP TRAIL TO BE RELOCATED TO FORMER ROADS
- CONSTRUCT NEW TRAILHEAD
- RELOCATE FIVE MILE DRIVE AWAY FROM GIG HARBOR VIEWPOINT AND ERODING BLUFF
- UPGRADE EXISTING FACILITIES
- FULL SERVICE PICNIC AREA
- PLAYGROUND

6 FOREST AREA 2
CONCEPT: To create an exceptional pedestrian environment while preserving and enhancing the native forest and wildlife habitat

- ENCOURAGE LOW IMPACT PEDESTRIAN TRAILS
- ENCOURAGE FOREST AND WILDLIFE PRESERVATION
- RESTORATION OF DISTURBED AREAS
- INTERPRETIVE AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

5 FOREST AREA 1
CONCEPT: To create an exceptional pedestrian environment that invites users to participate and learn in the forest environment

- ENCOURAGE LOW IMPACT PEDESTRIAN TRAILS
- STRONG PEDESTRIAN ACCESS BETWEEN HISTORIC ZONE AND THE ZOO
- ENCOURAGE FOREST AND WILDLIFE PRESERVATION
- CREATE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES
- POTENTIAL FOR LESS-INVASIVE ACTIVITIES SUCH AS CANOPY ZIP LINE

4 BAKER TRACT
CONCEPT: To encourage forest preservation and minimal impact activities

- FOREST PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION
- POTENTIAL MAINTENANCE FACILITY RELOCATION
- POTENTIAL OFF-LEASH DOG PARK
- POTENTIAL SATELLITE PARKING FACILITY
- POTENTIAL FOR LESS-INVASIVE ACTIVITIES SUCH AS ROPES COURSES
- POTENTIAL EXPANSION OF HISTORIC ZONE INTO BAKER TRACT

8 FIVE MILE DRIVE
CONCEPT: To develop an exceptional pedestrian environment

- ENCOURAGE PEDESTRIAN ACCESS BY INCREASING PEDESTRIAN-ONLY TRIMES
- RELOCATED AWAY FROM BLUFF WHERE BLUFF STABILITY IS A HAZARD
- MINIMIZE NUMBER OF PEDESTRIAN TRAIL AND ROAD CONFLICTS

9 OWEN BEACH AND PROMENADE
CONCEPT: Develop a destination that encourages recreational activities and allows visitors to celebrate the history of the waterfront

- ADD SEATING ALONG PROMENADE TRAIL
- CONSTRUCT NEW TWO-WAY VEHICULAR ENTRY TO OWEN BEACH
- CONSTRUCT PEDESTRIAN / BIKE SKYBRIDGE
- POTENTIAL WATER TAXI STOP
- ADD FULL SERVICE COVERED PICNIC SHELTER AND ENLARGE PICNIC AREA OVERLOOKING BAY WITH TOWER ACCESS TO BEACH
- CONSTRUCT VIEW TOWER
- UPGRADE EXISTING FACILITIES
- ENHANCE BEACH RENTAL AND CONCESSION OPPORTUNITIES

10 MARINA AND FERRY TERMINAL
CONCEPT: To preserve the history and educate visitors while upgrading facilities to promote access to the waterfront

- CREATE MARITIME VILLAGE, RETAIL, AND RESTAURANT OPPORTUNITIES
- RETAIN FERRY TERMINAL IN CURRENT LOCATION
- CREATE ADDITIONAL PARKING
- CREATE ADDITIONAL BOAT MOORAGE FACILITIES
- EXPAND BOAT RAMP FACILITIES
- ENHANCE FISHING AND WATER ACCESS

11 PENINSULA PARK
CONCEPT: To create a unique, passive, and dramatic recreation area for users to participate in while enjoying the waterfront

- BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN TRAILS
- CREATE OPEN SPACE FOR SEASONAL FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

3 MAIN GARDENS
CONCEPT: Develop a spectacular garden experience while integrating more event opportunities

- ENHANCE PEDESTRIAN / BIKE ACCESS TO WATERFRONT AND PERIMETER ZONES
- MINIMIZE NUMBER OF VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN CONFLICTS
- CREATE NEW FACILITIES SUCH AS VISITOR CENTER AND GREENHOUSE
- UPGRADE AND CREATE NEW EVENT SPACE OPPORTUNITIES
- INTERPRETIVE OPPORTUNITIES
- CREATE NEW GARDENS

2 ZOO AND AQUARIUM
CONCEPT: To integrate and expand educational opportunities of existing Zoo and Aquarium Zone with adjacent park uses

- POTENTIAL AQUARIUM EXPANSION

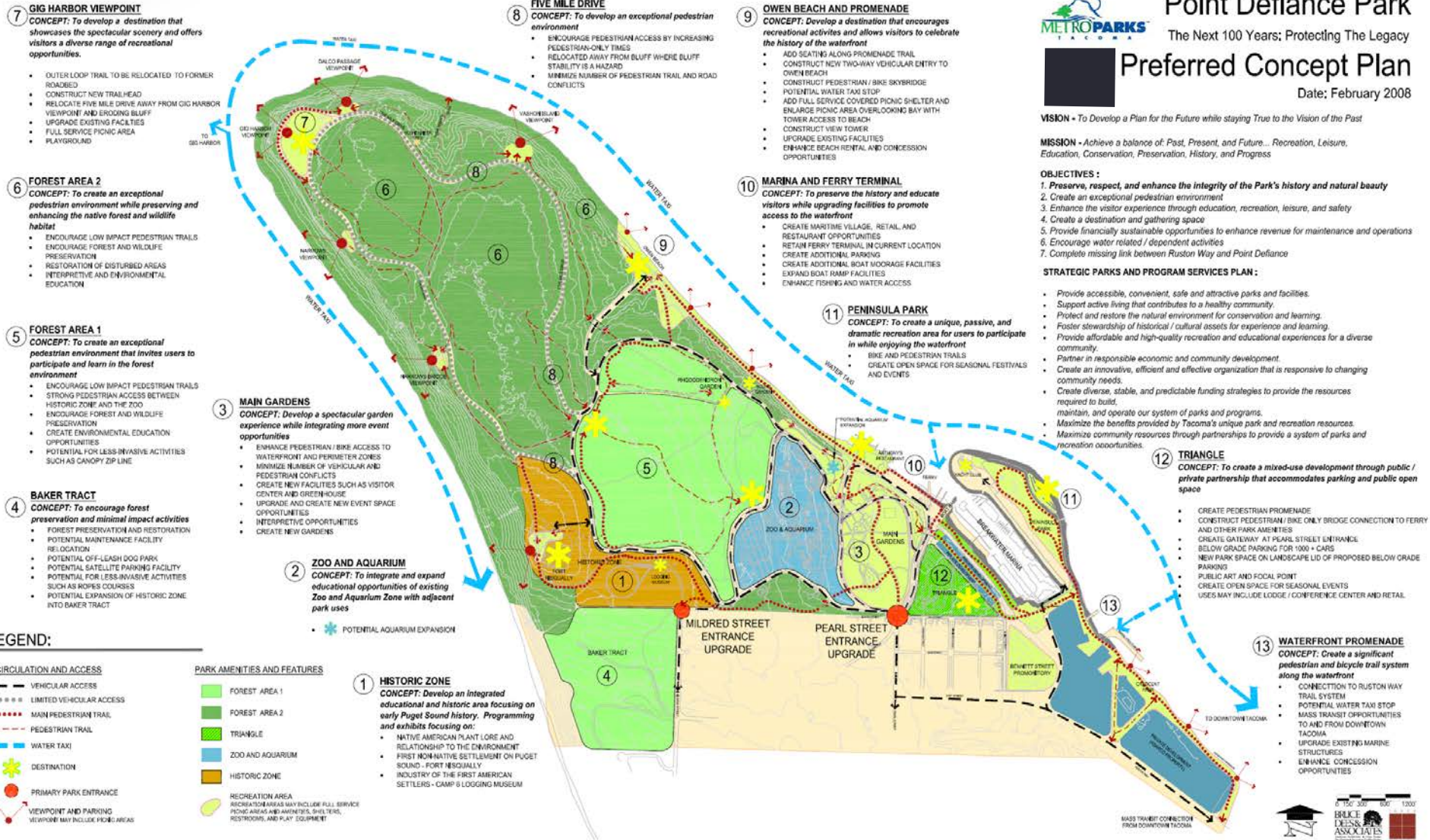
1 HISTORIC ZONE
CONCEPT: Develop an integrated educational and historic area focusing on early Puget Sound history. Programming and exhibits focusing on:

- NATIVE AMERICAN PLANT Lore AND RELATIONSHIP TO THE ENVIRONMENT
- FIRST NON-NATIVE SETTLEMENT ON PUGET SOUND - FORT ISQUALMI
- INDUSTRY OF THE FIRST AMERICAN SETTLERS - CAMP & LOGGING MUSEUM

LEGEND:

- CIRCULATION AND ACCESS**
- VEHICULAR ACCESS
 - LIMITED VEHICULAR ACCESS
 - MAIN PEDESTRIAN TRAIL
 - PEDESTRIAN TRAIL
 - WATER TAXI
 - ★ DESTINATION
 - PRIMARY PARK ENTRANCE
 - VIEWPOINT AND PARKING VIEWPOINT MAY INCLUDE PICNIC AREAS

- PARK AMENITIES AND FEATURES**
- FOREST AREA 1
 - FOREST AREA 2
 - TRIANGLE
 - ZOO AND AQUARIUM
 - HISTORIC ZONE
 - RECREATION AREA (RECREATION AREAS MAY INCLUDE FULL SERVICE PICNIC AREAS AND AMENITIES, SHOWER, RESTROOMS, AND PLAY EQUIPMENT)



Lay groundwork for implementation of Pt. Defiance Park plans

Proposal:

- Add policy to Open Space Element recognizing Point Defiance Park plans
- Reference DRAs in the Parks, Rec and Open Space Code

Intent:

- Recognize unique function and planning efforts
- Clarify review process
- Prepare for imminent submittals for City review

Clarify review process for “Destination Point Defiance”

- Plans include commercial, recreation, education and other features
- Park Code defines “destination facilities”, but stops short of Point Defiance scope
- Potential review paths – CUPs, Rezones or DRA
- DRAs...
 - Intended for large, key sites
 - Appropriate for broad scope and scale
 - Provide flexibility within full public process

Policy consistency

- Destination Point Defiance vision is consistent with Comp Plan policies
- Open Space Element
- Generalized Land Use Element
- Neighborhood Element

- Builds on Open Space Element, Parks code, DRA code

Proposed changes

- Add policy to Open Space Element
 - New section for Specific Area Plans
- Add note in Parks, Rec and Open Space Code
 - DRAs, in addition to CUPs, are a potential review process
- Discussion to date:
 - General support for Destination Point Defiance
 - Questions on the Planning Commission's role in development review

Next steps

- Request Commission direction
- Recommend releasing for public review

