

Planning Commission Special Meeting

Agenda

March 31, 2026

6:00 PM



119 W FIRST STREET
CLE ELUM, WA 98922

MAYOR
MATTHEW LUNDH

CITY ADMINISTRATOR
ROBERT OMANS

ASSISTANT CITY
ADMINISTRATOR
ERICA KRUM

PLANNING DIRECTOR
SHANNON JOHNSON

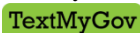
CITY CLERK
DEBBIE LEE

PLANNING COMMISSION
GARY BERNDT
AMANDA HAHNEMANN
VACANT
MARC KIRKPATRICK
COLIN BRISSEY
PAUL KANTWILL
IAN STEELE

COUNCIL LIAISON - CASSIDY
BUECHLE-CURTIS

Join Virtually via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/7573184018?pwd=dERndjBJVC9GdVQ1d2ISRExwZFhXZz09>
Meeting ID: 757 318 4018 Passcode: 98922

Join by Phone: 1-(253)215-8782, Meeting ID: 757 318 4018, Passcode:98922

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Receive city text alerts: text CLEELUM to 91896

DISCLAIMER: The City does not guarantee that virtual or telephonic access to the City Council meeting will be available, and the City does not warrant audio quality. Attendees are encouraged to attend in person.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
2. **Public Comment - Limited To 5 Minutes per Speaker**
3. **Adoption of Minutes**
 - a. March 3, 2026
4. **Business Requiring Public Hearings**
5. **Planning Update**
 - a. Staff Announcements
6. **New Business**
 - a. Comp Plan — Parks Element
7. **Next Meeting Agenda Development**
 - a. Comp Plan — Parks Element Continued (if needed)
 - b. Comp Plan — Transportation Element
 - c. Comp Plan — Capital Facilities
8. **Commissioner Comments and Discussion**
9. **Adjournment**

Upcoming Meetings:

Coal Mines Trail Commission Meeting — April 6, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Agenda March 31, 2026

119 W FIRST STREET
CLE ELUM, WA 98922

Public Works & Community Development Committee Meeting — April 7, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

Lodging Tax & Event Committee Meeting — April 8, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

Public Safety & Health Committee Meeting — April 9, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

Regular Council Meeting — April 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Civil Service Commission Meeting — April 15, 2026, at 5:15 p.m.

Historical Preservation Commission Meeting — April 21, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting — April 21, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

General Government Committee Meeting — April 22, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

**City of Cle Elum
Planning Commission (CEPC) Meeting Minutes
City Council Chambers
March 3, 2026 | 6:00 PM**

Call to Order

Commissioner Kantwill called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Roll Call

CEPC Members Present: Gary Berndt, Marc Kirkpatrick, Colin Brissey, Paul Kantwill, Ian Steele and Amanda Hahnemann

CEPC Members Absent: Colin Brissey

Council Liaison: Cassidy Buechele-Curtis

Staff Present: Colleda Monick

Commissioner Berndt made a motion to excuse Commissioner Brissey. Commissioner Kirkpatrick seconded. Motion carried.

Election of Officers

Commissioner Berndt made a motion to appoint Commissioner Kantwill as Chair and Commissioner Brissey as Vice Chair. Commissioner Kirkpatrick seconded. Motion carries.

Public Comment

None.

Adoption of Minutes

Commissioner Kirkpatrick motioned to accept the February 17, 2026 minutes as presented.

Commissioner Steele seconded. Motion carried.

Public Hearing- City Planning

None scheduled

Commission and Staff Reports

Colleda Monick, Staff Announcements:

- Introduction of Planning Director, Shannon Johnson
- **Cle Elum Stormwater Plan:** Councilmember Cook has requested that the Commission get a copy of the Stormwater Plan. Currently the plan has been submitted to Ecology, and it is in their public comment period with comments due by March 31st. Once we have an approved Stormwater Plan, I'd be happy to share it with Commissioners. To be clear, there are no expectations for the Commission to provide input in the plan.
- **Commission Vacancy's:** Opening on Planning Commission and Historic Preservation Commission for Cle Elum residents only.

New Business

1. Comp Plan: Housing Element

The Planning Commission continued its review of the Housing Element, returning to the Adequate Provisions Matrix where the prior discussion concluded. Staff provided an overview of the purpose of the matrix and walked through the table outlining potential barriers to housing development and corresponding actions for Commission consideration.

Commissioners expressed general support for the matrix and suggested holding a joint study session with the City Council following adoption of the Comprehensive Plan to begin prioritizing identified actions.

Staff also went over minor revisions to the Housing Element goals and policies. Commissioners offered feedback and proposed edits, including the addition of potential community partners such as Kaleidoscope Community Services.

The Commission finalized their discussion and edits for the time being on the Housing Element.

Next Meeting Agenda Development

a. Parks Element

Commissioner Comments and Discussion

The Commission discussed scheduling for upcoming meetings. The next regular meeting date of March 17 was noted to fall on St. Patrick’s Day. Several Commissioners, with appropriate reverence for the holiday given the Commission’s notable representation of Irish heritage, expressed lighthearted concern about convening that evening.

The following regular meeting date of April 7 falls during spring break, and several members indicated they would be unavailable to attend.

Given that March includes five Tuesdays, the Commission discussed the merits of holding a special meeting on March 31 and canceling the March 17 and April 7 meetings to avoid conflicts and ensure quorum.

Adjournment

Kantwill adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm. The Commission will reconvene for a Special Meeting on March 31, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Chair Kantwill

Date

CITY OF CLE ELUM

PARK, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

2026

Introduction

The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element outlines Cle Elum’s goals, objectives, and policies for Parks, Recreation and Open Space facilities. Park and recreation facilities serve as common areas that all members of the community and visitors can enjoy. They promote physical health and wellbeing, provide areas for community events, and places for exercise, sporting events, and playgrounds.

The demand for quality Parks, Recreation and Open Space facilities is expected to increase as the community continues to grow. Adequate land should be set aside to meet the need, and the city should identify potential funding sources to develop and maintain facilities. This element is intended to ensure that adequate provisions will be made to prepare for future Parks, Recreation and Open Space needs in Cle Elum.

Purpose

Cle Elum has developed several Parks, Recreation and Open Space facilities throughout the community. The continued uses and preservation of these areas is vital for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike. The purpose of this plan is to identify current conditions and facilities, explore unmet needs, develop short-term, mid-term, and long-term project lists, and define level of service targets.

Growth Management Act

The Washington State Growth Management Act identifies the following planning goal:

“Retain open space and green space, enhance recreational opportunities, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, increase access to natural resource lands and water, and develop Parks, Recreation and Open Space facilities.” [RCW 36.70A.020(9)]

The GMA also identifies mandatory and optional Plan elements. [RCW 36.70A.070 and .080]. A Park and Recreation Element is a mandatory Plan element that must, at a

minimum, implement, and be consistent with, the Capital Facilities Plan Element as it relates to park and recreation facilities. [RCW 36.70A.070(8)]. The Element shall include:

- Estimates of park and recreation demand for at least a ten-year period;
- An evaluation of facilities and service needs;
- An evaluation of tree canopy coverage within the urban growth area; and
- An evaluation of intergovernmental coordination opportunities to provide regional approaches for meeting park and recreational demand.

Countywide Planning Policies

The Kittitas Countywide Planning Policies, adopted July 15, 2016, include the following Parks- and Open Space- related objectives and policies:

Objective: To encourage the retention of open space and development of recreational opportunities, conserve fish and wildlife habitat, increase access to natural resource lands and water, and develop parks.

Policy 10.1: Preserve open space and create recreational opportunities through the use of innovative regulatory techniques and incentives such as but not limited to: purchase of development rights, transfer of development rights, conservation easements, Public Benefit Rating System, and level of service standards.

Policy 10.2: New park and recreational facility plans shall include natural features, topography, floodplains, relationship to population characteristics, types of facilities, various user group needs, and standards of access including travel time.

Policy 10.3: Indoor and outdoor recreation facilities shall be designed to provide a wide range of opportunities allowing for individual needs of those using these facilities.

Policy 10.4: Expansion and enhancement of parks, recreation, scenic areas, and viewing points shall be identified, planned for, and improved in shorelands and urban and rural designated areas.

Existing Park and Recreation Facilities

The Cle Elum area is served by a variety of outdoor recreational facilities including parks and trails. Four seasons and year-round outdoor activities provide locals and visitors alike opportunities to take advantage of the easy access to parks and trails within the city limits for recreation. This Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan will explore facilities owned

and under direct management of the City and briefly mention those nearby facilities to which Cle Elum plans making connections. The City acknowledges the inclusion of connections to nearby trails as worthy of pursuing, but the complexity of coordination and cooperation are beyond the scope of this Plan. Instead, the City is limiting the prioritization process and exploration of funding potential to the projects and programs that are under direct management of the City.

TABLE 1. PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACEAL FACILITIES INSIDE OF CLE ELUM’S CITY LIMITS AND URBAN GROWTH AREA (UGA)

Type of Park or Recreational Facility	Inside City Limits	Inside UGA
Centennial Park	X	
City Park	X	
Cle Elum Disc Golf Course	X	
Coal Mines Trail	X	X
Fireman’s Park	X	
Flagpole Park	X	
Hanson Pond Trail	X	X
Memorial Park	X	
Progress Path	X	
Rat Pack Trail	X	X
River Trail	X	X
WA State Horse Park Trails	X	
Whispering Pines Trail	X	X
Wye Park	X	

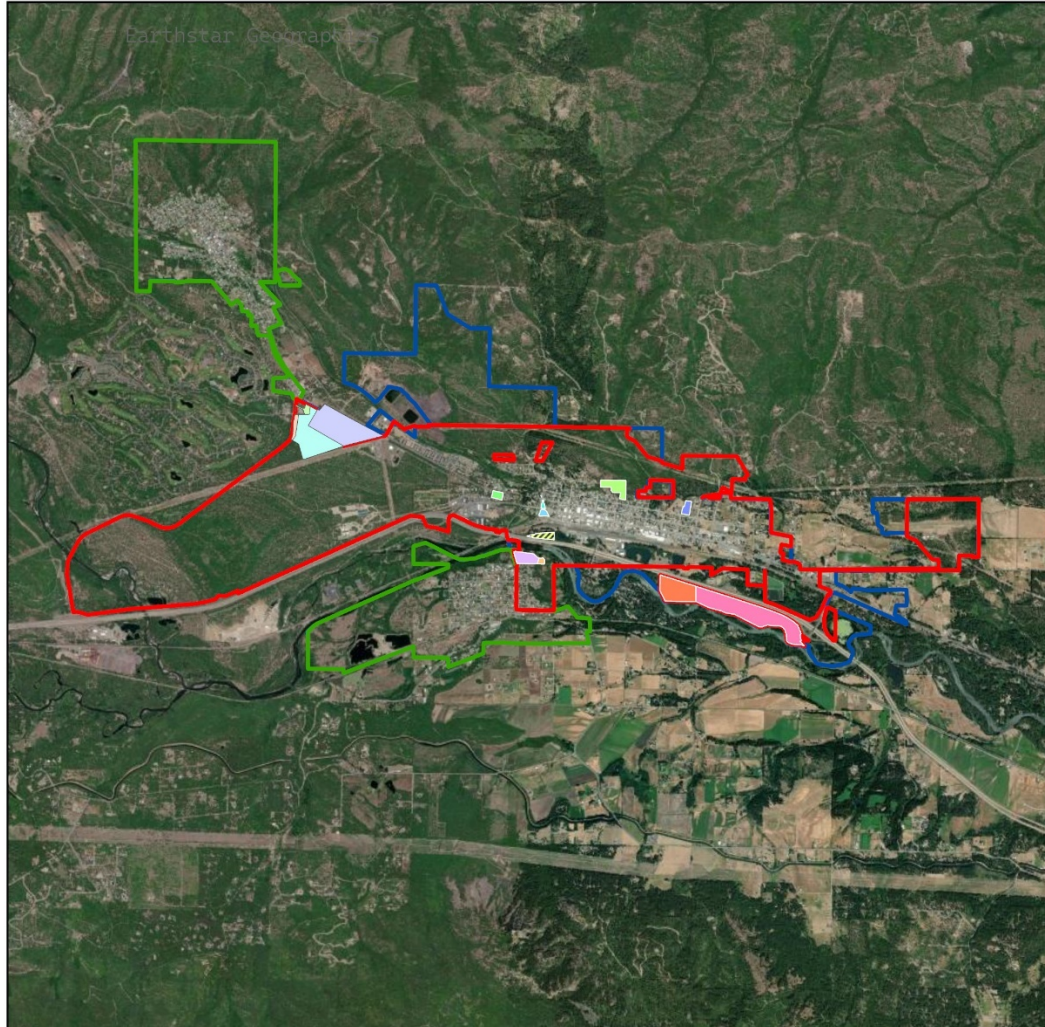
TABLE 2. RECREATIONAL FACILITIES OUTSIDE OF CLE ELUM’S CITY LIMITS BUT NEARBY

Type of Park or Recreational Facility	Outside UGA but Nearby
Rat Pack Trail	X
Coal Mines Trail	X
John Wayne Trail	X
Suncadia Parks and Trails	X

TABLE 3. CLE ELUM'S CITY-MANAGED EXISTING PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE FEATURES

Facility	Acreege or Miles	Water Access	Hard or Sport Court	Swimming Pool	Walkway, Trail	Rest Rooms	Playground	Picnic Tables or Benches	Green Space	Parking	Other Facilities
Centennial Park	7.3								X	X	Football/Soccer Field, Community Gardens
City Park	2.8		X			X	X	X	X	X	Skatepark, Basketball Court, Gazebo
Disc Golf	10.0				X				X	X	Disc Golf Course
Coal Mine Trail	1.0				X					X	Trail Head, Drinking Fountain
Fireman's Park	4.2	X			X	(on rental property)		X	X	X	Horse Shoe Pits, Picnic Shelter
Flagpole Park	0.6				X			X	X	X	Historical Kiosk
Hanson Pond Trail	1.0	X			X						
Memorial Park	8.1	X			X	X			X	X	Unimproved boat launch, Ball Field
Miller-Guzzie	9.1								X		Undeveloped Open Space
Wye Park	1.5							X	X	X	Perimeter Sidewalk
Progress Path	1.0				X						
Hanson Ponds Open Space	82	X			X	X		X	X	X	

CITY OF CLE ELUM
Parks



LEGEND

- CITY OF CLE ELUM
- SEPARATE UGA BOUNDARIES
- URBAN GROWTH AREA
- PARKS**
- CENTENNIAL PARK
- CITY PARK
- FIREMAN'S PARK
- FLAGPOLE PARK
- HANSON PONDS PARK
- MEMORIAL BALL FIELDS
- MILLER-GUZZIE PARK
- WYE PARK
- CLE ELUM DISC GOLF COURSE
- PROPOSED - PARK AND RIDE
- HOWARD CARLIN MEMORIAL TRAILHEAD PARK
- SCHOOLS**
- CLE ELUM-ROSLYN ELEMENTARY
- CLE ELUM-ROSLYN HIGH SCHOOL
- CLE ELUM-ROSLYN SCHOOL DISTRICT
- WALTER STROM MIDDLE SCHOOL

Cle Elum Public Map. "Parks" [Dataset].
Updated 6/2023. <https://services8.arcgis.com/AFmms6ZaYBqCn2O3/arcgis/rest/services/Parks/FeatureServer>



Cle Elum is in close proximity to other regional trail systems. The Coal Mines Trail terminates at 2nd Street and Stafford Street across from Flag Pole Park. There are geographical and jurisdictional challenges of extending the Coal Mines Trail from Cle Elum's jurisdiction, south across the I-90 Interstate, over active railroad tracks, over the Yakima River bridge, through Kittitas County's and South Cle Elum's jurisdictions, and ultimately connecting with the John Wayne Pioneer / Iron Horse Trail.

There is one crossing of I-90 between Cle Elum and South Cle Elum. North Stafford Street becomes South Cle Elum Way, south of 1st Street in Cle Elum. South Cle Elum Way is a Major Collector road traversing under I-90 and over the Yakima River. The roadway continues through the Town of South Cle Elum and becomes a Minor Collector road named Lower Peoh Point Road as it exits the Town of South Cle Elum and enters Kittitas County. This road already intersects the John Wayne Pioneer / Iron Horse Trail and may be the most convenient alignment for the multi-use connecting trail the community desires. Currently, the road is a two lane, tree lined, curvy road with narrow shoulders. Most intersections are not controlled with traffic lights or stop signs.

Sidewalks in the City of Cle Elum exist sporadically along North Stafford Street north of 1st Street. Sidewalks do not exist between West Railroad Street and the bridge crossing over the Yakima River. Once over the Yakima River, sidewalks are not present through the rest of this identified corridor where South Cle Elum Way intersects with the John Wayne Pioneer / Iron Horse Trail. Sidewalk does exist on one side of the bridge deck over the Yakima River on South Cle Elum Way, but it is only three feet wide and is not separated from vehicular traffic and may be inaccessible during snow events.

Strong and extensive partnerships will be key to making this corridor connection a reality. There are strong advocates for making connections between national, regional, and local trails and models of success to follow as property owners are identified and join with governmental, agency, and association partners for this effort.

Estimates of Demand

As shown in Table 3, Cle Elum currently has approximately 128.6 acres of park land available to the public. It should be noted that 82 acres of that is Hanson Pond open space, leaving approximately 46.6 acres of other park facilities. There are also approximately 3-miles of city maintained trails.

The purpose for identifying targets and evaluation criteria is to allow City staff to apply the evaluation criteria to the improvement needs identified by the community. The resulting prioritized list of needs can then be organized, for example by park or by type of improvement, in order to align with funding opportunities.

Specific 2046 targets, consistent with National Parks and Recreation Association (NRPA) standards and/or local preference, include:

1. Fifteen acres of parks and open space,
 - a. Six acres of which should be for active parks, and
 - b. The remaining 9 acres should be passive open space
2. One restroom per park
3. One water fountain per park and trail head
4. One aquatic facility (per 5,000 population)
5. Four basketball courts
6. One football/soccer field per 10,000 people
7. One baseball/one softball field per 5,000 people
8. Four tennis courts
9. Four miles of trails and trail connections;
 - a. This can included hiking and walking trails, walking routes on new or existing streets/facilities, bicycle lanes, bicycle routes, tracks, trails, and connections.
 - b. Constructing a multi-use bicycle and pedestrian path in an east/west corridor on 2nd St. between Stafford Ave. and North Columbia Ave.

TABLE 4. CLE ELUM PARK AND RECREATION TARGETS

Facility Need	Current Target (status) using 2025 OFM Estimate – 2,300	2046 Target by population forecast – 3,005
Active Parks	13.8 (43.6 acres)	18.03
Open Space	20.07 (82 acres)	27.04
Tracks, trails and Connections	9.2 (3 miles)	12.2
Park Restrooms	10 (3)	10
Park and Trailhead Water Fountains	10 (2)	10
Aquatic Facility	1 (0)	1
Basketball Courts	9 (1)	12
Baseball/Softball Fields	1 (6)	1
Soccer/Football Fields	1 (1)	1
Tennis Courts	9 (0)	12

As Table 4 indicates, the city does have sufficient land for parks and open space, however it is lacking in available amenities at most parks. The addition of such facilities and picnic

shelters, playgrounds, sports courts and facilities, and trail systems should be prioritized. In addition to city-owned and operated facilities, proposed development of the Bullfrog Flats UGA and City Heights projects will add to the available park land. Also, in 2025, a proposal for the Upper Kittitas County Recreation Center was approved on city-owned property. The project includes a 57,350 square-foot community recreation center with several amenities such as a gymnasium, natatorium (indoor pool), fitness area, track and associated amenities, and also includes outdoor recreation/open space and a splash pad.

Evaluation criteria for the development of new facilities is as follows:

- Is the proposed need or improvement completely contained inside the City Limits or the City's UGA? If yes, continue through screening.
 - If no, is the proposed need or improvement part of a connection to regional trails that is being actively and properly coordinated with all partners? If yes, specify the portion that the City will include in this Plan and continue through screening.
 - If no, then do not proceed without proper City Council and Planning Commission concurrence.
- Is the need or improvement consistent with the City's Park and Recreation Plan goals and policies? If yes, list specific goals and policies.
 - If no, is there a compelling reason for amending the improvement or project into the Parks and Recreation Plan ahead of the next customary update?
 - If no, has the need or improvement been evaluated by City staff, the City Council, and Planning Commission and deemed of higher priority than the projects on the existing list?
 - If yes, state the purpose of the higher priority (i.e. immediate and unanticipated funding program with unusual requirements, infrastructure emergency allows for accelerated consideration, etc.)
- Does the City budget allow for inclusion of the need or improvement in addition to the projects already identified on the prioritized list or does the City reasonably anticipate grant or other funding to complement the funding allowable in the City budget?
 - If yes, list the sources of funding that are anticipated for the inclusion of this need or improvement and the year the complete funding will be available.
 - If no, will the priority of this project supersede any of the existing needs or improvements on the priority list?
 - If no, then include the need or improvement for consideration during the next Plan update.

- Can the ongoing maintenance of the proposed need or improvement identified in the City’s budget and sustainable? If yes, show the anticipated maintenance schedule and estimate of ongoing maintenance, and if known, the anticipated year of replacement consideration.
 - If no, has the public shown positive supportive of a user’s fee to satisfy the ongoing maintenance? If yes, show the supportive action.
 - If no, the need or improvement can be shown as an unfunded, planned project without a year of anticipated construction or purchase.

Developing funding applications for the improvements identified in this Plan includes a public process of seeking City Council and Planning Commission approval. As specific improvements are refined and estimates prepared for those improvements are completed, City staff will be recording the associated costs and details for inclusion in the next update of this Parks and Recreation Plan. It is the intention of the City to update this Plan when appropriate, which includes, but is not limited to:

- When directed through City Council and Planning Commission action.
- A majority of improvements identified in this Plan are funded and removed from the prioritized list.
- During the next update of the Cle Elum Comprehensive Plan.
- Substantive changes to the goals and policies are required to maintain consistency with other City, county, state, regional, or federal regulations or goals.

Capital Improvement Program and Financing

The first six (6) years of needs and improvements from the prioritized list developed for the P&R Plan are shown in Table 5 as the Capital Improvement Program for Parks and Recreation – these are shown as Short- and Mid-term projects. Long-range projects are also listed, with an estimated range between 6-10 years. During the evaluation, the City chose to display a qualitative range of potential cost for the preliminary version of the P&R Plan. The City will replace the qualitative evaluation with engineer’s estimates as they are developed for each project or program.

In addition to a brief title, an anticipated cost range, and the year the City plans to implement the improvement, there is a column displaying illustrative and potential funding sources. The presented sources may change, new sources may emerge, and purposes and availability are subject to change as well through legislation and funding source. The acronyms are noted below the table in foot notes and more information is provided about how to contact the funding providers in the next section.

Table 5. Cle Elum Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Program

Priority	Project Description	Comparative Magnitude of Cost \$ = Low \$\$ = Mid \$\$\$ = High	Short-term, mid-term, or long-term?	Funding Source Examples
S-1	Need to provide parking off-site but close, perhaps a common parking area near the Wye Park	\$\$	Short-term	City Park and Recreation Funds, Private Funds
S-2	Repair the pedestrian bridge near Hanson Ponds	\$\$\$	Short-term	RCO, City Park and Recreation Funds, Private Funds
S-2	Phase 1 – 2 nd Street Multi-use Path (Stafford Street Intersection through Billings Avenue Intersection)	\$156,880	Short-term	RCO, SRTS, WSDOT Bike and Ped Program, TIB Complete Streets, City Park and Recreation Funds, Private Funds
S-4	Design and print a Cle Elum map for public and private outdoor parks and recreation opportunities	\$\$	Short-term	RCO, CDBG, City Park and Recreation Funds, Private Funds
S-5	Maintain the City Parks and Recreation Department	\$\$	Short-term	RCO, CDBG, City Park and Recreation Funds, Private Funds
M-1	Improve playground equipment at City Park	\$\$\$	Mid-term	RCO, USDA-RD[3], City Park and Recreation Funds, Private Funds
M-2	Make the connection to Coal Mines Trail apparent at Flagpole Park	\$\$	Mid-term	RCO, City Park and Recreation Funds, Private Funds
M-3	Expand and improve picnic area shelter at City Park	\$\$	Mid-term	RCO, City Park and Recreation Funds, Private Funds
M-4	Phase 2 – 2 nd Street Multi-use Path (east of Billings Avenue through North Peoh Avenue Intersection)	\$209,560	Mid-term	RCO, SRTS, WSDOT Bike and Ped Program, TIB Complete Streets, City Park and Recreation Funds, Private Funds
M-5	Need to connect parks through signage, mapping, and/or ground treatment	\$\$	Mid-term	RCO, CDBG, City Park and Recreation Funds, Private Funds

Priority	Project Description	Comparative Magnitude of Cost \$ = Low \$\$ = Mid \$\$\$ = High	Short-term, mid-term, or long-term?	Funding Source Examples
L-1	Make the regional trails connect to downtown Cle Elum	\$\$\$	Long-term	RCO, City Park and Recreation Funds, Private Funds
L-2	Make the pool an indoor, year-round, multi-purpose size for day and evening use for people of all abilities	\$\$\$	Long-term	RCO, CDBG, City Park and Recreation Funds, Private Funds
L-3	Make the connection to the John Wayne Trail highlighted in the Cle Elum Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan	\$\$\$	Long-term	RCO, CDBG, City Park and Recreation Funds, Private Funds
L-4	Improve the skate park at City Park	\$\$\$	Long-term	RCO, CDBG, City Park and Recreation Funds, Private Funds
L-5	Organize and offer children's swimming and water fitness programs, including team use	\$\$\$	Long-term	RCO, City Park and Recreation Funds, Private Funds

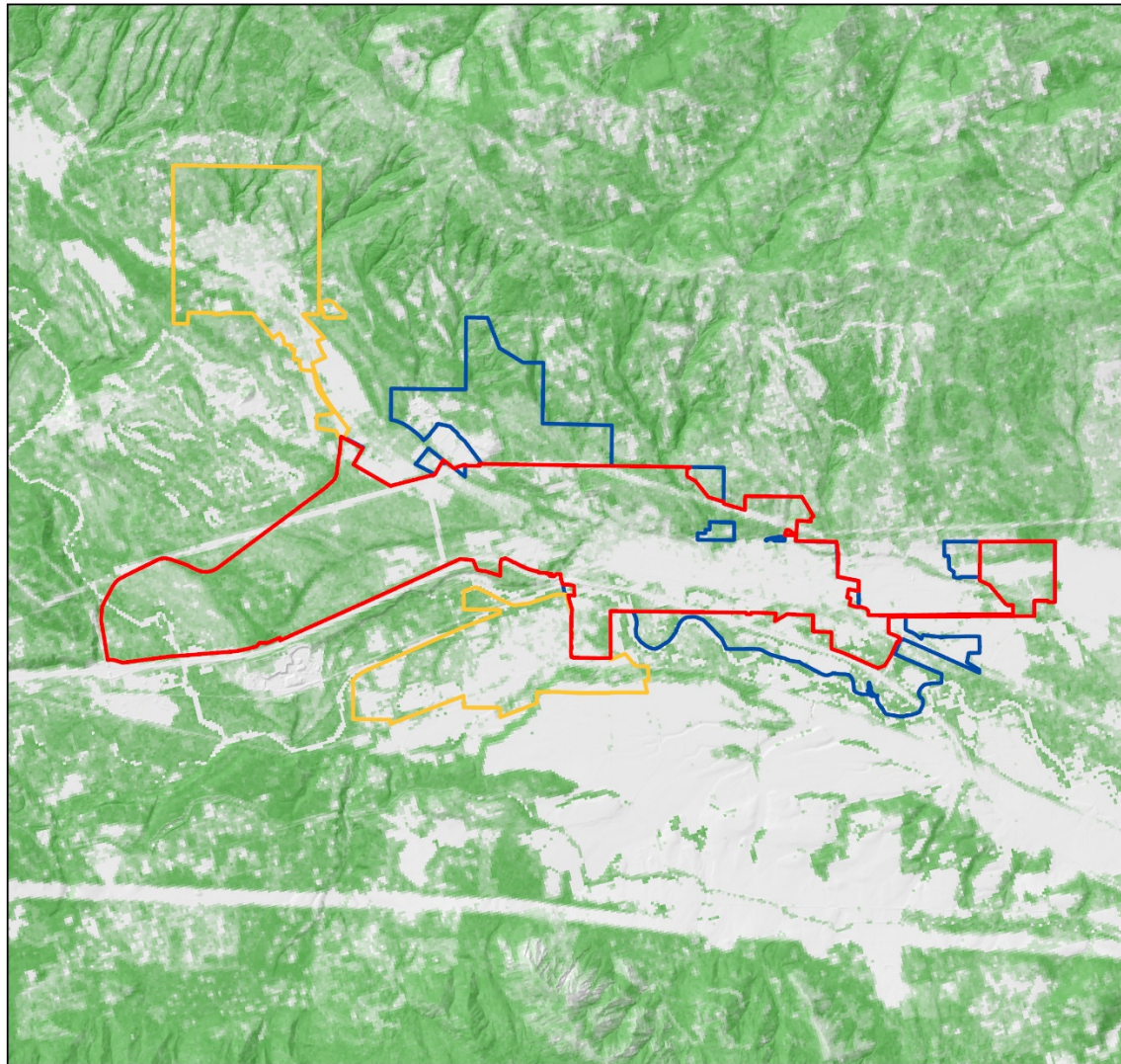
- [1] RCO – Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
- [2] CDBG – United States Department of Housing and Urban Development – Community Development Block Grant
- [3] USDA-RD – United States Department of Agriculture – Rural Development
- [4] STBG – United States Department of Transportation – Surface Transportation Block Grant
- [5] TIB – Transportation Improvement Board
- [6] WSDOT – Washington State Department of Transportation
- [7] Kittitas County Sales and Use Tax

Tree Canopy

The City of Cle Elum includes a substantial amount of trees due to its location on the east side of the Cascade Crest. Several federal and state forest lands are nearby, making Cle Elum a starting point for many outdoor adventures. Tree canopy and urban forest areas within City limits provide many benefits such as lessening the impacts from drought and runoff, support conservation and watershed protection, and have a positive effect on surrounding businesses and residences.

The US Forest Service maintains a National Land Cover Database (NLCD) Tree Cover Canopy (TCC) mapping layer which was used to create an exhibit showing tree cover in Cle Elum. The NLCD data are processed to mask TCC from non-treed features such as water and non-tree crops.

CITY OF CLE ELUM
Percent Tree Canopy Cover



Legend

- Cle Elum City Limit
- Urban Growth Area
- Separate UGA Boundaries

National Land Cover Database (NLCD)
Tree Canopy Cover (TCC)

100
0

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service (USFS). National Land Cover Database (NLCD) Tree Canopy Cover (TCC) Conterminous United States [Dataset]. <https://data-usfs.hub.arcgis.com/datasets/usfs::national-land-cover-database-nlcd-tree-canopy-cover-tcc-conterminous-united-states>



Regional Approaches

Cle Elum is one of 33 cities or towns, together with the four counties of Adams, Grant, Kittitas, and Lincoln, ports, major employers, related transportation agencies and businesses, and Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), that collectively plan as an organization called Quad County Regional Transportation Planning Organization (QUADCO). In 2017, the organization updated its regional transportation plan (QUADCO 2017-2037 RTP). The purpose of the RTP is to describe the region's current values, goals, policies, travel patterns, local, state, and interstate transportation infrastructure and services. Land use changes, population changes, and anticipated legislative changes are then projected over the next 20 years and the resulting transportation infrastructure and services needs identified to accommodate those changes are assessed. Grant money that is reasonably expected from federal, state, and local sources is budgeted to determine how the infrastructure and service changes can be accomplished and when. The Cle Elum Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan will ensure consistency with QUADCO's RTP sections describing tourism travel impacts and pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

Goals and Policies

The goals and policies of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element provide guidelines and direction for the development and continued maintenance of Park and Recreation facilities within Cle Elum over the next twenty (20) years.

Goal PRO-1: Develop an outstanding parks, recreation and open space system in Cle Elum to meet the needs of a diverse community.

Policies:

- PRO-1.1 Preserve a wide variety of lands for park, recreation, and open space purposes including, but not limited to:
- a. Natural areas and natural features with scenic or recreational value.
 - b. Land that may provide public access to water bodies, trails, natural areas and parks.
 - c. Lands that visually or physically connect natural areas or provide important linkages for recreation and wildlife habitat.
 - d. Environmentally sensitive areas, including steep slopes, floodways, wetlands, stream corridors, and habitat.

- PRO-1.2 Locate facilities and resources where they are easily accessible to the public.
- PRO-1.3 Strive to achieve adopted level of service standards and integrate capital expenditures with municipal budgeting and capital facilities planning.
- PRO-1.4 Seek funding from multiple sources for parks, recreation, and open space acquisition and development.
- PRO-1.5 Establish an annual parks maintenance program which includes tasks for City staff, volunteers, and community groups.
- PRO-1.6 Continue to support, and where appropriate, sponsor community events.
- PRO-1.7 Acquire and develop a system of parks, recreation, and open spaces that any resident can access by walking no more than 15-minutes from their home.
- PRO-1.8 Where appropriate and practicable provide parks, recreation, and open space facilities that are accessible to all.
- PRO-1.9 Develop a variety of parks, recreation, and open space facilities to encourage access by persons of all abilities, ages, or interest groups.
- PRO-1.10 Prepare a master plan for each facility in the City to identify site specific future improvements and needs.

Goal PRO-2: Acquire and develop a City-wide, integrated, multiple-use track, trail, and connection system that is functional, safe, and convenient.

Policies:

- PRO-2.1 Develop specific design and maintenance standards for tracks, trails, and connections.
- PRO-2.2 Develop a network of open space corridors, tracks, trails, paths, and connections throughout the City. This network should provide links between developments and subdivisions and also provide links to parks, open spaces, other trails, shopping, and local government services.
- PRO-2.3 Provide for the safe integration of bicycle, pedestrian, equestrian, and motorized multi-modal networks where appropriate.
- PRO-2.4 Encourage the development of pedestrian rights-of-way and well lighted trails which can provide safe passage between neighborhoods, schools, commercial, and recreational areas.

- PRO-2.5 Upgrade existing trails and acquire new easements or lands to extend trails.
- PRO-2.6 Create a comprehensive system of on-road trails to improve connectivity for the pedestrian and bicycle commuter, recreationalist, and touring enthusiast using local road rights-of-way and alignments.
- PRO-2.7 Develop the Cle Elum Skyline Trail to connect Cle Elum’s trail system with other trail systems, parks, and open space resources in Upper Kittitas County.

Goal PRO-3: Work cooperatively with the State, Kittitas County, School District, Parks and Recreation District, and the community in parks planning, acquisition, and development.

Policies:

- PRO-3.1 Promote the provision and development of park and recreation facilities through public and private funding, including impact fees, other mitigation, and partnerships with other agencies.
- PRO-3.2 Require all new developments to contribute their fair share to parks, recreation, and open space. Contributions could either include land dedication or fees in lieu of land.
- PRO-3.3 Require all new development projects along trail routes to provide easements for trails and/or for connections to the City’s existing trail system.
- PRO-3.4 Encourage the preservation and dedication of lands for parks, recreation, and open space through density incentives, trades, purchases of land, easements, or transfer of development rights.
- PRO-3.5 Proactively participate in regional parks and recreation planning activities, forums, and joint projects when appropriate.

Goal PRO-4: Preserve and provide access to significant environmental features and lands where such access does not harm the functions associated with the feature.

Policies:

- PRO-4.1 Identify and conserve critical wildlife habitat, foraging areas, and migration corridors within or adjacent to natural areas, open spaces, and developable urban lands.

PRO-4.2 Enhance habitat within parks, recreation, and open space lands by maintaining our healthy urban forest and tree canopy coverage that provides food, shelter, and cover to wildlife.

PRO-4.3 Enhance habitat within environmentally sensitive areas by maintaining native vegetation.

PRO-4.4 Preserve and protect significant environmental features including wetlands, open spaces, woodlands and urban tree canopy coverage, shorelines, water fronts, and other features that support Cle Elum's wildlife and natural heritage.

Goal PRO-5: Establish an open space pattern that will provide definition of and separation between developed lands, and provide open space linkages among parks and recreation resources.

Policies:

PRO-5.1 Define and conserve a system of open space corridors as urban buffers to provide definition between natural areas and urban land uses within Cle Elum.

PRO-5.2 Increase linkages of trails, in-street bike lanes, trails, and other connections with developed areas.

Goal PRO-6: Identify and protect significant recreation lands/opportunities before they are lost to development.

Policies:

PRO-6.1 Cooperate with developers, public agencies, and private land owners to protect land and resources for high-quality parks, recreation, and open space facilities before the most suitable sites and appropriate connections are lost to development.

PRO-6.2 In future land developments, preserve unique environmental features or areas, and increase public use/access to those areas. Cooperate with public and private agencies and landowners to protect unique features, lands, and connections.

Goal PRO-7: Preserve, enhance, and incorporate historic and cultural resources and interests into the parks, recreation, and open space system.

Policies:

- PRO-7.1 Identify, preserve, and enhance Cle Elum’s heritage, history, and traditions; including historic sites, views, landscapes, and archaeological resources.
- PRO-7.2 Identify and incorporate significant historic and cultural resources lands, sites, artifacts, and facilities into the Cle Elum parks, recreation, and open space system.
- PRO-7.3 Work with the local Historical Society and museums to incorporate community activities at the Carpenter House and the Telephone Museum.

Goal PRO-8: Investigate and implement methods of financing parks, recreation, and open space acquisitions and improvements, such as grant funding and public-private partnerships.

Policies:

- PRO-8.1 Investigate innovative and available methods such as growth impact fees, other mitigation, land set-a-side, or fee-in-lieu-of-donation ordinances, and inter-local agreements, to finance facility development, maintenance, and operating needs in order to reduce costs, retain financial flexibility, match use benefits with interests, and increase services.
- PRO-8.2 Where feasible and desirable, consider joint ventures with Kittitas County, South Cle Elum, Roslyn, the Cle Elum Roslyn School District, Kittitas County Parks and Recreation District, state, federal, other agencies, and private organizations to acquire and develop parks, recreation, and open space facilities.

Goal PRO-9: Create a comprehensive system of multi-purpose tracts and trails that link parks and recreation resources with residential areas, public facilities, and commercial and employment centers within Cle Elum and the Upper Kittitas County Region.

Policies:

- PRO-9.1 Provide connections from residential neighborhoods to community facilities like the Carpenter Memorial Library, City Hall, and the Upper Kittitas County Primary Care Facility.
- PRO-9.2 Create a comprehensive system of on-road trails to improve connectivity for the pedestrian and bicycle commuter, recreationalist, and touring enthusiast using local road rights-of-way and alignments.

PRO-9.3 With proposed vacation of right-of-way and street improvement plans, consider potential connectivity with existing or proposed trail corridors, parks, open spaces, and neighborhoods.

PRO-9.4 Continue to enhance and maintain the Progress Path from the Cle Elum Roslyn School District Campus to the Carpenter Memorial Library.

Goal PRO-10: Furnish parks, recreation, and open space with convenient amenities and improvements.

Policies:

PRO-10.1 Furnish trail systems with appropriate improvements including: directory and interpretative signage; rest stops; drinking fountains; restrooms, emergency call boxes; and other services.

PRO-10.2 Where appropriate, locate trailheads at or near park sites, schools, or other community facilities to increase local access to and reduce the duplication of supporting improvements and amenities.

PRO-10.2 Design and develop parks, recreation, and open space improvements to emphasize access and safety for all users.