



**ISLAND COUNTY  
PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

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**Island County Planning Commission**

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**RE: Planning Commission Findings for CPA 248/11 – ICCP Parks and Recreation  
Element update**

**Summary:**

This Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA) The Island County Planning Commission is forwarding to the Board of Island County Commissioners (BICC) a Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA) that would update the Parks and Recreation Element of the Island County Comprehensive Plan (ICCP). The Planning Commission recommends that the BICC adopt the proposed changes to the ICCP.

**Findings:**

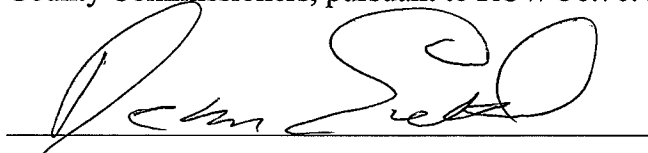
1. An update to the Parks and Recreation Element of the Island County Comprehensive Plan has been on the Island County Annual Review Docket in 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011.
2. A parks and recreation element is a mandatory element of a comprehensive plan pursuant to Section 36.70A.070(8) RCW.
3. The Parks and Recreation Element of the Island County Comprehensive Plan has not been updated since initial adoption in 1998 and periodic updates to comprehensive plans are required by the GMA.
4. Planning and Community Development began the process for updating the Parks and Recreation Element in 2008.
5. In the spring of 2010, Island County and the Whidbey Camano Land Trust (WCLT) formed a collaborative partnership to develop a Parks and Recreation Plan for the County.
6. A three phase planning process was developed by the County to outline the necessary steps for public outreach and plan development.

7. In June of 2010, public outreach began through a series of stakeholder interviews, focus group meetings, community intercept events, and an online questionnaire.
8. In November of 2010, an inventory and summary of County parks was completed.
9. The Island County Parks Department prepared a complete update to the Parks and Recreation Element of the County Comprehensive Plan.
10. In accordance with ICC 16.26.060 staff presented the Annual Review Docket, which includes CPA 248/11 Parks and Recreation Plan, at a joint meeting of the Board of Island County Commissioners and the Planning Commission on February 7, 2011.
11. Pursuant to the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Chapter 43.21C RCW, an environmental checklist was included with CPA 248/11. Staff reviewed the checklist and issued a threshold determination of non-significance (DNS) on November 4, 2011.
12. The Planning Commission held a Public Workshop on October 11, 2011. During the Public Workshop, Staff presented CPA 248/11 to the Planning Commission and asked for feedback from the Commission. The Planning Commission provided initial feedback and suggestions for Staff to consider incorporating into the Parks and Recreation Plan document.
13. The Planning Commission held Public Hearings on October 25, 2011, November 8, 2011, and November 15, 2011, in Coupeville. During the Public Hearings, the Planning Commission heard public comments. Staff discussed incorporation of suggested changes into the Parks and Recreation Plan.
14. The Planning Commission held Deliberations on November 15, 2011 in Coupeville. A motion was made to recommend approval of the Parks and Recreation Plan update in its current form, which incorporates changes suggested by the Commission, public comments, and interest groups, particularly a unique collaborative effort by the WCLT, Whidbey Audubon Society, and Whidbey Environmental Action Network, to the Board of Island County Commissioners. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Conclusions:**

The Island County Planning Commission has reviewed CPA 248/11[PLG-020-11] and hereby recommends that the Board of Island County Commissioners adopt the proposed amendment to the Island County Comprehensive Plan.

Respectfully submitted through the Island County Planning Department to the Board of Island County Commissioners, pursuant to RCW 36.70.430, this 15 day of NOV, 2011 by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dean Enell", is written over a horizontal line.

***Dean Enell***  
***Island County Planning Commission, Chair***