



**FINAL PARKS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION  
GIG HARBOR SPORTS COMPLEX  
APRIL 11, 2018**

TO: Gig Harbor City Council  
Mayor Kit Kuhn

FROM: Gig Harbor Parks Commission

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The Parks Commission conducted deliberations on April 11, 2018, from 5:00-7:00pm, on verbal and written testimony received regarding Gig Harbor Sports Complex Draft Alternatives. The Parks Commission values the public input received, and encourages the public to stay involved in the Master Plan Process.

Below are recommendations to the City Council and Mayor regarding the Gig Harbor Sports Complex Master Plan after carefully reviewing the four Alternative Concepts and public comment:

- 1) **Synthetic Turf Athletic Fields:** The Parks Commission notes the need for turf fields. The Commission recommends as many multi-use fields as possible be located at the Gig Harbor Sports Complex while ensuring there are also plentiful opportunities, distributed throughout the complex, for non-structured play activities (including playgrounds, paved and unpaved trails and grassy areas where people can gather and recreate). The Commission recommends these fields not be locked so that, when they are not in use by organizations for formal practices and games, they are available to the general public.
- 2) **Field Lighting:** The Parks Commission recommends field lighting. The Commission recommends using lighting recent upgrades in field lighting as to minimize light intrusion to neighboring properties.
- 3) **Parking:** The Parks Commission recommends 50 (fifty) stalls per field, as is the current industry standard. The Commission recommends the City provide enough parking stalls to minimize the impact on neighboring properties and the YMCA.
- 4) **Sand Volleyball Courts:** The Commission recommends 4 (four) lighted sand volleyball courts to be installed at the Gig Harbor Sports Complex, preferably as part of phase 1 or 2. Should an opportunity for additional sand volleyball courts arise at Crescent Creek Park significantly sooner than courts at the Gig Harbor

Sports Complex are slated to be installed, the Commission recommends revisiting this component of the plan. In all of the Alternative Concept plans, the sand volley ball courts are on the exterior of the complex. Should these be deleted at a future time, they can be replaced with other elements.

- 5) **Playgrounds:** The Parks Commission recommends at least two playgrounds be developed at the Sports Complex. Preference would be for a playground near each "section" of Sports Complex fields and in close proximity to bathrooms. In regard to playgrounds, the Commission recommends play for a variety of ages and abilities, in highly visible, safe areas. Each playground should have at least one component for toddlers (0-3).
- 6) **Pickleball Courts:** The Parks Commission recommends a minimum of 6 (six) dedicated pickleball courts be included in the Sports Complex. The Parks Commission would like these courts designed so that they can serve a secondary use by the general public when not in use as pickle-ball courts. For example, a place for young children to ride bikes/trikes.
- 7) **Hard Surface Courts:** The Parks Commission recommends the inclusion of multi-use hard surfaced courts at the Sports Complex. The hard-surfaced courts should be lined for different sports such as basketball, tennis and others. The Commission also recommends additional tennis and basketball courts at Crescent Creek Park.
- 8) **Splash Pad:** The Parks Commission does not recommend a splash pad be included in the Sports Complex. The Commission notes that a Splash Pad is a destination use and therefore should be located at a different City Park (potentially Crescent Creek Park) or rely on other Community Partners such as Peninsula Metropolitan Parks District and Key Peninsula Park District (Splash Pad proposed in Phase 3 of Gateway Park) for Splash Pad needs. The Commission noted safety and maintenance concerns related to Splash Pads and commented that should a Splash Pad be developed by the City in the future, it should be a larger and more elaborate component than that which could fit within the Sports Complex.
- 9) **Trails:** The Parks Commission recommends trails and connectivity throughout the Sports Complex with a mix of paved and unpaved trails. The Commission recommends trails through natural areas, but cautions regarding paving near trees (health of trees and longevity of pavement). The Commission recommends that trails do not cross roads, but if a trail must cross a road that it be a raised crossing with Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons. The Commission would like to see lighting along paved paths.
- 10) **Drop off and Pick Up Areas:** The Parks Commission recommends strategically located pick up and drop off areas, in addition to parking lots. These areas should be large enough to consider parents "waiting" to pick up children after sports activities.
- 11) **Restrooms:** The Parks Commission recommends at least 2 (two) new restrooms be included in the Sports Complex near fields and playgrounds.

- 12) **Shelters:** The Parks Commission recommends a large pavilion located near to the YMCA for agency and general public programming. The Commission also recommends small shelters near each playground.
- 13) **Concession Stand:** The Parks Commission recommends a concession stand be included in Phase 1 of the project and that the Gig Harbor Little League Concession Stand be retained.
- 14) **Trees and Natural Areas:** The Parks Commission recommends not developing critical areas (wetlands) or their buffers unless absolutely necessary. The Commission also recommends retaining exterior perimeter trees to the maximum extent practicable.
- 15) **General Recommendations:**
  - a. Make the Sports Complex open and highly visible for safety and security purposes.
  - b. Include a grass field for general public use for bocce ball and other like uses.

Signed the 13 day of April, 2018.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robyn Denson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Robyn Denson, Parks Commission Chair