



**Tuesday January 28, 2025 5:30 p.m.**

**HOW TO ATTEND**

- **In-person:** American Lake Conference Room (First Floor), Lakewood City Hall, 6000 Main St SW.
- **Virtually:** Online or by phone. Online: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/92038046123>. Or dial (253) 215-8782 and enter participant ID: 920 3804 6123.
- **Livestream:** YouTube.com/CityofLakewoodWA

*Persons requesting special accommodations or language interpreters should call 253-983-7887, as soon as possible in advance of the meeting so that an attempt to provide special accommodations can be made.*

**WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

Members: Jason Gerwen-Chair, Vito Iacobazzi- Vice-Chair, Alan Billingsley, Anessa McClendon, Kate Read, Janet Spingath, Shelly Thiel

Youth Council: Alexandra Corona-Hernandez, Nevaeh Tutt, Zoe Clifford, Irie Hinkle

Council Liaison: Ryan Pearson

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Approving the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board of November 26, 2024

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Elect Chair/Vice Chair
2. Review Council approved 2025 PRAB Work Plan
3. Special Event Update

**DIRECTORS REPORT**

**REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

**NEXT MEETING**

Regular Meeting on Tuesday February 25, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in the American Lake Conference Room at Lakewood City Hall, 6000 Main St SW, Lakewood, WA 98499

**ADJOURNMENT**



## **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday November 26, 2024**

**City of Lakewood – American Lake Room**

**6000 Main Street SW Lakewood, WA 98499**

**<https://www.youtube.com/user/cityoflakewoodwa>**

**Telephone via Zoom: 253.215.8782 Participant ID: 920 3804 6123**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Jason Gerwen called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members Present: Jason Gerwen-Chair, Vito Iacobazzi- Vice Chair, Alan Billingsley, Janet Spingath, Shelly Thiel, Anessa McLendon

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members Excused: Kate Read

Staff Present: Mary Dodsworth – Director, Nikki York – Office Assistant

Youth Council Liaisons: Alexandra Corona-Hernandez-present, Nevaeh Tutt-absent, Zoe Clifford-present, Irie Hinkle-absent

City Council Liaison Excused: Ryan Pearson

Guests: Tiffany Speir

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ALAN BILLINGSLEY MOVED TO ADOPT THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF TUESDAY OCTOBER 22, 2024 SECONDED BY VITO IACOBAZZI NO FURTHER DISCUSSION. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND MPU.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Climate Change Initiatives and Urban Forestry Program Update:** Tiffany Speir, Planning Division Manager presented the 2025 Natural Environment and Climate Change Plan. Mrs. Speir discussed that a component of the

comprehensive plan is to maintain an urban forestry program to preserve significant trees, promote tree health and increase tree coverage citywide. One of the goals is to expand the tree canopy to 40% by 2050 Mrs. Speir discussed the tree canopy calculations from 2022 and identified areas that have suffered environmental injustice over the years. Mrs. Speir said that the plan will include community engagement and what is realistic restoration and sufficient capacity to launch and maintain the program. Another assessment was done in 2024 to get more detailed tree mapping of about 12,000 trees and 509 acres of parks. Mrs. Speir discussed results from the Pierce County Heat mapping project and correlation of tree canopy to temperatures throughout Lakewood. The energy and climate change plan will be updated to include a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, coordinate regional electric vehicle infrastructure strategies and to develop an urban forestry management plan. Janet Spingath asked which state agencies we partner with. Mrs. Speir listed DFW, DNR, Tacoma Tree Foundation, Department of Health, Nature Conservancy, Pierce County Conservation District as well as looking for grants and partnerships. Alan Billingsley mentioned that the Department of Ecology just opened a large grant for riparian areas. Mary Dodsworth asked about the greenhouse gas emissions reduction. Mrs. Speir said that most of the reduction would be looking at reducing gasoline travel and the energy coming into the city. A review of installing solar panels on city buildings just isn't feasible. This will be in the non-motorized transportation update and the parks legacy plan update. Mrs. Spingath asked if the plan would include ongoing inventory. The city will have software that the city will be able to update. Shelly Thiel asked what the current tree canopy percentage is? The current tree canopy is at 26%. Jason Gerwen asked how many trees would be needed to get to 40%. Mrs. Speir advised that they are not there yet. The species of trees list needs to be determined since they need to be drought resistant trees. Mrs. Spingath had a point about the species list that there are unintended invasives. Mrs. Spier will make a note and take that back to the consultants. Mrs. Spingath is happy to share contacts on the noxious weed board.

**2025 PRAB Draft Work Plan:** PRAB reviewed the draft work plan for 2025. Council will approve the work plan in January.

### **Directors Report:**

Mary Dodsworth provided an update on Boat Launch Grant to support Edgewater Park Development, Wards Lake Bids, Parade of Lights, Beloved Community Walk, Grant to update /replace fence around dog park, LTAC grants for so many city events, Camp Murray Boat Launch MOU and American Lake Emergency Boat Launch Repairs.

## **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Vito Iacobazzi asked about the roof over the Tenzler Log. Footings were poured last week. Shelter has arrived. The log will be resealed to protect it on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Janet Spingath asked that we clarify where it came from since it was Packwood not local.

Janet Spingath asked if there was a plan to put new roofs on the barns. They were redone in 2002 with funding from the park sales tax fund. The city had \$75,000 for historic preservation at Fort Steilacoom Park. Alan Billingsley commented that it saved the barns. The barn that didn't get a roof fell.

Vito Iacobazzi asked about the orchard restoration project on Facebook. Probably Pierce College. The orchard is on city property. If a group is interested, we would be happy to support them.

Janet Spingath provided an updated Noxious Weed Board report. Holly is now a class C weed. This will give us the ability to kill it in the parks. Free herbicide training will be at Lakewold Gardens in April.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is scheduled for Tuesday, January 28, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in the American Lake Room at Lakewood City Hall, 6000 Main St SW, Lakewood, WA 98499

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Alan Billingsley moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 p.m. Shelly Thiel seconded. MPU.

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Jason Gerwen, Chair

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Nikki York, Office Assistant



City of  
Lakewood

**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE**

**Members:**

Jason Gerwen, Chair	Kate Read
Vito Iacobazzi, Vice-Chair	Janet Spingath
Alan Billingsley	Shelly Thiel
Annessa McClendon	

**Council Liaison:**

Ryan Pearson, Councilmember

**Youth Council Liaison:**

Zoe Clifford	Irie Hinkle
Alexandra Corona-Hernandez	Nevaeh Tutt

**City Staff Support:**

Mary Dodsworth, Director	Nikki York, Office Assistant
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**Meeting Schedule:**

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month, 5:30 p.m., American Lake Room,  
Lakewood City Hall, 6000 Main St SW, Lakewood, WA 98499

**2025 Work Plan:**

1. Nisqually Partnership Project Update
2. Parks Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Update
3. Special Event Update
4. Street End Project community outreach and design recommendation
5. Climate Change initiatives and Urban Forestry Program Update
6. Legacy Plan Update
7. Senior Services Update
8. Historic Preservation (H-barn, cemeteries, cottages, cultural resources)
9. Code Changes as requested by Council
10. Youth Council Update

Date	Topic(s)
01.28.25	Elect Chair /Vice-Chair, Review Council approved 2025 Work Plan,
02.25.25	Special Event Update, Legacy Plan Implementation Plan
03.08.25	Street End Project community outreach – Special Saturday meeting
04.22.25	Street End design options, Prepare for Parks Appreciation Day
05.27.25	Prepare for Joint Meeting with Council, “Adopt-a-“ “ Program update, Youth Council recap
06.09.25	Joint Meeting with Council
06.24.25	Nisqually Partnership Project Update and Parks CIP Update
07.22.25	Historic Preservation (H-barn, cemeteries, cottages) Update
09.23.25	Climate Change initiatives and Urban Forestry Program Update
10.28.25	Senior Services Update, Camp Murray Improvement Project Update
11.25.25	Youth Council Update

**Special Events:**

Date	Event
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01.11.25	MLK Beloved Community Welcome Walk
01.13.25	Rodney King Artist Reception
05.17.25	Youth Fishing Event
05.30.25	Street Festival
Tuesdays June -August	Summer Concert Series
Tuesdays June-August	Farmers Market
07.19.25	SummerFEST
09.06.25	Fiesta de la Familia
10.11.25	Truck & Tractor Day
12.06.25	Holiday Parade of Lights

# What's Happening in Lakewood

**Parks, Recreation and Community Services**



## **Council Vision:**

*Lakewood is a thriving urban city, with core values of family, community, education, economic prosperity, and equitable delivery of services.*

## **Lakewood Legacy Plan:**

*A healthy and vibrant community where opportunities abound to encourage an engaged and livable community.*





**Special Events**

**Special Projects**





# MLK Welcome Walk

*January 11, 2025 Noon – 3 p.m.  
Fort Steilacoom Park*



# Theme - MLK Beloved Community





*I do believe that one day our strength to love shall bring the "Dream" to fruition and the Beloved Community to earth!*

# **MLK Day of Service**

*January 20 9:00 a.m. - Noon*

*Fort Steilacoom Park*



# Celebrate Public Art





# Parks Appreciation Day

April 26, 2025 – Lakewood Parks





# Ray Evans Memorial Fishing Event

*May 17, 2024 – Harry Todd Park*



# Free Poles and Cleaning





# Life Long Skills - New Traditions



2004



2024



# Dancing In The Streets

*Friday, May 30*



# Free Music and Dancing!





**Starts June 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Ends August 26th**



# June – September on Tuesdays!



# Farmers and Flowers



# Thanks to sponsors Virginia Mason Franciscan Health Amazon & Twin Star Credit Union





# Summer Concerts

*Tuesdays - 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.*

*Fort Steilacoom Park*





# Starts June 17 – August 19

## Bands and Fans!



**FREE!**  
**All ages**

**All cultures**  
**All abilities**



# Overlap with Farmer's Market



**Farmer's Market Food Vendors Stay Longer  
Vendors see increased sales on concert nights**





# SummerFEST

*July 19, 2025 – Fort Steilacoom Park*



# Our Free Annual Summer Festival

Attracting  
35,000+  
Attendees!



**40% New Visitors Each Year!**



# Live Your Best Life



# SummerFEST

## 2023 PASSPORT



TITLE  
SPONSOR



PRESENTING  
SPONSOR



Virginia Mason  
Franciscan Health™



# Car Show



# Favorite Attractions





# Sister Cities International Festival



# Wow Factor!



# Balloon Glow





# Fiesta De La Familia

*September 6 - Fort Steilacoom Park*



# Celebration of Hispanic and Latinx Heritage, Cultures and Traditions



# Mexican Consulate Connections



# Art and Culture Community Ofrenda





# Truck and Tractor Day

*October 11, 2025 - Fort Steilacoom Park*





# Trucks and Tractors



# Fall Fun for All!



# Free Hay Rides

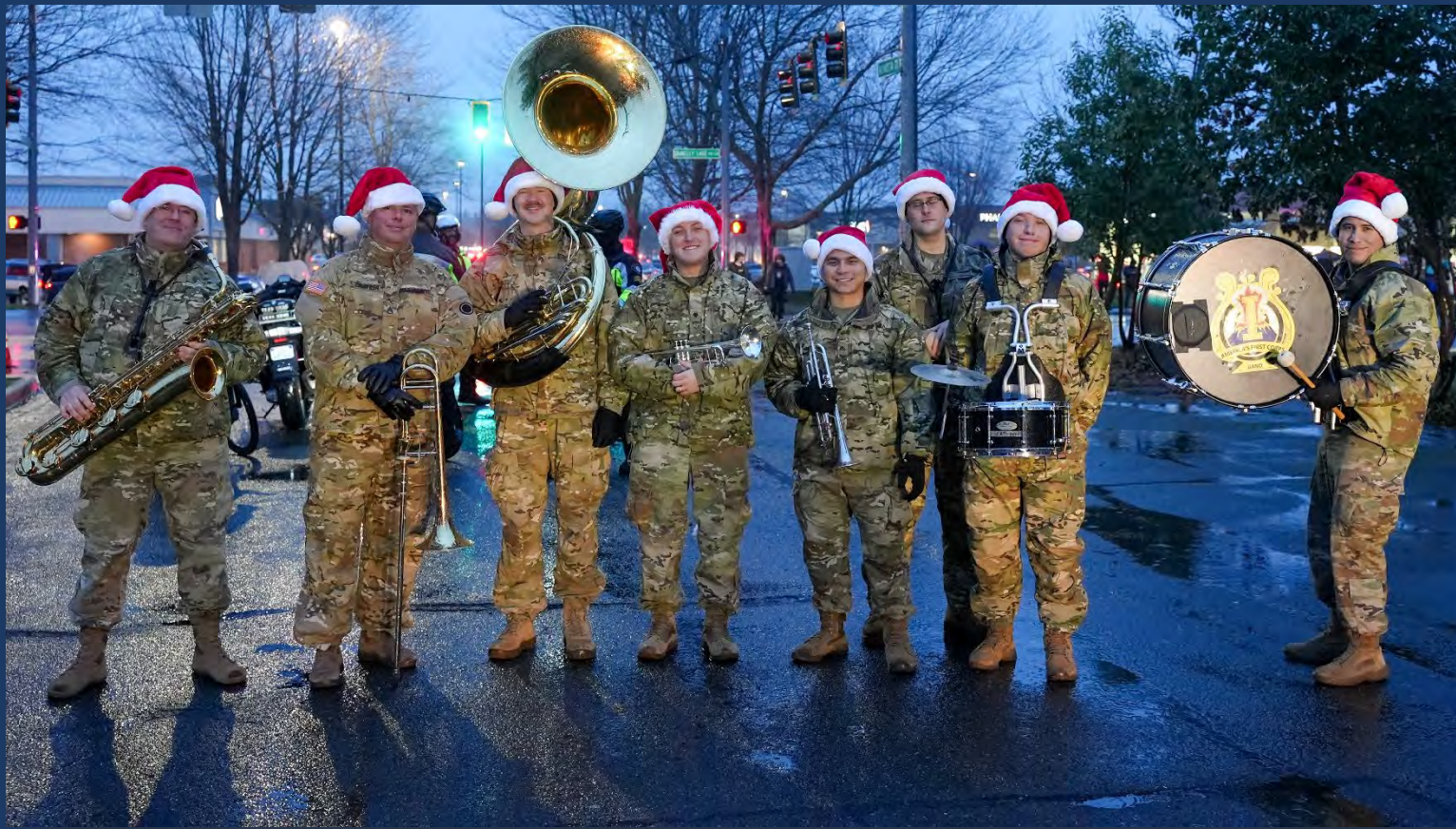


# Free Family Fun



# Pumpkin Chunkin'





# Parade of Lights

*December 6, 2025 - City Hall*



# CPSD Rocks!



# Floats and Unicorns





# Parade of Lights!



# Tree Lighting



# Santa and Gifts



# Questions?????

