

# SOUTHEAST

## Distinctive Features

**Description:** The Southeast sub-area (see map at the end of this section) contains many of the city's older, established neighborhoods. This area is a patchwork of older, mainly single-family neighborhoods divided by linear commercial corridors. The Central Eastside Industrial District, which borders the east bank of the Willamette, separates some residential neighborhoods from the river.

**Resources and Facilities:** Southeast has 898 acres of parkland, ranking third in total amount of park acreage. Most parks are developed, well distributed, in good condition, and can accommodate a range of recreational uses.

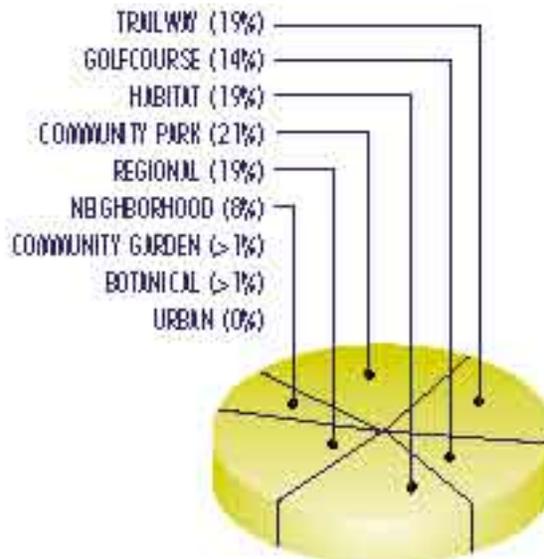
- Southeast has the City's largest combined acreage of neighborhood and community parks.
- Southeast has a variety of habitat parks, including Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge, Tideman Johnson Park, and Johnson Creek Park that are popular sites for hiking, birding, walking, and general recreation use.
- This sub-area includes part of the I-205 Bike Trail and about 4.6 miles of the Springwater Corridor, a 195-acre 16.5 mile-long regional trailway that includes many natural resources. The Springwater will connect downtown Portland to Gresham by 2002, then to Boring, and possibly to Estacada and the Mt. Hood National Forest in the future.
- The Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden, Ladd's Circle and Squares and Rose Gardens are located in this area. There are 11 community garden sites with 507 plots.
- The area has four community centers – Sellwood, Woodstock, Mt. Scott and Montavilla, ranging from acceptable to barely adequate. The Laurelhurst

Studio in the Laurelhurst Park annex is a satellite of the Montavilla Community Center.

- Aquatic facilities include Sellwood, Mt. Scott, Buckman, Montavilla and Creston.
- The Community Music Center is in this sub-area.
- The Southeast sub-area has three Community Schools and 45 school sites.
- There are lighted baseball stadiums at Westmoreland and Lents Parks.

**Population – Current and Future:** The Southeast sub-area ranks first in population with 154,000 and is projected to grow to 157,830 by 2020, an increase of 2%.

DISTRIBUTION OF SUBAREA ACRES BY PARK TYPE





## Southeast Issues and Needs

### PARK SHORTAGES

- Southeast has two areas with parkland deficiencies:
  - The area north of Mt. Tabor - roughly bounded by I-84, 39th and 82nd Avenues
  - The area bounded by Division, Powell, and 62nd and 82nd Avenues
- Mt. Tabor and Laurelhurst include fragile resources – horticultural and natural – that can be damaged through excessive and inappropriate use.

### RISKS TO NATURAL RESOURCES

- Increased visitation to Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge and Johnson Creek Park for hiking, birding, walking and general recreation use will impact the natural resources and cause the health and integrity of the resources to decline. Excessive and inappropriate use is currently having negative impacts on Oaks Bottom, which is accessible and close to residential areas.

### RISKS TO THE URBAN FOREST

- There are a significant number of mature and over-mature trees and many areas where trees have not been replaced in the urban forest.
- The urban forest canopy on private property and in parks is sparse and aging.
- There is a lack of diversity in the tree species in the right-of-way, and limited opportunities to plant trees on unimproved streets.

### FACILITY DEFICIENCIES

- Residents of the Inner Southeast/Central Eastside Industrial District have long needed a full service community center.

- The Woodstock Community Center is a former fire station with very limited program offerings, and little or no potential to offer more. Its long-term usefulness needs to be addressed.
- The Sellwood Community Center, built as a rooming house in 1909, does not meet current PP&R community center standards. This center has limited ability to fulfill community needs and its long-term role in the PP&R system needs to be addressed.
- Although Mt. Scott has new aquatic facilities, additional renovation is needed to correct facility problems and limitations to make it into a full-service center.
- The 20-yard pool in the basement of Buckman School is not ADA accessible and has limited capacity to serve Southeast residents. (The other aquatic facilities in Southeast are generally in good condition.)
- The Community Music Center is at capacity.

### NEED FOR ACCESS, TRAILS AND CONNECTIVITY

- Although the Willamette River is a major recreational resource within walking or bicycling distance for many Southeast residents, river access is difficult. Freeways, highways and industrial areas separate neighborhoods from the river. Existing access routes are not well marked.
- Neighborhoods south of the Springwater Corridor lack connection to that regional trail.
- There is a 1.2 mile gap in the Springwater Corridor in the Sellwood-Moreland area from SE McLoughlin to the Sellwood bridge area. Closing the gap will require a number of bridges to cross a major street, a railroad and Johnson Creek.

## Southeast Recommendations

### ACQUIRE LAND AND DEVELOP PARKS

- Work cooperatively with schools to use school grounds to address the park deficiencies and to provide open space in some neighborhoods.
- Develop a new mini-neighborhood park at the Richmond Park site.
- Continue to acquire parkland in Errol Heights for a neighborhood park with significant wetland resources.
- Protect and enhance existing parks, such as Mt. Tabor and Laurelhurst, to accommodate greater numbers of users without adverse affect on the land and resources.
- Continue to acquire land to protect resources in the Johnson Creek area, including the Crystal Springs sub-basin.

### PROTECT AND IMPROVE NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS

- Implement management recommendations for Elk Rock Island, especially in the areas of information, education, and enforcement.
- Prepare Management plans for the newly acquired natural areas in the Johnson Creek watershed.
- Work with City planners, environmental groups, Ross Island Sand and Gravel, and residents to develop restoration, preservation and recreation plans for Ross Island when this valued asset is added to the City’s inventory of park and open spaces. Coordinated plans for its restoration and use are critical.
- Develop and improve river-related recreational opportunities along the Willamette River, especially between the Burnside Bridge and Elk Rock Island, where residents can access the water and enjoy unimpeded views across the river. Possible improvements include a light watercraft center and a Willamette River Education Center.
- Work to restore and enhance Crystal Springs Creek.

### PROTECT AND IMPROVE URBAN FOREST

- Encourage the planting of new trees to replace the declining canopy on private property.
- Develop an inventory to provide clear information on current conditions that will guide future decisions.
- Ensure that adequate planting strips are provided to accommodate street trees when development occurs.

### EXPAND AND DEVELOP RECREATION FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS

- Develop a full service community center to serve the Inner Southeast. Possible sites include the Central Eastside district or the Westmoreland area.
- Work with the community to establish a community center in the Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Area. Work cooperatively to program its use to serve teens, seniors and other residents.
- Work cooperatively to develop a new sports complex in the Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Area.
- Renovate and rebuild the Mt. Scott Community Center to provide full-service for this area. Increase parking for this facility.
- Expand the capacity of the Community Music Center and complete seismic upgrades.
- Enhance classroom and multi-purpose spaces at Montavilla Community Center and provide additional parking.
- Consider the future roles of Woodstock and Sellwood Community Centers as part of PP&R’s long-term strategy for community centers.
- Add a “water playground” to expand recreation opportunities at Creston Pool.
- Explore acquiring unused strip mall buildings in the SE 82nd and Foster/Division area for indoor/outdoor sports facilities.
- Add seniors-only and/or intergenerational programs to the Mt. Scott, Montavilla and Sellwood Community Centers.
- Assist the Rhododendron Society in implementing the Master Plan for the Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden.

### DEVELOP PARK ACCESS, TRAILS AND CONNECTIONS

- Create stronger linkages between the area’s neighborhoods and the Willamette River.
- Develop and sign pedestrian corridors to the Eastbank Esplanade.
- Continue to improve the Springwater Corridor and work cooperatively to connect it to the Willamette River Greenway Trail.
- Create connections from the neighborhoods to the Springwater Corridor in the southern half of the sub-area. The Brooklyn Neighborhood is working on an option to access the Springwater near the existing Ross Island Sand and Gravel facility.

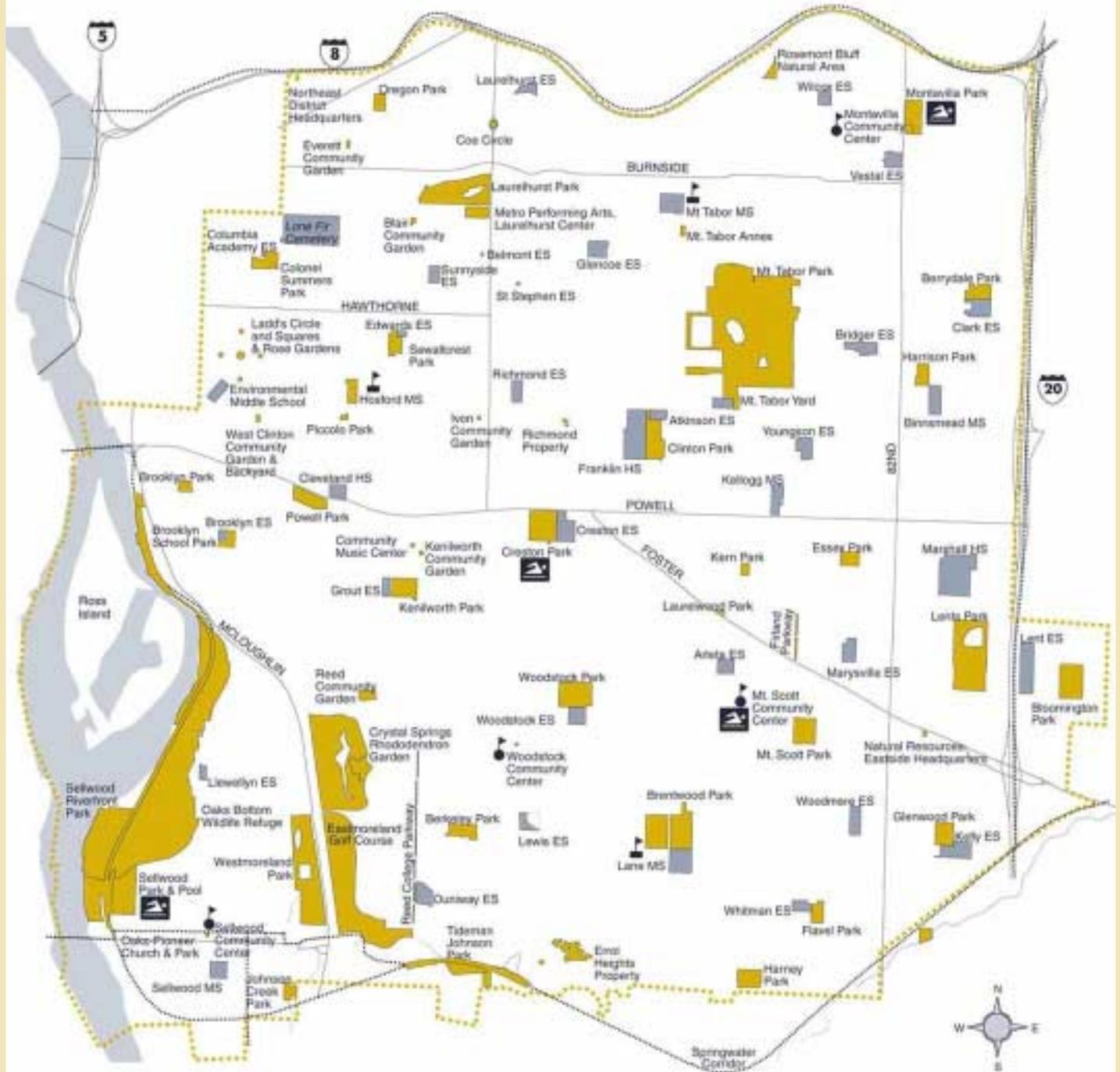
### SOUTHEAST DISTRICT

#### LEGEND

	Community Centers		All other Parks, Public/Private School Property, Open spaces, Cemetery, Golf Courses, Fairgrounds, Stadiums and Community Centers not owned by Portland Parks & Recreation.
	Community Schools		
	Pools		
	Parks		
	Trails		



Location Map



# P A R K S 2 0 2 0 V I S I O N

SOUTHEAST SUB-AREA – Park Sites to be Developed and Renovated						
Site Name	Develop New Park	Redevelop Exstg. Park	Extensive Renovation	Basic Renovation	Repairs	Notes
Berkeley Park				●		
Berrydale Park					●	
Bloomington Park					●	
Brentwood Park				●		
Brooklyn Park					●	
Brooklyn School Park				●		
Cherry Blossom Park	●					
Cherry Park	●					
Clinton Park				●		
Colonel Summers Park				●		
Creston Park				●		
Crystal Springs Rhododen Garden				●		
Eastmoreland Golf Course				●		
Errol Heights Property	●					a
Essex Park					●	
Flavel Park				●		
Flavel Dr. Property	●					
Glenwood Park					●	
Harney Park					●	
Kenilworth Park					●	
Kern Park					●	
Ladd's Circle, Squares & Rose Gdn.					●	
Laurelhurst Park			●			
Lents Park				●		
Mt. Scott Park				●		
Mt. Tabor Park				●		
Powell Park					●	
Richmond Property	●					
Sellwood Park					●	
Sellwood Riverfront Park					●	
Sewallcrest Park					●	
Springwater Corridor					●	b
Westmoreland Park			●			
Woodstock Park					●	

- Develop New Parks**      Unimproved sites to be developed as neighborhood, community or regional parks. Master plans are needed before development. At some sites, additional land may be needed before development can occur.
- Redevelop Exstg. Park**      Sites that have a minimal level of improvements. Master plans are needed before development.
- Extensive Renovation**      Developed parks that either are (a) already scheduled for renovation or (b) have several basic features that are in poor condition. These sites may have problems that collectively may trigger a larger renovation project.
- Basic Renovation**      Developed parks with one or two basic features in poor condition. Correcting these problems will not modify other park features. Some of these may be bond projects that were not fully improved due to a lack of funds.
- Repairs**      Developed park with improvements that need only minor repairs or changes to a few features.
- Notes:**
- a. Improve access
  - b. Trail surface repair



live in inner

Southeast – the greatest needs are providing a new community center and greater access to the Willamette. Overall, while there are some wonderful parks in Southeast and fairly good distribution, there are some under-served neighborhoods.”

Jim Desmond,  
SE Portland resident &  
Vision Team member

SOUTHEAST SUB-AREA – Habitat Parks & Natural Areas					
Site Name	R M Plan	Extensive Rehabilitation	Basic Rehabilitation	Repairs	Notes
Crystal Springs Natural System	●				a
Errol Heights Property	●	●			b
Johnson Creek	●				a
Lower Powell Butte Floodplain	●				
Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge	●				a
Mt. Tabor Park	●				b
Ross Island*	●				
Tideman Johnson Park	●				
Sellwood Riverfront Park	●				b
Springwater Corridor	●				b

Resource Management Plan Ecosystem-based plans for parks or properties with significant natural resources

Extensive Rehabilitation Parks or natural resource areas in poor condition that require extensive rehabilitation

Basic Renovation Parks or natural resource areas that require basic rehabilitation

Repairs Trails or facilities that need minor repairs or improvements

Notes:  
 a. Coordinate with assessments and ESA recommendations for fish habitat  
 b. Prepare RMP for habitat portion.



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