

# Recreation



## Where does this topic fit within the new Comprehensive Plan?

Hillsboro's updated Comprehensive Plan is organized around seven core topic areas. These core areas cover broad, interconnected subjects that help define and guide the future growth and development of Hillsboro.



Recreation is one of the six topics within the **Enhancing Livability and Recreation** core area.



The full background report is available at [plan.hillsboro-oregon.gov/livability](http://plan.hillsboro-oregon.gov/livability)

Hillsboro offers a variety of high-quality parks, greenways, open spaces, trails, and recreation opportunities that contribute to a high quality of life. The City aims to continue meeting the recreation needs of a growing and changing population through careful planning.

## Existing Activities

The City of Hillsboro offers a variety of unique recreation opportunities. The Parks & Recreation Department manages and operates 35 developed parks (totaling 622 acres), 4 indoor recreation centers, and 3 sports complexes. The department also maintains around 400 acres of greenways and open space, including the Rock Creek Trail and Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve.

In addition to these recreation opportunities, Hillsboro Parks & Recreation offers hundreds of diverse, year-round recreational programs and activities that enrich the lives of residents and visitors of all ages.

Recreation programming is not included in the Comprehensive Plan, which focuses on land use and transportation, but it is addressed elsewhere in multiple Hillsboro Parks & Recreation planning documents as well as in the Hillsboro 2035 Community Plan.



## Issues and Challenges

The issues and challenges facing Hillsboro’s parks and recreation efforts include:

- privately-developed residential recreation facilities that are not constructed to City standards and are not being maintained over the long term
- small yard sizes in new residential development, which increase demand for public and shared spaces
- lack of interconnected trails and on-street bicycle and pedestrian facilities to connect recreation opportunities with housing, schools, and employment
- high overall costs for the development of new recreation opportunities, particularly in high-density areas

## Emerging Trends and Opportunities

In addition to the challenges listed above, examining emerging best practices and opportunities can help identify areas to focus on when crafting goals and policies.

Some examples include:

- **New Multi-Generational Facilities** — There is demand for new multi-generational recreation facilities that meet the needs of a growing and changing population.
- **Community Garden Facilities** — Community gardens offer a low-cost form of recreation and provide access to healthy food.
- **Environmentally Conscious Landscape Practices** — The use of environmentally conscious landscape practices demonstrates a commitment to protecting the environment and public health.

## Recommended Updates and Policy Considerations

The Comprehensive Plan update represents an opportunity to advance Hillsboro’s parks and recreation efforts.

Recommended updates include the following:

- **Increase indoor recreation facilities and valued community gathering spaces.**
- **Expand Hillsboro’s network of trails and on-street bicycle and pedestrian facilities to create and connect recreation opportunities.**
- **Require that recreation opportunities are constructed to current City standards.**

### Find Out More

For more information, including upcoming events and opportunities to get involved, please visit [plan.hillsboro-oregon.gov](http://plan.hillsboro-oregon.gov).

Civic Center, 4th Floor  
150 E Main Street  
Hillsboro, OR 97123

503-681-6153