



Chewelah Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan 2024-2030



Larry Fetter, Parks Partners llc.

"Create a vibrant and engaging system of parks, trails and open space in harmony with the natural beauty of the Chewelah Valley."

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**Parks
Make
Life
Better!**



Spray-pad
Pic. 1

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ACRONYMS

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
CIP	Capital Improvement Plan
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
CSD	Chewelah School District
CVPRD	Chewelah Valley Parks and Recreation District
DNR	Department of Natural Resources
ECA	Evergreen Communities Act
FTE	Full time Equivalent
GF	General Fund
LOS	Level of Service
LPM	Local Park Maintenance Grant
LTGO	Limited Tax General Obligation
NOVA	Non-highway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities Program
NRPA	National Recreation and Park Association
OFM	Office of Financial Management
PRA	Planning for Recreation Access Grant
P&R	Parks and Recreation
PRD	Parks and Recreation District
PRSA	Parks and Recreation Service Area
PUD	Public Utility District
RCO	Recreation and Conservation Office
RCW	Revised Code of Washington
ROI	Return on Investment
REET	Real Estate Excise Tax
SDC	System Development Charge
TIF	Tax Incremental Finance
TEDD	Tri-County Economic Development District
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
UTGO	Unlimited Tax General Obligations
WAC	Washington Administrative Code
WRPA	Washington Recreation and Park Association
YSC	Youth Sports Complex



Identifies unmet standard



Identifies at or above standard

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*"What is the best day to plant a tree?...
...yesterday"*

~ Arborist Society

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This plan has engaged with over 1,000 people locally in a variety of focus groups, multi-media, and surveys. The public survey resulted in 798 responses representing 35% of Chewelah's population. The interest in expanding recreation access is amazing and speaks to the degree of enthusiasm for this planning effort. Their voices are the foundation of this plan and answer the question *"What do we want our parks and recreation system to look like in 5-10 years."*

Chewelah had never produced a Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan (PROS) prior to this effort. This plan offers a deep-dive into the resources, challenges, and opportunities to transform and create a dynamic parks and recreation system that will capture the attention of residents seeking an exceptional quality of life and thriving business community.

This PROS Plan is ambitious in its aim to double Chewelah's park acreage, create an indoor Rec / Aquatic Center, develop a trails system, and update its existing park facilities. These facility goals will bring Chewelah up to its identified level of service. This plan relies heavily on the creation of a park district to meet these challenges by adding capital and operating resources. Without a park district or additional resources, Chewelah should not add new maintenance obligations to the current General Fund.

Chewelah finds itself in competition with its larger neighbors Colville 20-miles to the north and Deer Park 20-miles to the south. These communities have stable and growing youth populations where younger families have chosen to settle. Chewelah is positioned very well to compete for growth as Spokane expands bringing younger families to rural areas. This youthful population segment desires organized recreation access in the form of recreation programs, parks, trails, swimming pools, and recreation facilities.

Chewelah's access to organized recreation has diminished in recent years with the loss of the outdoor swimming pool and skatepark. Recreation loss is an alarming trend that calls for leadership, action and investment. Chewelah finds itself well below its level of service standard for parks and park distribution. At 13.5-acres, Chewelah needs to nearly double its park acreage strategically to meet the standard of ½ mile walking distance to a park.

Fortunately, *Chewelah has quality leadership and a desire to meet these challenges.* The return on investment is significant as Chewelah aims to transform its quality of life. This plan provides *direction, strategies and a timeline* to accomplish the objectives identified by its citizens. Equally important, this plan identifies the maintenance obligations to ensure that these investments are attractive and functional creating a legacy for future generations.



Activity Guide Sample
Pic. 2

INTRODUCTION – A THRIVING CHEWELAH

PLAN PURPOSE

This plan aspires to answer the question *“What do the citizens of Chewelah want their Parks and Recreation Facilities in 5-10 years?”* First by defining the recreational priorities for Chewelah in a public demand study then comparing the existing facilities to future demand. This gap will become the foundation of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) including strategies to achieve the highest priority facilities. This PROS plan aspires to be transformative and achievable, making recreation a significant pillar to Chewelah’s economic and livability success.

PLAN VISION

Create a vibrant and engaging system of parks, trails and open space in harmony with the natural beauty of the Chewelah Valley.

PLAN PROCESS

This planning process is extensive and has taken 10-months of detailed and focused engagement to accomplish. This plan relies heavily on engaging its community leaders with the creation of the Mayor’s Taskforce for Parks and Recreation. Mayor McCunn has recruited 20 members that represent the most essential organizations creating partnerships for success with the City. Both public and private organizations are represented and described in Chapter 6. The Taskforce meets monthly to provide direction and feedback to the consultant team.



Planning Partners

Fig. 1

The foundation of this plan is public engagement on several levels. All goals and objectives are in response to citizen input regarding recreational priorities. The input forums include local radio, newspaper, social media, on-line survey, focus groups, and group presentations. Included in the outreach are the goals of the planning process. The engagement function concluded with a Public Open House on October 19, 2023. Additional engagement included 25 Focus Groups and City Council workshops have provided many opportunities for public comment and critique.

PROS Master Plan Timeline 2023														
Activities	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan-24
Prior Planning	Research													
Inventory			Research											
P&R Committee			Meet				Meet				Meet			
Taskforce	Recruitment		Monthly over-site											
Stakeholders	Explore partnerships													
Public Engagement			Surveys, presentations				Focus Groups			Open House				
Demand Study			Research											
Draft Plan						Draft Materials Review								
Final Plan										Final Plan				
Implementation														Adoption
Media Engagement	Press Releases, education, surveys, human interest, RAC, Open Houses, Recommendations													
Web site			Project Info		Public Survey			Project Drafts						

Planning Schedule
Fig. 2

The City of Chewelah has conducted an extensive public engagement in the development of the PROS plan. Chewelah has never conducted a park planning process before. Prior efforts to improve recreation access have been inconsistent due to a lack of focus and a capital plan to meet objectives. As a result, Chewelah has not been successful in prior grant applications to improve recreation access. Chewelah currently includes park planning in Chapter 8 of the City’s Comprehensive Plan. With the loss of its municipal swimming pool in 2013 due to failed infrastructure, Chewelah has been experiencing a loss of recreation access.

This planning project includes a feasibility study related the potential development of a regional park and recreation district centered in Chewelah. Expanding the recreational service area would provide for more capital capacity and a sustainable operating source of funding. Project collaboration will include Stevens County, Chewelah School District, and Spokane Tribe.

Tasks:

- Conduct a Parks and Recreation District feasibility study
- Conduct a recreation demand and access study with extensive community engagement
- Conduct a recreation access inventory and condition assessment
- Develop a 6-year Parks and Recreation Capital Plan to include funding options
- Conduct a feasibility assessment of a Chewelah based Parks & Recreation District

The City desires to enhance parks and recreation access as a means to improve quality of life. The demand on the general fund often places park and facilities on a wish-list. Currently there are no staff assigned specifically to parks and recreation. Maintenance of parks facilities are provided by Public Works Department staff. The City did operate a seasonal municipal swimming pool from 1968 through 2013 when it was decommissioned.

The City recognizes that a plan is necessary to understand fully the current and future recreation needs. This PROS Master Plan project will examine recreation need in two geographic boundaries. First the City's Municipal Boundary and second, the Chewelah Public School District. In partnership with the Chewelah School District, the City will explore the development of a park district within the school district boundary. The strategy being that the service district population is double the City's population. A broader tax-base would provide a dedicated funding source for new facilities and operations. The study will examine the feasibility of a new park district and provide action steps for consideration.

"The future belongs to those who prepare for it."

~Ralph Waldo Emerson

Community engagement is the central and most critical action included in this planning effort. It is essential to understand the individual and community gaps in recreation access, engage all interest groups in a need's assessment, and engage all stake-holder groups. These groups have included the Chewelah Recreation Association, Chamber of Commerce, Steven's County, Public Schools, New Health Services, Providence Health Care, Wellness Providers, Outdoor Groups, Arts District, Spokane Tribes, other groups to be identified.

The community engagement has included an online survey, in-person surveys, group surveys, survey exercises at public events, and focus group discussions. Exceptional effort has been placed on engaging all segments of the population. Input will be categorized into ***"need, barriers, solutions, and future demand."*** Response themes will be identified and organized into the plan. The exploration into a park district will require a broader audience and will evaluate the willingness to support a park district.

The Capital Improvement Plan will itemize all recreation access needs across the community. Included will be a funding strategy for each project. Some projects will require multiple contributors and funding sources depending on the scale. Other projects may be contingent on the creation of a park district to advance. In all cases, the Capital Improvement Plan will reflect the community's expressed desires for future recreation.

This PROS Plan was funded by a grant from the State of Washington, Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO).

Planning Process

Fig. 3



Mayor McCunn assembled taskforce of citizens to serve on a steering committee throughout the planning process. This group will aid in the planning, promotion, and effectiveness of the final PROS Master Plan. *The Parks & Recreation Taskforce* members may become the foundation on which to build a park district centered in Chewelah. City Council passed Resolution 22-14 on November 2, 2022 authorizing the City to apply for RCO-PRA (Planning for Recreation Access) funding for this project. The planning grant was approved in January 2023 providing funding for this PROS Master Plan. Adoption of the PROS Master Plan by City Council is scheduled for January of 2024.

History and Background

Chewelah is ideally located 45 miles north of Spokane, Wa. Quartzite Mountain rises over the town to the east. To the west, across the valley, rise the Huckleberry Mountains. This region was once the home of Indians, particularly Colvilles and a few Spokanes and Kalispels. "The name Chewelah comes from the Indian word 'S che wee leh,' meaning water or garter snake. There was a spring in what is now the southwest end of Chewelah. The motion of the water gave the illusion of snakes moving about in the water."

Known as "A Place for All Seasons"

Chewelah has the small-town charm that people fall in love with. Just 45 minutes north of Spokane and 70-miles south of the Canadian border on Hwy 395 in Northeast Washington State. The town site of Chewelah is located in the Colville River Valley, a wide fertile valley with a year-round supply of water. Missionaries and pioneers began to settle in the valley because of the mining, logging and ranching opportunities. By the time that the railroad arrived in 1889, Chewelah was primed for additional growth.



Location Map

Fig. 4

In February of 1903, Chewelah became an incorporated City. In 1916, Chewelah saw its greatest growth with the magnesite boom that ended in 1968 when the mine closed. Chewelah's recovery from this loss stands as a testament to the resident's tenacity and as a result Chewelah was named as an "All American City" in 1972. Logging and agriculture became equally important, particularly after the closure of the magnesite mine. Over the past two decades the City has focused on revitalizing their downtown retail atmosphere, business and commerce, trails system, access to recreation, and forming a new arts district.

As a small rural community with a current population of 2,700, Chewelah has history of providing access to recreation mostly on a volunteer basis. The Chewelah Recreation Association was founded as a non-profit to manage a six-lane bowling alley and a little league field in 1946. The school district has a resident population of 5,600 and operates tennis courts and athletic facilities that accommodate some public uses.

The City of Chewelah is very unique in the state of Washington because it has two non-contiguous city



Early Chewelah

Pic. 3

limits. "Chewelah South," is the original town site and is the hub of commercial and employment activity. "Chewelah North," sometimes referred to as the "Golf Course," lies approximately 3.5-miles north of Chewelah South and is separated by Stevens County property. The North Chewelah area was developed around the Chewelah Golf and Country Club and the Chewelah Municipal Airport. This unique circumstance poses challenges and opportunities for comprehensive planning in the City of Chewelah. This plan proposes new facilities identified in the Level of Service section that may better link these two separate communities.

Over the past two-decades the City has focused on improving the downtown atmosphere, business and commerce. This has included Main Street trees, new sidewalks, lighting and music in partnership with the Chewelah Chamber of Commerce. Chewelah's Arts District and Arts Guild has contributed murals and outdoor public art on Main Street. Other recreational facilities are available just outside the city boundaries; 49 Degrees North, Gold Hill mountain bike facility and access to National Forests for camping, hiking, and more, and access to hundreds of miles of streams and creeks. Just 3-miles south of town is the expanding Mistequa Casino adding a gaming center as a regional tourism destination. These facilities combine to make Chewelah a center for destination recreation.

In summary, Chewelah desires to identify and meet the recreation access needs of its citizens. As a small rural community, it has struggled to meet its recreation objectives and has been losing ground with the loss of its municipal swimming pool and skate park.



Chewelah has had limited success in prior grant requests for funding assistance. To meet this challenge, Chewelah proposes to create its first-ever Parks and Open Space Master Plan in partnership with RCO and others. This plan is essential as a path-forward to meet its level of service goals and a sustainable parks and recreation future.

Everett Jenne Memorial Park
Pic. 4

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Summary of Goals and Objectives

The primary recommendations below are based on the Demand Study for Chewelah. The study identifies the current Level of Service as compared to the available inventory and condition. Gaps in Level of Service and condition as proposed to be mitigated in the following list of goals and objectives. The priorities are listed based on public responses and observations of the P&R Taskforce. The following four *“Need Categories”* emerged though the planning process as being the highest demand.

1. Swimming pools (aquatics)
2. Trails
3. Existing Park Improvements
4. Future Parks

This PROS study organizes the results of the Needs Assessment and Level of Service into the following five primary Goals.

Goal Category	Goal Description
Access	Improve access and safety to park and recreation facilities, and programs in current and proposed facilities for all user groups.
Demand Study	Develop the most requested recreation facilities and programs identified in the PROS Public Survey and service gaps.
Level Of Service	Establish Parks & Recreation standards based on national standards and interests identified in the PROS Public Survey.
Sustainability	Identify sustainable funding sources to develop proposed facilities and maintain existing facilities for future generations.
Trails	Develop a system of multi-modal trails, walkways and bike lanes for recreation separated from traffic where possible.

Objectives are organized to accomplish specific identified activities within the Goal Categories. Objectives are described within the PROS Plan on the designate page and also the Capital Improvement Plan on page 59.

Goal	Objective / Action	Type	Next Step	Target Date	Page
Access	A-1 Conduct an ADA Assessment for parks and recreation facilities	Admin	Implement	2026	19
	A-2 Conduct Playground Safety Inspections	Admin	Implement	2024	19
	A-3 Improve Everett Jenne Memorial Park as illustrated	Capital	Implement	2024	22
	A-4 Improve Pinebrook Park as illustrated	Capital	Implement	2024	23
	A-5 Improve Central Park as illustrated	Capital	Implement	2024	24
Demand	D-1 Develop a Rec / Aquatic Center - phased Civic Center approach	Capital	Feasibility	2024	41
	D-2 Develop Youth Sport Complex	Capital	Grant Application	2024	31
	D-3 Develop Teen Adventure Park	Capital	Grant Application	2025	29
	D-4 Develop Chewelah Creek Pocket Park	Capital	Grant Application	2025	26
	D-5 Develop Triangle DNR Pocket Park	Capital	Grant Application	2025	30
	D-6 Develop Railroad Park	Capital	Grant Application	2025	28
	D-7 Develop a Splash-pad near downtown	Capital	Grant Application	2027	41
	D-8 Provide recreation programming based from the Civic Center	Program	Begin Programming	2024	48
	D-9 Develop an archery and firearms range	Capital	Grant Application	2024	40
LOS	L-1 Establish a Service level of 30-acres of park space per 1,000 residents	Policy	PROS Adoption	2024	17
	L-2 Establish a Service level of ¼ mile access to a park for all residents	Policy	PROS Adoption	2024	17
	L-3 Enhance maintenance of existing parks with a seasonal .5 FTE	Admin	Implement	2024	19
	L-4 Identify park expansion opportunities adding 14-acres of parks	Policy	PROS Adoption	Ongoing	17
	L-5 Identify park opportunities in underserved neighborhoods	Policy	PROS Adoption	Ongoing	17
Sustainability	S-1 Consider implementing a Parks and Recreation District	Study	Feasibility	2024	52
	S-2 Consider implementing System Development Charges	Study	Feasibility	2026	52
	S-3 Conduct a Water Audit of existing park irrigation systems for improvements	Admin	Implement	2028	19
Trails	T-1 Develop a trail system from the Chewelah North to Mstequa Casino	Capital	Grant Application	2025	45
	T-2 Consider a regional trail system from Deer Park to Kettle Falls	Study	Implement	2024	45

Goals and Objectives

Fig. 5

Challenges

As a small rural community, Chewelah has relied heavily on volunteer support for its parks and recreation programming and park enhancements. The City has established a maintenance level of service of one FTE to maintain its 13.5-acres of parks, 2.5-acres Civic Center property, and two cemeteries with 11-acres. The demand of maintaining 27-acres with one person leaves many park related activities to be unattended or differed. The growing season of April through September is entirely consumed by mowing activity and responding to emergencies.

"Tomorrow you will have wished you started today."

~ Parks Partners

Care for planter beds, tree maintenance, irrigation, fencing, playground safety is minimal or generally not attended to. The result has been a decline in the appearance and function of many park facilities especially at Pinebrook Park, Everett Jenne Park and the Civic Center Campus. Adding to the list is a lack of attention to the downtown tree scape, flower baskets, and garbage cans. Volunteers attend to the flower basket watering and seasonal decorations, but the lack of garbage cans result in litter accumulating in flower baskets. The lack of attention has a detrimental effect on downtown commerce and level of care for parks.

Park maintenance is currently managed as a division within the Public Parks Department. Park maintenance is funded by the General Fund along with Police, Fire, Streets, and Administrative Services for the City. This is unlike other Public Works divisions that are funded by Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste services. The Chewelah Electrical Utility is managed by the City as its own Department.

Chewelah's population has grown at a steady 2% annually. However, the youth population has been diminishing for decades. The result is an aging population especially in Chewelah North (Golf Course). This aging demographic places pressure on Chewelah's ability to sustain youth facilities like the swimming pool and skatepark. This situation stresses Chewelah's ability to develop new recreation facilities. The voting population becomes less likely to support youth-based initiatives. Childbearing families seeking access to recreation may chose to locate in neighboring communities that offer organized access to recreation facilities.



Swimming Pool Demolition

Plc. 5

Recreation Loss

Chewelah has experienced a loss in City sponsored recreation facilities over the last 10-years. In 2013 the **Chewelah Swimming Pool** was permanently closed after 48-years of service. The pool was built in 1965 and was managed by the City hosting open swimming, lessons, and fitness in the summer. The pool experienced significant water loss from failed infrastructure in last 10-years of operation leading up to a decision for removal. While a splash pad had been proposed as a replacement facility, no action has been taken thus far leaving Chewelah without a public swimming pool. This loss is significant and is reflected as the “**number one recreation facility**” needed in the Recreation Survey conducted in this PROS planning effort.

The second most noteworthy loss in recreation was the removal of the **Skateboard Park** in 2022. The facility was in service for about 20-years offering above grade ramps and other skate elements. The conditions diminished with age leading to its removal for safety considerations. The proposed replacement facility in the same location is a Teen Adventure Park offering skate board, BMX and a sports court.



Former Skateboard Ramps

Pic. 6

The **Chewelah Little League** field is located primarily on private property adjacent to the Chewelah Bowling Alley. This is concerning since the property is no long secured for the future. A detailed Little League case-study is explored on page 51.

The **Chataqua Summer Festival** began in 1975 drawing 30,000 people to Chewelah’s Everett Jenne Park each July. The CenterStage Pavilion offered a variety of music and entertainment. Community Celebrations ran the four-day event bringing over 70 craft vendors, food vendors, carnival, parade, golf and Little League tournaments.



Chataqua Festival

Pic. 7

The final Chataqua was held in 2019 ending four decades for the festival. The demise was credited to a diminishing leadership and volunteer base. Revival of Chataqua is possible under new leadership and resources. Currently new celebrations are managed each season by the Chewelah Festival Association in cooperation with the City and Chamber of Commerce.

Opportunities

The opportunity to improve the maintenance standard for existing parks and enhance the level of service for parks and recreation is limited by General Fund revenues. New revenue opportunities are recommended in ***Parks and Recreation***

District - Chapter 7. Without new, sustainable revenues and increased investment, most of the recommendations within this plan are unachievable.

"The world is not given by his fathers but borrowed from his children."

~ Audubon Society

Chewelah's ability to secure grants, as well as build and manage recreation facilities is greatly dependent on securing skilled staff. In other words, it takes money to make money. Investing in Parks and Recreation has a high return-on-investment (ROI). Generally, people choose where to live based on a number of factors. More and more "livability" is becoming more significant factor in where people live. Access to recreation, schools, government services and shopping are more prominent as much of the workforce is able to work remotely. This trend makes living in Chewelah ideal for people with high recreation interests. Access to golfing, skiing, hang gliding, biking, water sports and more are nearby. With recreation interests expanding, this plan seeks to add to Chewelah's natural recreation and add access to new facilities and programs.

There are many emerging recreation activities each year. Pickleball is now the official state sport for Washington. Pickleball has become a popular sport for participants above 50 years of age. The City currently has no public pickleball courts available currently. However, there are several private courts located at Chewelah North (Golf Course). The PROS Plan recommends that the City explore options with the Golf Course community to make the pickleball courts available for public use.

This PROS Plan recognizes that new opportunities will emerge over the life of this plan. This may include availability of land in the underserved neighborhoods or new resources that may become available.



Pickleball

Pic. 8

Park Expansion Opportunities

The analysis of the level of service for parks and the distribution has resulted in the two primary concerns. The proposed level of service for Chewelah is 10-acres of parks for every 1,000 people. At a population of 2,700 Chewelah should have 27-acres of park. The current park inventory is 14-acres or about half of the current demand for parks. This creates significant use pressure on Everett Jenne Park, Chewelah's primary park. Chewelah's park inventory and levels of service are described on page 37.

The proposed level of service regarding park distribution is for each resident to be within ½ mile (walking distance) from a park. This leaves significant gaps in both available park acreage and the disproportionate park distribution. The three underserved neighborhoods in Chewelah include:

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Chewelah Southwest (south of Main Street) | Park Deprived |
| 2. Chewelah Southeast (south of Main Street) | Park Deprived |
| 3. Chewelah North (Golf Course) | Park Deprived |

Chewelah South, north of Main Street is very well served when considering that park access on east and west of Hwy 395 offers 14-acres and a population of approximately 1,400 residents in two neighborhoods. Consequently, only two of Chewelah's five neighborhoods meet the level of service standard of 10-acres per 1,000 and a distribution standard of ½ mile. Chewelah's current level of service averages 5-acres per 1,000 residents for parks.

This plan proposes to remedy this service level gaps over-time the following actions.

1. Identify current park expansion opportunities in the three underserved neighborhoods.
2. Adopt Park Impact Fees (System Development Charges) to accumulate funds for future acquisitions and improvements.
3. Provide for Land Dedication options for new sub-divisions.
4. Encourage estate-based land contributions (living wills) in underserved neighborhood.
5. Seek acquisition funding grants for land in underserved neighborhoods.

Chewelah is geographically small at 3 square miles with generally short distances between residences and park facilities, which is helpful regarding access to park facilities. However, Chewelah is a service center to a larger geographic area approximate to the school district boundary. The major transportation route is Hwy 395 which accommodates 30,000 vehicles per day on average. Everett Jenne Park is located on Hwy 395 creating user pressure on Chewelah's only Community Park. Adding to this user demand at Everett Jenne Park is the seasonal Farmer's Market and several large festivals, car shows and performances based within the park.

"It should be well thought of that a park exercises a very different and much greater influence upon the progress of a city in its general structure than any other ordinary public work."

- Frederick Law Olmsted

Based on public feedback to make improvements to Everett Jenne Park, the following actions are recommended as illustrated on page 23.

- Improved facility maintenance, tree health, and irrigation.
- Create an internal paved trail system that support better ADA access to park features.
- Restore the southwest entrance to include a plaza, gateway, furniture as illustrated.
- Playgrounds – create and modern playground with two age zones in the shaded southeast corner, near the restrooms.
- Remove the Scout house facility that has deteriorated and relocate the Scout program to an improved location.
- Enhance the Farmer’s Market area to include concrete pads for vendors, raised platform for entertainment, and permanent sign kiosk.
- Remove the RV spaces and consider a sport court in its place.
- Replace the two walk bridges with structurally and aesthetically improved bridges.
- Consider an outdoor art gallery with pedis tools to accommodate 3-D art.



Farmer’s Market in Park

Pic. 9

INVENTORY AND CONDITION

City Facilities Maintenance

The City has established a maintenance level of service of one FTE to maintain its 13.5-acres of parks, 2.5-acres Civic Center property, and two cemeteries with 11-acres. The demand of maintaining 27-acres with one person leaves many park related activities to be unattended or differed. The growing season of April through September is entirely consumed by mowing activity and responding to emergencies.

The National Parks and Recreation Association has established metric standards regarding park expenditures per capita. The national park FTE allocation is 8.9 FTE per 10,000 in population. Chewelah's allocation is 2.7 FTE per 10,000 or 66% less than the national average. While the cost is low for Chewelah, the result is a significant amount of differed maintenance in the existing parks. This is most evident in the playgrounds, irrigation systems, and landscape beds. An estimated 80% of the current single FTE is expended on mowing, leaving 20% for all remaining activities.

The recommendation of this plan is to increase the FTE allocation in the "growing season" by adding 1,000 hours (.5 FTE) of casual labor from April through September for routine cleaning, mowing and trimming. This added labor will make available more regular labor hours to attend to activities that require more technical skills.



Park Investment Sample

Fig. 6

Park Expenditure Per Capita						
	Population	Acres per 1,000	FTE per 10,000	Operations \$	Rev / Exp	
National		10.8	8.9	\$94.77	24.60%	
PRSA	5,500	2.45	1.35	\$18.18	0	
Chewelah	2,700	5	2.7	\$37.03	0	

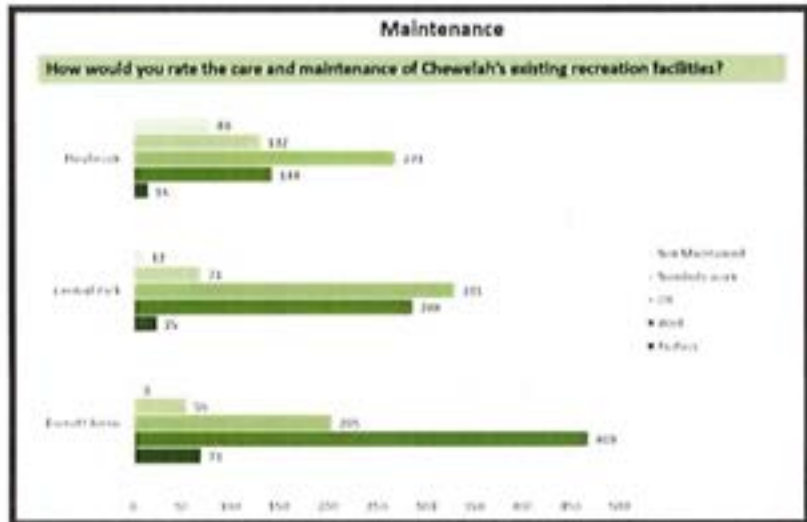
Expenditure

Fig. 7



Parks and Recreation services generally produce revenues from user and program fees. Since Chewelah does not currently provide recreation programs, no revenues are recorded. Should Chewelah begin to offer programs, the revenues would offset expenditures to recover a percentage of operating costs. This PROS plan recommends that Chewelah begin to offer year-round recreation programming accessed from the Civic Center.

The public survey data regarding park care and maintenance was favorable toward Everett Jenne Park the majority rating of **"Maintained Well"** or better. Central Park and Pinebrook Park received less favorable scores indicating a need for improved maintenance.



Chewelah has two playgrounds in its park system which ranks above the national standard per capital. However, the distribution leaves the neighborhood of Chewelah North particularly deprived of a playground with the closest being 3-miles away. The two existing playgrounds are in need to renovations and safety improvements. There is a significant amount of differed maintenance in Chewelah's existing

Survey Response No. 1



parks. This plan recommends several assessments including *Playground Safety Inspection, ADA Assessment, Arborist Assessment, and Irrigation Water Audit*. The playground at Everett Jenne Park requires the most attention and may require removal of substandard equipment, improve fall-protection, pads under slides and swings, and relocation of the fenced playground to a shaded area. Replacing the pea-gravel with engineered wood fiber (EWF) with a containment system is also recommended.

Park Maintenance Activity Needs

Everett Jenne Memorial Park

- Playground Safety Inspection
- ADA assessment
- Arborist tree assessment
- Irrigation audit and repair system
- Repair / Replace broken cement surfaces
- Repair / Replace southwest entrance plaza surface
- Repair / Replace broken restroom fixtures
- Repair / Replace bridges
- Repair / Replace damaged or dying trees
- Remove shade poles near stage

Pinebrook Park

There is currently little to no maintenance. Recommend developing the park as illustrated and maintaining the park for neighborhood use.

Central Park

- Playground Safety Inspection
- Repair / Replace drinking fountain
- Repair damaged fence sections
- Resurface sports Court

Trees / Urban Forest

This plan recommends that a tree inventory and urban forest management plan be developed for all City owned trees in rights of ways, Parks, Civic Center Campus, and Main Street. The health of the trees especially on Main Street and Everett Jenne Park appear to be stressed. The age of the trees in Everett Jenne Park appear to be nearing the latter stages of life. New trees should be introduced to diversify the age and species of the urban forest.

Everett Jenne Park

Community Park 8-acres



Facility Key	
A1	Public Art
A2	Public Art (future)
A3	Public Art (future)
B1	Bench - chair
B2	Bench - chair
M1	Memorial - Everett Jenne
M2	Memorial - Veterans 2001
M3	Memorial - Seefeldt 2002
K1	Kiosk - Farmer's Mkt
K2	Kiosk - City Events
R1	Restroom - North
R2	Restroom - South
S1	Pavilion (Stage)
S2	Children's Pavilion
S3	North Shelter
S4	South Shelter

Proposed Renovations	
1	Develop internal paved path
2	Replace RV Park with Sport Court
3	Remove deteriorated Scout Cabin
4	Relocate & modernize playground
5	Develop SW entrance Plaza
6	Create ADA parking
7	Create structured parking on Park Street
8	Replace bridges w/ improved structures
9	Relocate Flagpole



Pinebrook Park



Neighborhood Park 4.9 acres

Disk Golf Park is a half-acre parcel on the NW neighborhood of Chewelah South. The parcel was dedicated to the City for parks use during the Pine Brook subdivision dating back to the 1980's. The park receives minimal maintenance, little use and lacks signage. As Pine Brook becomes more populated, this park can serve neighborhood as a passive walking park with a active playground and dog park in the future. The disk golf basket may receive more use if relocated to a more accessible location at the high school.



Proposed Renovations	
1	Consider Parking Areas
2	Consider Playground
3	Consider Picnic Shelter
4	Create Park Sign & Direction Signs
5	Consider Dog Park
6	Improve or relocate Disk Golf
7	Consider Walking Gravel Path



Central Park

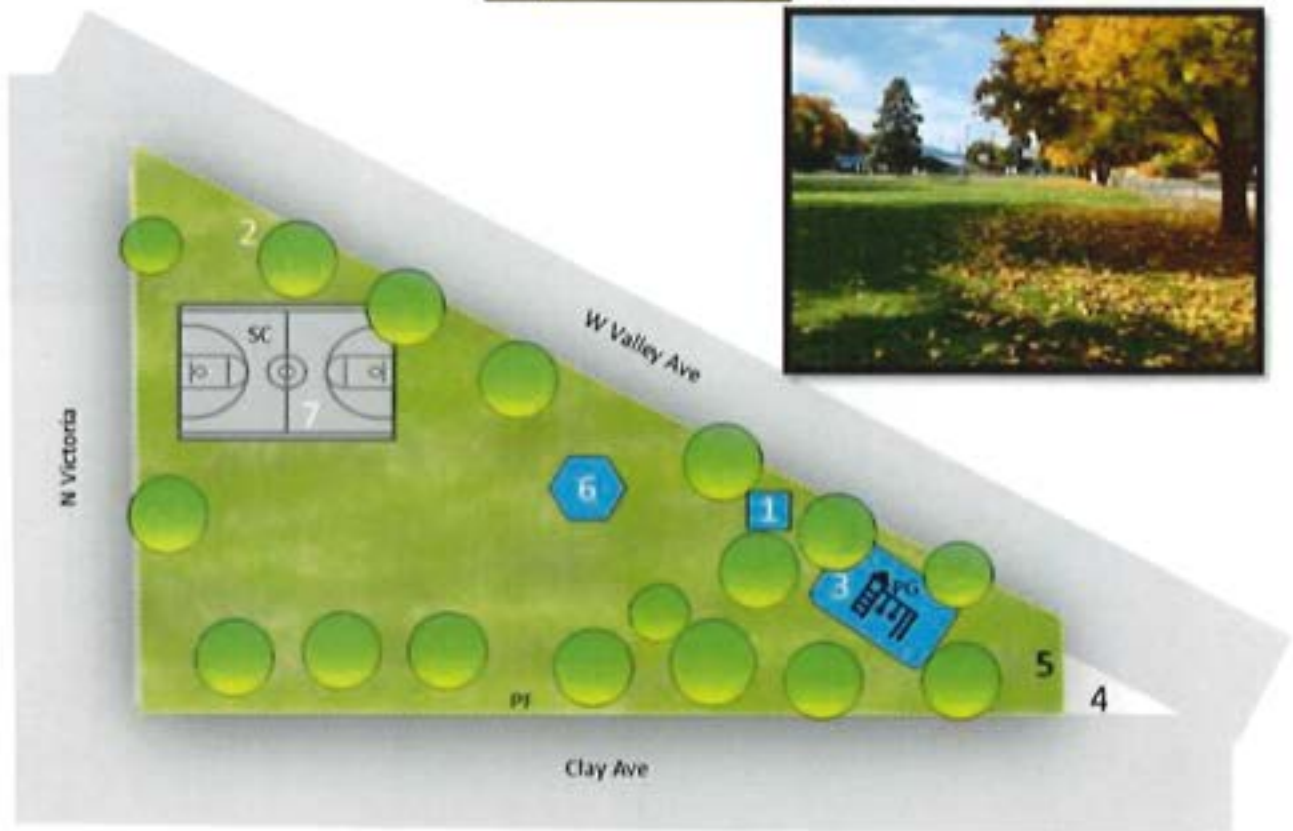
Neighborhood Park .5 acres



Central Park was created by local residents in a grassroots effort to utilize a vacant parcel for public benefit in 1993. The leader of this effort was Tom Bristol, a local architect and advocate for improved access to parks and recreation. The land was purchased through a fund raising effort lead by the group and gifted to the City for a park. All of the improvements on the site are the result of Tom's efforts to seeks grants and sponsorships. The name "Central Park" was contributed by Tom and the group of volunteers.

Facility Key	
PG	Playground
SC	Sport Court
PF	Perimeter Fence

Proposed Renovations	
1	Consider permanent restrooms
2	Repair drinking fountain
3	Repair & modernize playground
4	Install Park Sign
5	Repair fencing
6	Consider Picnic Shelter
7	Resurface Sport Court



PROPOSED PARK EXPANSION

The PROS Need Assessment identifies a park service level gap of 13.5-acres currently. Chewelah has 5-acres of parks per capita and a service level goal of 10-acres per capital. The service level gap is discussed in detail in Chapter 7. When considering adding 13.5-acres of parks over time, it is equally important to locate these new facilities strategically in the following underserved neighborhoods:

1. Chewelah South – Southwest Neighborhood
2. Chewelah South – Southeast Neighborhood
3. Chewelah North – Entire Neighborhood

Park Expansion

Fig. 8

Year	Facility	Ownership	Type	Acres	Potential	Combined	Goal
1903	Everette Jenne Park	City	Community	8		8	
1993	Central Park	City	Neighborhood	0.5		0.5	
2007	Pinebrook Disk golf	City	Neighborhood	5		4.9	
Potential Parks	Chewelah Creek Park	City	Pocket		0.25	0.25	
	North Hill Park	Private	Neighborhood		3	3	
	Railroad Park	Private / City	Neighborhood		2	2	
	Teen Adventure Park	City	Special Use		0	0	
	Triangle DNR Park	DNR	Pocket		0.12	0.12	
	Youth Sports Complex	City	Special Use		6	6	
				13.5	11.37	24.77	

This plan proposes to add six new parks to meet this demand adding 11.5-acres over the next 6-years. Adding these additional facilities would double the current maintenance expense. These sites are currently under public and private ownership. Publicly owned land is ideal to avoid the expense of purchasing private land. Each site is described and includes a conceptual site plan.

- Chewelah Creek Park Page 26
- North Hill Park Page 27
- Railroad Park Page 28
- Teen Adventure Park Page 29
- Triangle DNR Park Page 30
- Youth Sports Complex Page 31

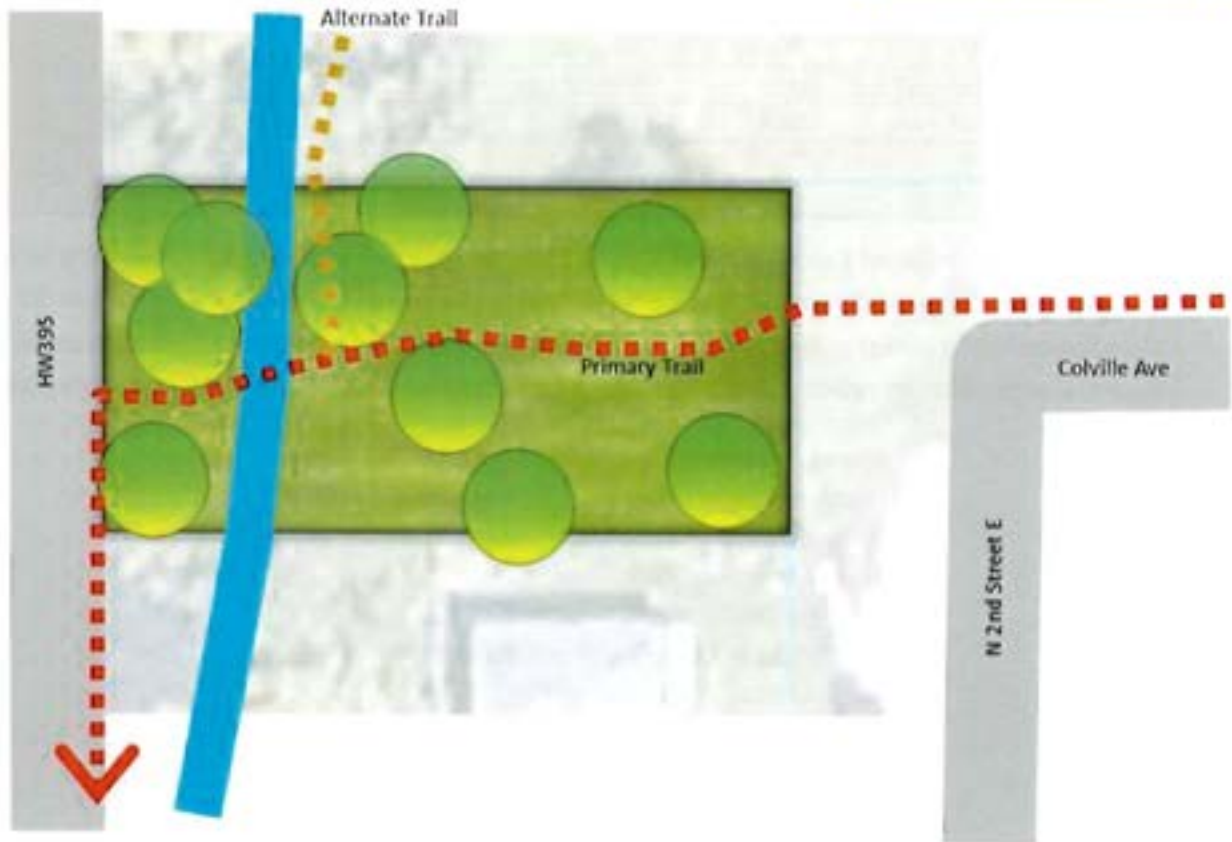
Chewelah Creek Park - Concept

Pocket Park - .25 acres



Chewelah Creek Park is technically a street right-of-way for Colville Ave extension to HW395. The park will function as a wayside and passthrough for the trail system and a passive picnic area. There are plans to create a paved recreation trail through the park and connect to the HW395 walkway and bike lanes.

Proposed Improvements	
1	Create park sign
2	Develop paved trails
3	Install pedestrian bridge
4	Install garbage can
5	Install trail marker

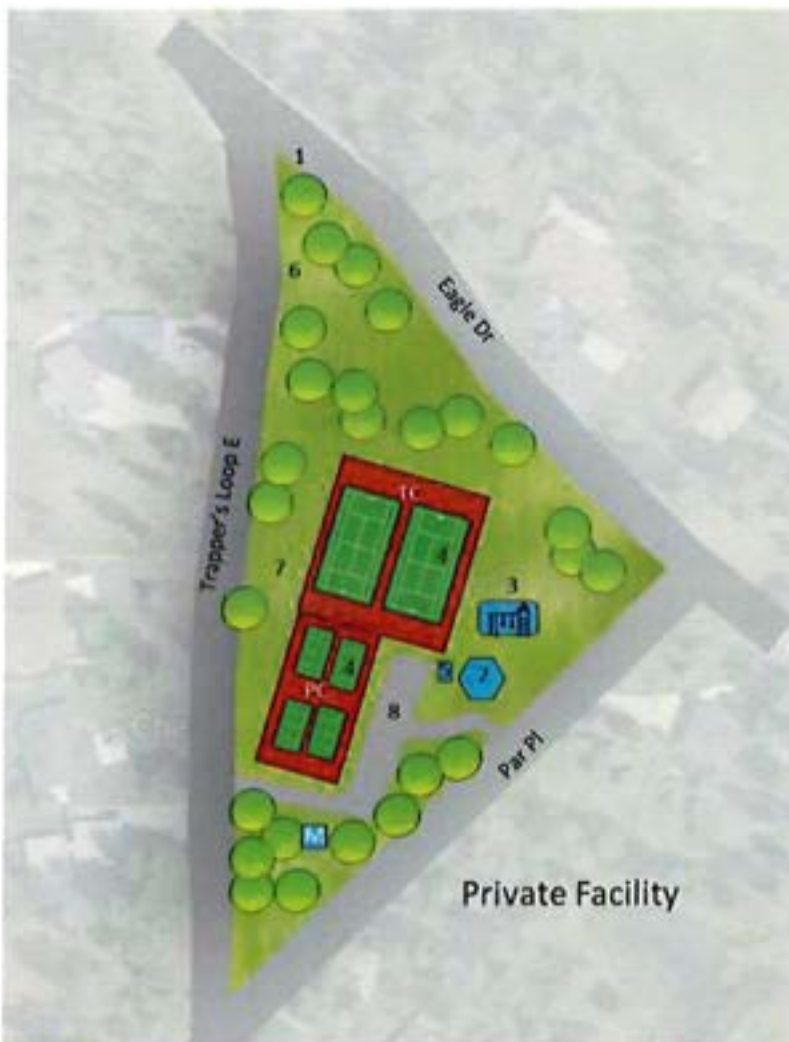


North Hill Park - Concept

Neighborhood Park - 3 acres



Chewelah North is a neighborhood that is geographically separated from Chewelah South by a distance of approximately four miles. This area has a population of approximately 900, centered around the 32-hole Chewelah Golf Course and Country Club formed in 1976. Chewelah North has no public park within its boundary and is designated as a "park-deprived" community. The closest park is Everett Jenne Park four miles to the south. The golf course owns a 3-acre parcel that was originally intended to be location for a members only swimming pool to managed by the home owners association. Over time, the plan for a swimming pool was changed to accommodate two-tennis courts and four-pickleball courts for association members. The recommendation of this plan is that the City engage the golf course community regarding ownership and management of this site to potentially be designated as a public park under the management of the City, and to make the proposed improvements over time.



Proposed Improvements	
1	Create Park Sign
2	Consider Picnic Shelter
3	Install Playground
4	Resurface Courts
5	Consider future restrooms
6	Install Landscape
7	Install Irrigation
8	Improve Parking

Facility Key	
TC	2 Tennis Courts
PC	4 Pickleball Courts
M	Maintenance Shed



Railroad Park - Concept

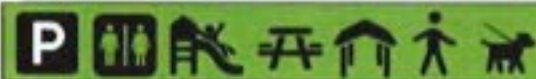
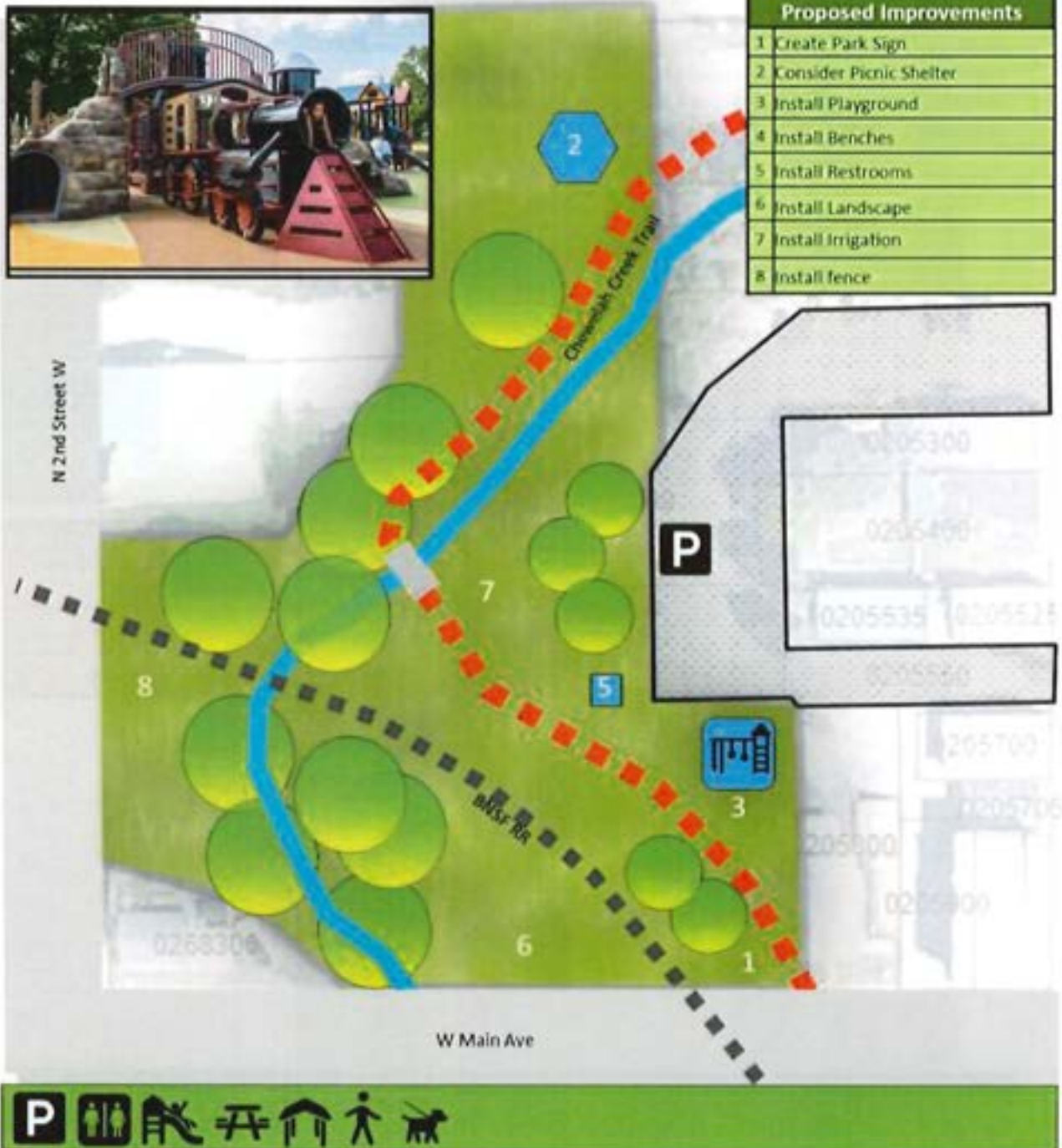
Neighborhood Park - 2 acres



Railroad Park is a concept to create a neighborhood park near the downtown district of Chewelah. This location is ideal for a park with the Chewelah Creek at its center and the future trail system planned to follow the creek. The City owns portions of this area and the other property appear to be willing to collaborate. Permission will be required from BNSF Railroad to proceed.



Proposed Improvements	
1	Create Park Sign
2	Consider Picnic Shelter
3	Install Playground
4	Install Benches
5	Install Restrooms
6	Install Landscape
7	Install Irrigation
8	Install fence



Teen Adventure Park - Concept



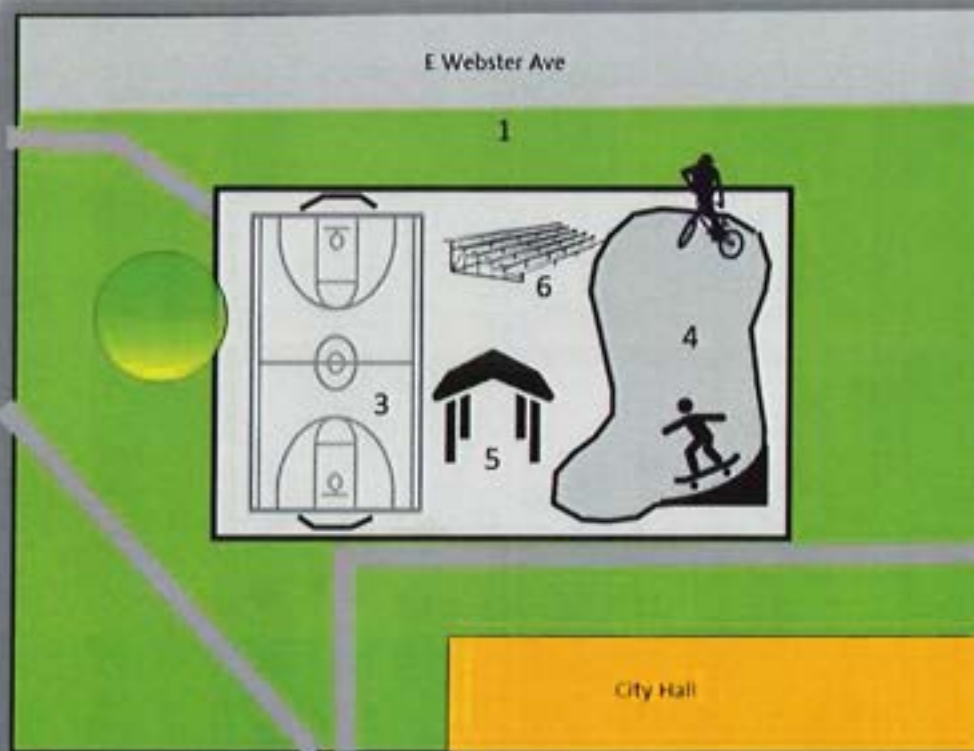
Teen Recreation Facility

The concept for an outdoor Teen Adventure Park is to restore the former Skate Park with new elements and broaden the potential uses for the site to include a sports court that could accommodate basketball, hockey-ball, arena soccer, BMX biking, and skateboarding. The concept below utilizes the existing concrete and incorporates raised skate and BMX ramps. Also proposed is to eliminate the winter site use for ice skating due to difficulties of managing ice in a facility without artificial refrigeration. Prior attempts to create a natural ice rink are labor intensive and have resulted in inconsistent results and poor ice conditions.



Proposed Improvements

1	Create park sign
2	Create uses rules
3	Install sport court
4	Install raised ramps
5	Install shelter
6	Install bleachers



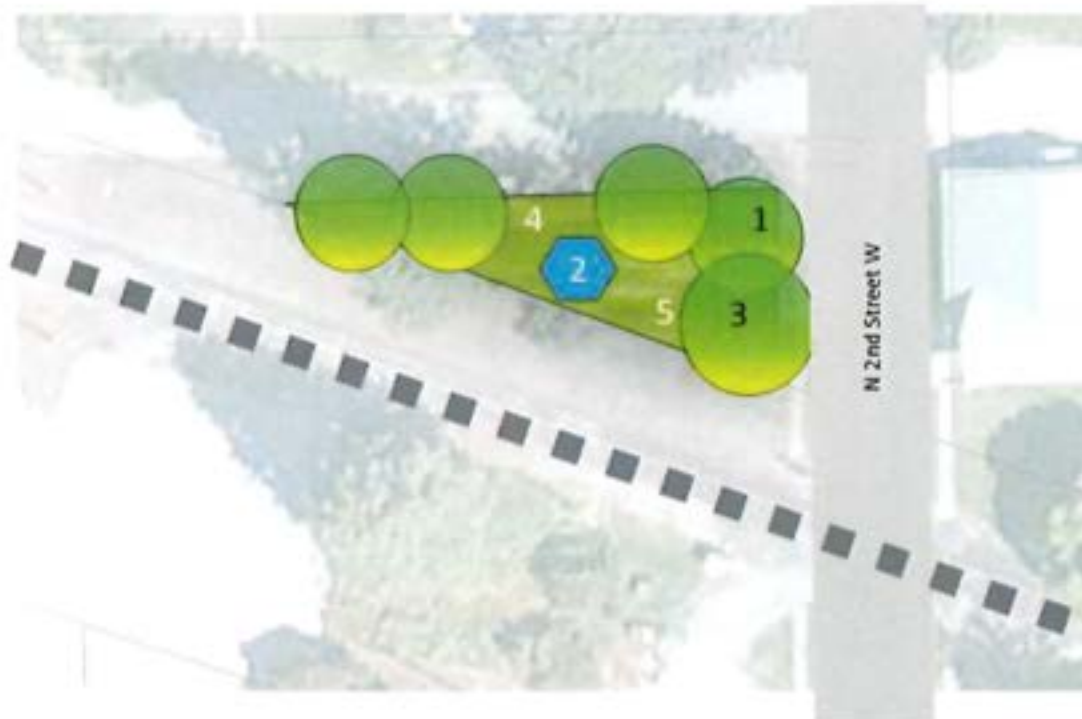
Triangle DNR Park - Concept

Pocket Park .12 acres



The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) currently owns a small parcel on N 2nd St W, one block north of W Main Ave. Previously this was the site of an old cabin that was an outpost for DNR services stationed in CoVille. DNR no longer uses the site and is willing to transfer it to the City of Chewelah for public benefit. It is the recommendation of this plan to transfer the site to the City as an Pocket Park that would be beneficial for small neighborhood gatherings and beautification.

Proposed Renovations	
1	Install Park Sign
2	Consider Picnic Shelter
3	Install Benches
4	Install Landscape
5	Install Irrigation



Youth Sport Complex - Concept

Community Park - 6 acres



The Youth Sport Complex (YSC) is a special use park facility to accommodate soccer, Little League, Girls Softball and other youth turf sports (are in high demand). The only Little League Field in Chewelah is owned by a private party, making the future use of this field uncertain. Other youth sports utilize high school facilities and are not available during high demand times. Consolidating public youth sport onto a City owned complex avoids school conflicts and allows for future growth of youth programs. There are three sites under consideration for the YSC. The site below is a City owned site adjacent to the City cemetery. Other available sites will be considered prior to final site selection.



PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

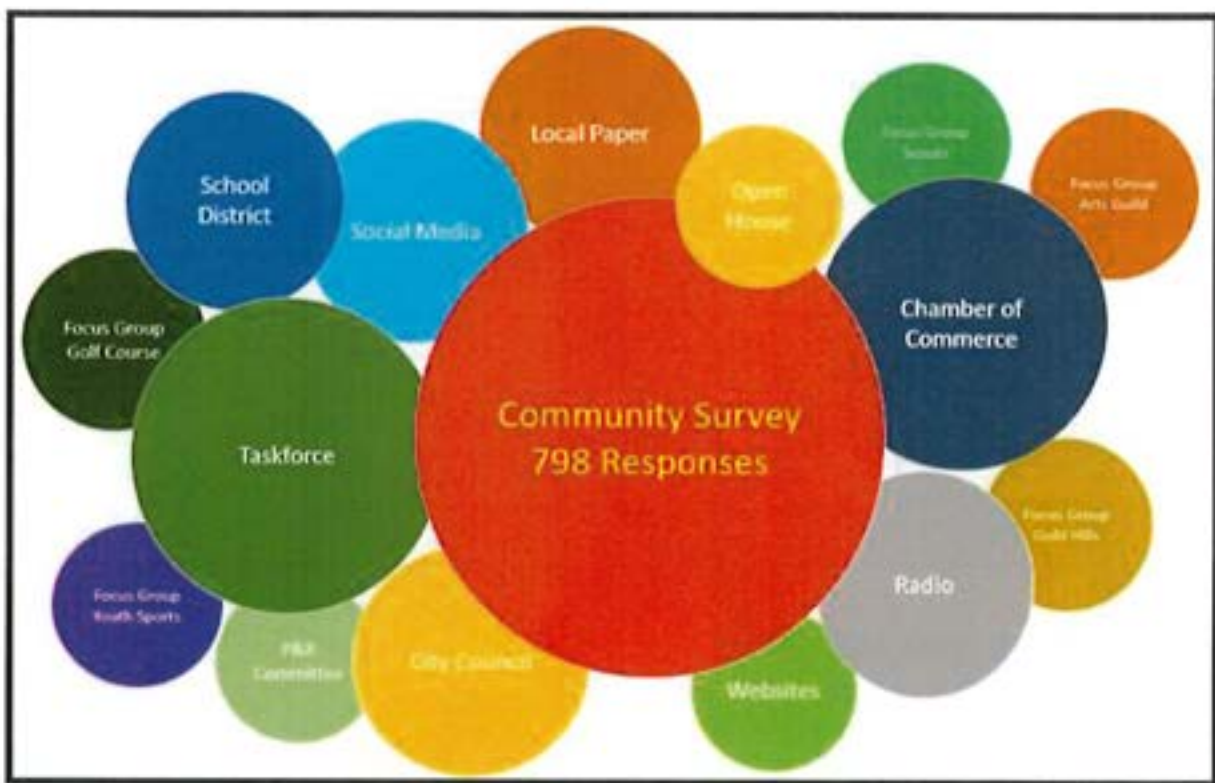
Mayor's Taskforce for Parks and Recreation

Mayor Greg McCunn was elected in 2022 in part due to his pledge to provide youth opportunities in Chewelah. The steady decline in school enrollment and loss of the City swimming pool and skate park are alarming trends for a community that is interested in growth, opportunity, and thriving economy. As it relates to Parks and Recreation, Mayor McCunn has chosen to make "livability" a key pillar in a prospering Chewelah. The appearance and function of parks facilities is critical in this effort.

To guide this planning effort, Mayor McCunn has appointed a 20-member Parks and Recreation Taskforce. Each member represents a variety of interests including health care, school district, business, chamber of commerce, youth programs, and more. The Taskforce met monthly starting in for nine months to provide direction and guidance on the PROS planning process and outcomes. This first-ever Chewelah PROS Plan is their product.

Public Engagement

The strength of this PROS Plan is its public engagement. The strategy for engagement has been to utilize all available groups and methods as represented in the chart below. Bubble size represents the relative percentage of engagement volume.



Engagement Strategy

Fig. 9

The public engagement plan was developed in advance of the project and expanded as the interest groups and opportunities became available. The Comprehensive Outreach Plan is outlined as follows:

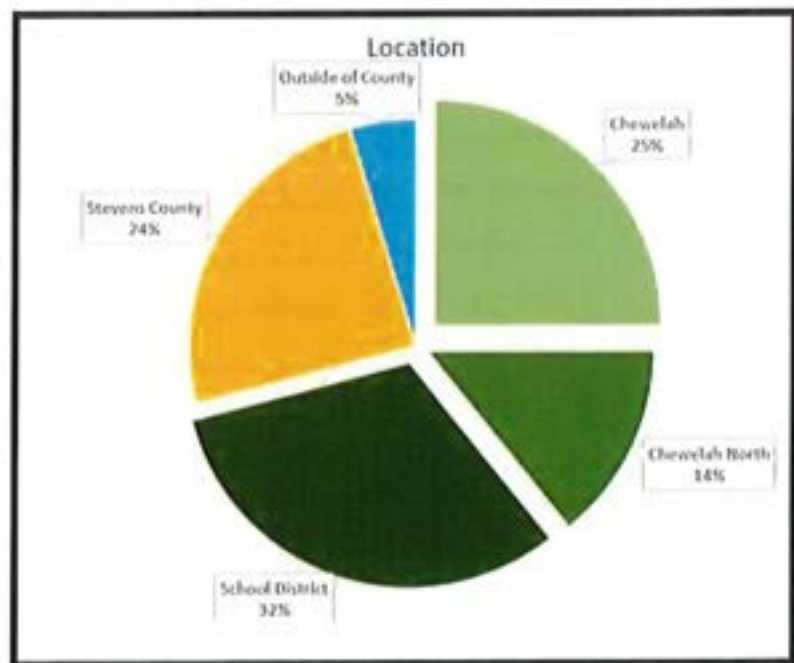
- 798 Survey Responses
- 25 Focus Group discussions
- 10 Press releases
- 9 Taskforce meetings
- 6 Radio interviews
- 6 Council reports
- 3 Council Parks and Recreation Committee meetings
- 1 Open House
- * Ongoing social media and website postings

Community Survey

The Needs Assessment relies on the expressed recreation desires from the community survey. The survey consisted of 15 questions specifically designed to identify program interests, facility desires, and gaps in access to recreation in Chewelah. The survey was available for three months from April 1 through June 30, 2023. A minimum sample size of 4% or 108 surveys was the initial target response. However, the three-month total was 798 or 33% of Chewelah's population. The overwhelming response was a result of ongoing marketing efforts to encourage local participation, ease of access to the survey, and general interest in expanding recreation access in Chewelah.

Approximately 66% of the responses came from within the PRSA or school district boundary. While about 39% came from within the municipal boundary. Since the purpose of the survey is to identify recreation needs from within the service population, all of the data is considered to identify need trends. Location did not seem to have an effect on the recreational patterns or desires.

The summary of survey responses is included in the appendix and specific responses are addressed by category within the PROS sections.



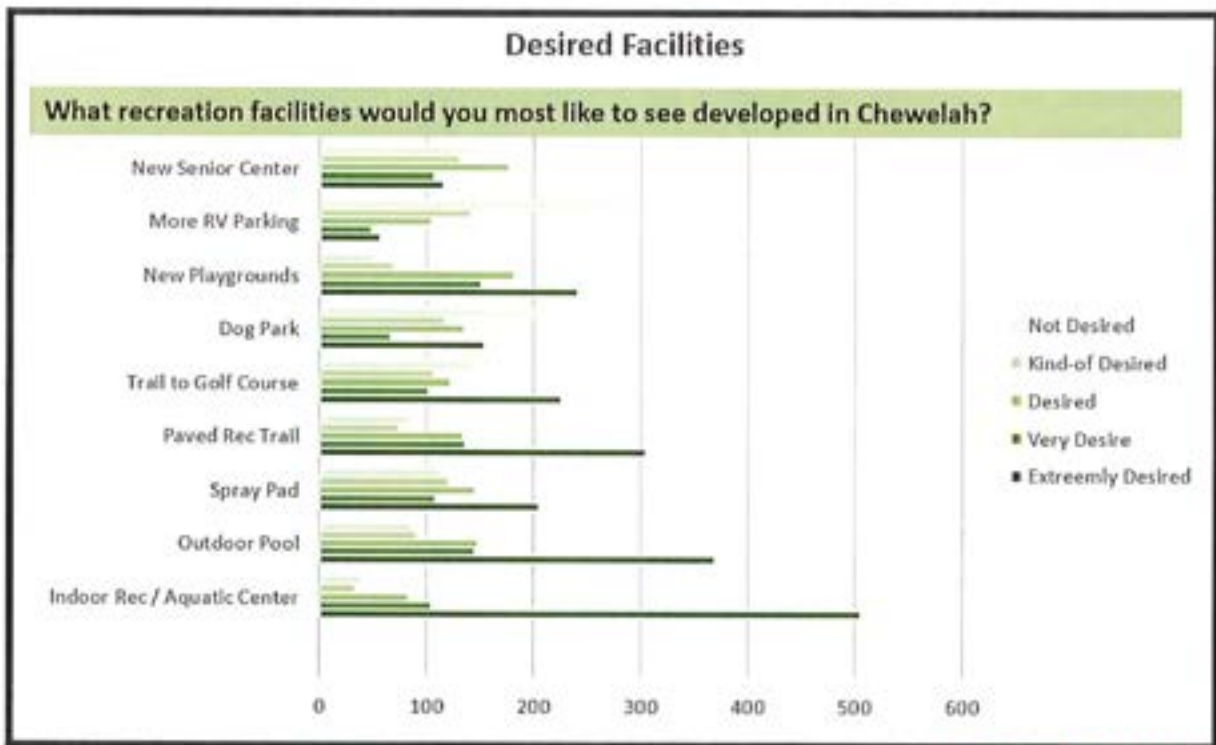
Survey Response
No. 2

For the purpose of this plan, the overall survey data has been collected and organized into categories. The recreation facilities most desired in Chewelah represent high demand and interest. The top four recreation facility categories are:

Most Desired Facilities

1. Recreation / Aquatic Center (Page 41)
2. Paved recreation trails (Page 45)
3. Spray Pad (Page 41)
4. New/Improved Playgrounds (Page 22,28)

Aquatics, either indoor, outdoor, or splash pad have led all desired categories. This was anticipated due to the loss of the City’s swimming pool in 2013. The corresponding recommendation for an aquatic facility is addressed fully in the Rec / Aquatic Center section. Trails development is the second most desired facility and is addressed fully in the Trails section. The Spray Pad is addressed in the Recreation / Aquatic Center section. And New Playgrounds are addressed in the Proposed Park Expansion section.



Survey Response
No. 3

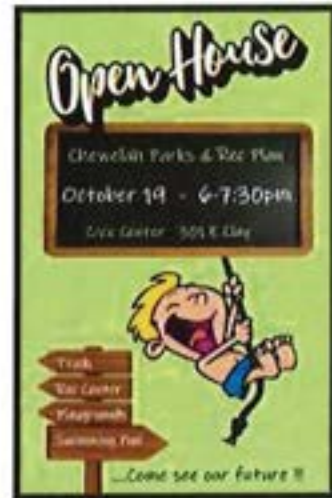
Media Engagement

Press releases have been a significant tool in public education regarding the PROS Plan and specific finds throughout the study. Press releases were sent to local and regional newspapers and radio stations. Copies of the press releases are included in the appendix.

Focus Groups

Focus groups have been the primary face-to-face activity for public outreach. Topics have varied depending on the interest of each group selected. Twenty-five focus group discussions have included:

- Chewelah Lions 2 presentations
- Chamber of Commerce 4 presentations
- Chewelah School District 1 presentations
- Chewelah Arts Guild 1 presentations
- Chewelah Valley Land Trust 1 presentations
- Chewelah Golf Course 2 presentations
- Chewelah Kiwanis 1 presentations
- City Council 4 presentations
- Council Parks & Rec 3 presentations
- Chewelah Youth Sports 4 presentations
- Chewelah Rec Association 2 presentations



Open House

To provide public interaction with the recommendations resulting from 9 months of work by the Taskforce. The Open House was held on October 19th at 6pm to share recommendation and collect public feedback.

Attending the open house were 120 community members who were encouraged to ask questions and leave comments at a variety of stations related to trails, park improvements, aquatics, and a park district. These comments have been added to the project public engagement record.

The exceptionally high level of public engagement has laid the groundwork for the implementation stage included in the PROS Plan.



Open House

Pic. 14

The public response has been enthusiastic and will pay dividends when Chewelah seeks to establish a Parks and Recreation District.



Everett Jenne Park

Pic. 15

DEMAND AND NEED ASSESSMENT

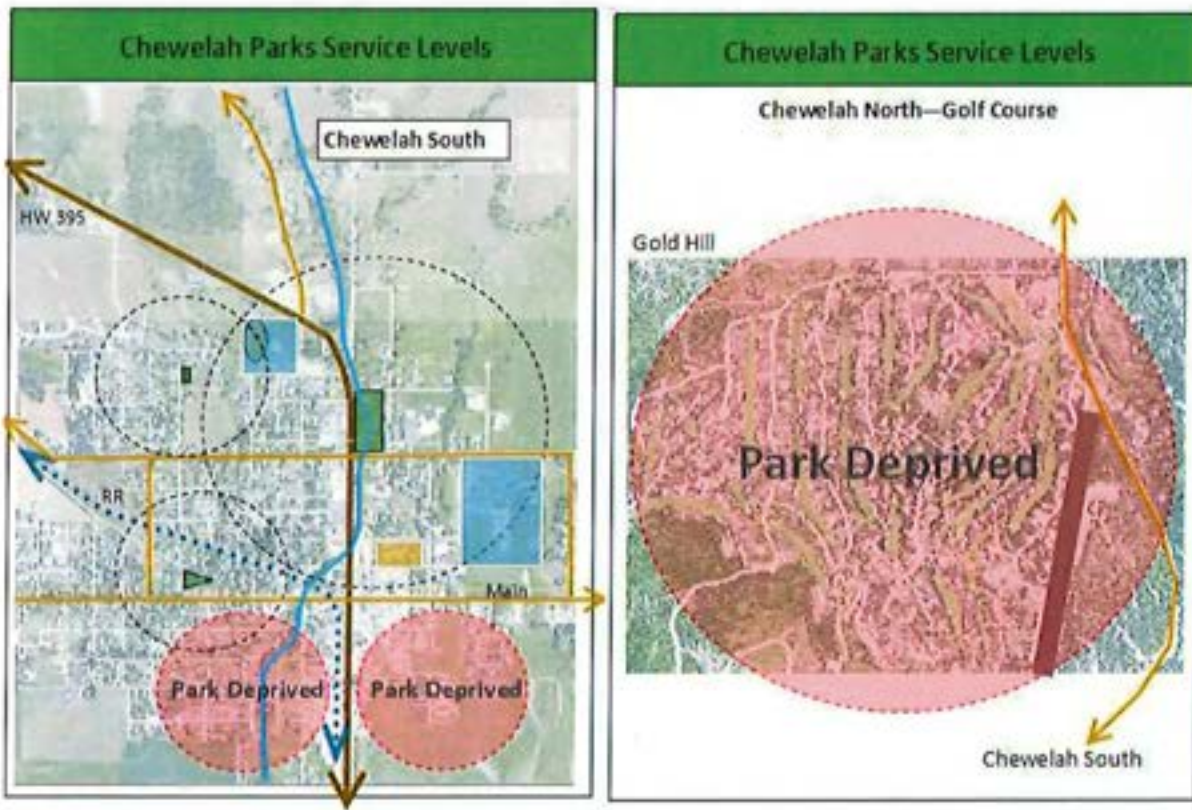
Chewelah has service level gaps regarding total park acreage, types of parks, and distribution of parks. The following park classifications are described along with the level of service standard. New park facilities are proposed where there are current service level gaps.

For the purpose of identifying Level of Service gaps, this plan considers two populations. The City of Chewelah at 2,700 in 2023, and the Parks and Recreation Service Area (PRSA) with a population of 5,500. The PRSA is the Chewelah School District boundary. The City of Chewelah is approximately 3-square miles. The PRSA is 45-square miles with the City of Chewelah centered in the middle. Chewelah serves as a center of commerce, postal services, and the school district. As a result, the residents within the school district generally identify as a "Chewelah resident" residing in the 99109-zip code, even though they may live outside of the municipal boundary of Chewelah.

Since Chewelah's park and recreation facilities serve this larger population, this plan considers both City and PRSA populations. The demands within the PRSA place stress on the facilities centered in Chewelah. The larger PRSA recreation demand is valid since residents in the larger area utilize Chewelah's facilities. The question regarding PRSA funding support is explored further in Chapter 10, Parks and Recreation District Feasibility.

Facility Demand Formula

$$\text{Need} - \text{Inventory} = \text{Demand}$$




Park Deprived

Fig. 10

The formula for determining current and future park demand is to identify existing Parks and Recreation facilities, identify the need for facilities, resulting in a "demand" or "gap" in the Level of Service. Chewelah has established an overall park standard of 10-acres per population of 1,000 residents. At 2,700, Chewelah needs 27-acres of parks to meet the demand. The current total of park acreage is 13.5-acres leaving a service gap of 13.5-acres. In other words, Chewelah has half of its current demand of parks. As Chewelah grows, this gap will widen without new facilities being created over time. Several new facilities are proposed within the underserved neighborhoods to mitigate this demand gap.

Mini Park:	No Size or location standard	
National Standard	1/4 to 1 acre / 1,000. Service zone less than ¼ mile.	
Description	Used to address limited, isolated, or passive recreational needs.	
Location Criteria	Depends upon land use and available property	
Size Criteria	Typically 2,500 sq. ft. - 1 acre.	
Chewelah currently has no Mini-park. *Proposed are three Mini-parks, Chewelah Creek, DNR, and Downtown.		

Neighborhood Park:	5 acres/1000 population;	
National Standard	5 acres / 1,000. Distance of ¼ to ½ mile.	
Description	Neighborhood Park remains the basic unit of the park system and serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. Focus is on informal active and passive recreation.	
Location Criteria	Distance of less than ½ mile and uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.	
Size Criteria	Minimum 3 acres. Ideal 5 - 10 acres.	
Chewelah currently has two Neighborhood Parks, Pinebrook and Central Parks. *Proposed are two additional parks, Railroad and North Hill Parks.		

Community Park:	6 acres / 1,000 population	
National Standard	6 acres / 1,000. Distance less than 3 miles.	
Description	Serves broader purpose than neighborhood parks. Focus is on meeting community-based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.	
Location Criteria	Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves two or more neighborhoods and less than 3 miles in distance.	
Size Criteria	Minimum of 6 acres. Ideal 10 – 20 acres.	
Chewelah currently has one Community Park, Everett Jenne Memorial Park. *Proposed is one additional Community Park, Youth Sports Complex.		

Park Distribution: ½ Mile service area



National Standard Description	½ mile distance to a park facility. It is ideal to provide park access within walking distance of any residence.
Location Criteria	Generally ½ mile distance.
Size Criteria	None

Chewelah currently has five neighborhoods, three are underserved.
 *Proposed are three new parks to served these "park deprived" neighborhoods.

When examining recreation facility demand other than parks, the survey results generally align with the nation standards for recreation facilities. For example, the single most requested recreation facility is a swimming pool. The national standard for swimming pools is 4,500sf for Chewelah's population of 2,700 and a PRSA need of 9,000sf. The lack of a public swimming pool creates a large gap in the service level.

			City of Chewelah					PRSA				
			2024	2024	2024	2030	2030	2024	2024	2024	2030	2030
Parks	Nat Standard	Chewelah LOS	Inventory	Need	Demand	Need	Demand	Inventory	Need	Demand	Need	Demand
Mini Park	5-1 / 1,000	none	0	1	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0
Neighborhood Park	1-4 / 1,000	3.5 / 1,000	5.5	10	4	14	13	5.45	25	19.55	27	21.55
Community Park	5-8 / 1,000	6 / 1,000	8	16	8.5	17	9.5	8	33	25	35	27
Total Park Acres	10-20 acres	10 acres / 1,000	13.6	27	13.6	31	23.6	13.45	60	44.55	62	48.65
Open Space	none	none	20	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	0
<i>Population projection (intermediate 2% Annually)</i>			2,700			3,000		5,500			6,100	
			City of Chewelah					PRSA				
			2024	2024	2024	2030	2030	2024	2024	2024	2030	2030
Indoor Facilities	Nat Standard	Chewelah LOS	Inventory	Need	Demand	Need	Demand	Inventory	Need	Demand	Need	Demand
Community Center	none	1,500sf / 1,000	5,000sf	4,500sf	0	5000sf	0	5,000sf	10,000sf	5,000sf	11,000sf	6,000sf
Aquatic Center	none	1,500sf / 1,000	0sf	4,500sf	4,500sf	5,000sf	0	0sf	9,000sf	9,000sf	10,000sf	10,000sf
			City of Chewelah					PRSA				
			2024	2024	2024	2030	2030	2024	2024	2024	2030	2030
Outdoor Recreation	Nat Standard	Chewelah LOS	Inventory	Need	Demand	Need	Demand	Inventory	Need	Demand	Need	Demand
Baseball	1 / 5,000	1 / 3,000	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	1	1	1	1
BMX Bike	none	1 / 10,000	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1
Golf Course (9 holes)	none	1 / 10,000	3	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	0
Pickleball	1 / 1,000	1 / 1,000	0	3	3	3	3	0	6	6	7	7
Soccer	1 / 10,000	1 / 5,000	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	1	1	1	1
Softball	1 / 5,000	1 / 5,000	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	1	1	1	1
Basketball Outdoor	1 / 5,000	1 / 5,000	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	1	1	1	1
Skateboard	none	1 / 10,000	0	1	1	1	0	1	2	1	2	1
Spray-pad	None	1 / 10,000	0	1	1	1	0	1	2	1	2	1
Tennis courts	1 / 2,000	1 / 3,000	0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	1	1	1	1
Outdoor Volleyball	1 / 5,000	1 / 3,000	0	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	1	1	1	1
Trails	none	25 miles / 1,000	0	0.75	0.75	3.2	1.6	0	1.5	1.5	2	2

Service Levels Strategy

Fig. 11

The proposed recreation facilities group many of the high demand activities into a few multi-use facilities. One example being the Youth Sports Complex which will accommodate soccer, little league, softball, and potential outdoor volleyball. The proposed Teen Adventure Park uses a similar model to include a sport-court for basketball, mini-soccer, skateboards, BMX, and parkour. This strategy allows Chewelah to check several high demand activities in a single multi-use facility.

Civic Center Phased Approach

The most requested recreation facility for Chewelah is a swimming pool. This is not surprising given the loss of the outdoor municipal swimming pool in 2013. When considering the replacement options for Chewelah, a year-round, indoor facility is the most feasible for several reasons. A year-round facility expands the use from a three-month season to a twelve-month season. A year-round facility can be equipped with garage door sides to allow for an outdoor experience in the summer. This plan will examine only the indoor option.

The most feasible and cost-effective approach is to combine fitness, a gymnasium, and aquatics (natatorium) within a centrally managed facility.

This model is a YMCA like facility that has the most marketability and utilization potential. The YMCA has popularized and repeated this model successfully in larger metropolitan areas like Spokane where the population size supports this investment.

The minimum market size is 50,000 people, much larger than Chewelah's population of 2,700 and PRSA of 5,500.



Pool Concept

Pic. 16

When applying this model to Chewelah, an interesting option rises to the surface. The City currently owns the Civic Center located adjacent to the Library, Fire Department, Police Department, and other City services. The Civic Center was originally an elementary school built in the 1950's and repurposed in the mid 1980's as the City Hall and other government services. The gymnasium of the Civic Center has been used for gatherings and community events up to

about 300 people. The existing gym functions well and could be expanded upon to add a fitness room and a natatorium making a Recreation / Aquatic Center (RAC) facility ideally located in the center of the City.

The City has received a \$1.5M CDBG grant to renovate the existing area to improve the ADA accessibility within the Center in 2024.



Fitness Concept

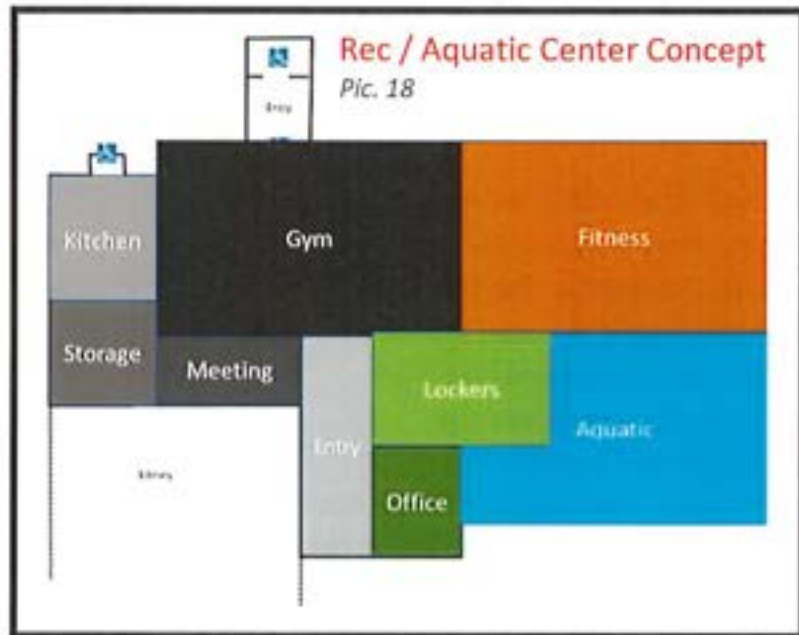
Pic. 17

Planned improvements include a new parking lot, ADA restrooms, kitchen improvements, and storage. This investment is significant and can be the initial phase of the "YMCA model." The remaining phases include a fitness room, lockers, natatorium and office.

"Our Civic Center will be a fantastic resource for Chewelah and future programs. Current utilization has been minimal due to the access limitations and the fact that it was an elementary school gymnasium and locker rooms."

- Mayor Gregory McCunn

This concept relies on the availability of the adjacent fire station. The station currently houses both fire services for City and Fire District #4. This shared use offers many mutual benefits however, the existing space is undersized and below use standards. This condition creates the motivation to assess the future needs for Chewelah's combined fire services. Relocating the Fire Department to an improved site would make available the existing structure for potential as a fitness area for the RAC. The cost of a new 17,000sf facility is approximately \$20M. The estimated cost of adding to the Civic Center is \$5-6M making this a much more affordable and achievable development option.



The operating and management requirements for the RAC are substantial. Professional level staff are required to operate specialized fitness and aquatic programs. The revenue potential for Chewelah would return about 50-75% of the operating costs of the RAC.

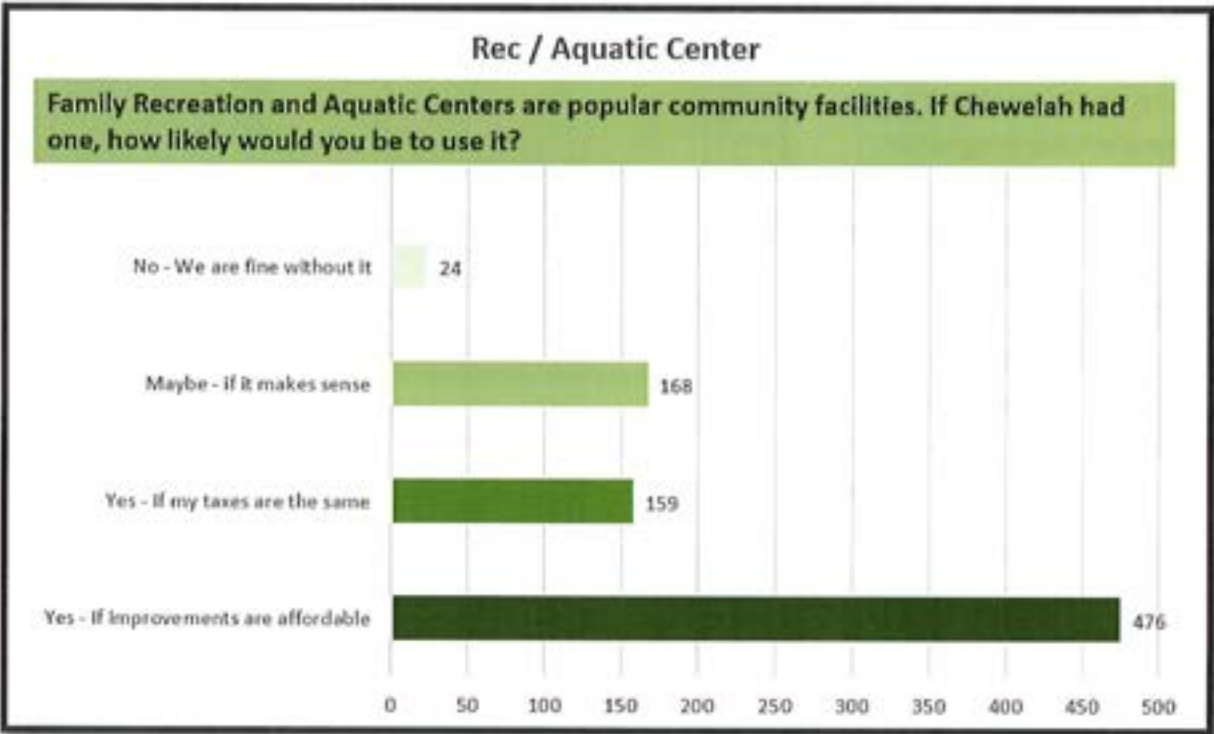


Gym Concept
Pic. 19

The additional benefits provided by professional staff are the ability to offer a comprehensive program of parks and recreation services. The RAC becomes the location to register participants for youth and adult sports, events at the RAC and other park facilities. The additional benefits include park system management and applications to State RCO funding for the capital improvements listed in this plan.



The recommendation of this plan is that additional revenue sources are required to successfully develop and manage a RAC. The most available source option is to establish a park district



centered from Chewelah. That option and implementation strategy is discussed in detail in Chapter 7 of this PROS Plan.

Survey Response
No. 4

The capital requirements for a RAC are significant for both a “renovation approach” at an estimated \$6.5M versus a “build-new” approach at \$19.5M. These are preliminary planning estimates based on similar facilities. The Civic Center renovation option is a phased plan with initial phase being renovated gymnasium and offices in 2025. This leaves the fitness and aquatics as future phases and grant support.

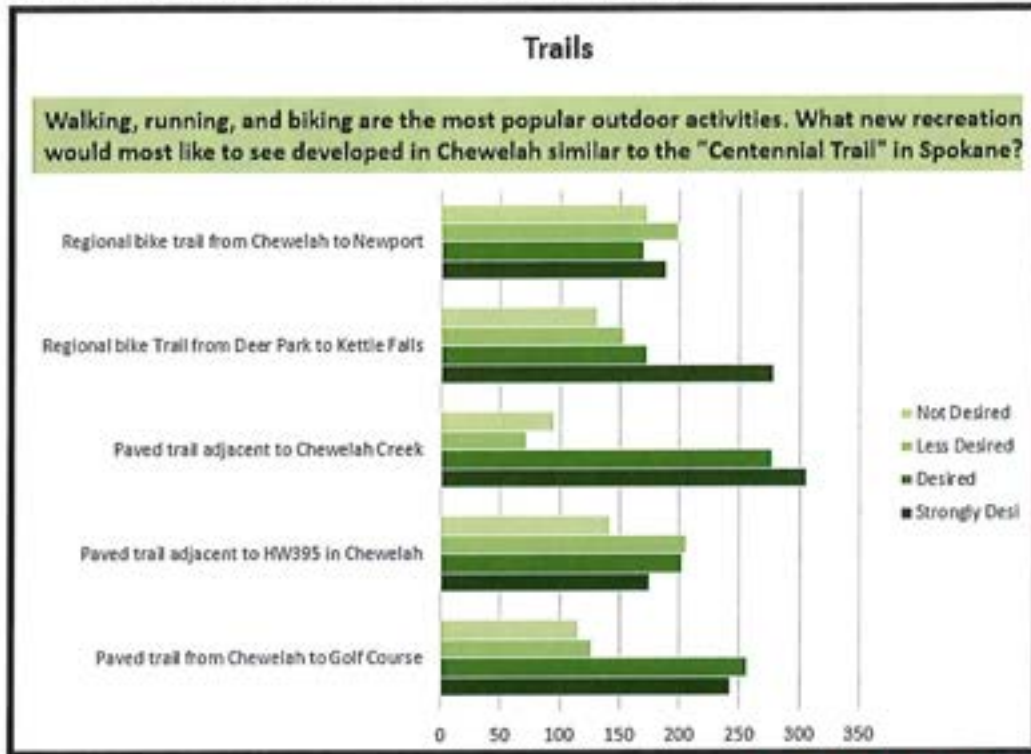
Capital Estimate	Land	Parking	Fitness	Other	Gym	Aquatic	Total
New Rec / Aquatic Center	\$500k	\$1M	\$3M	\$3M	\$7M	\$5M	\$19.5M
Renovate Civic Center	\$0	\$0	\$1 M	\$500k	\$0	\$5M	\$6.5M

This PROS Plan recommends the phased approach to renovating the Civic Center as the operations base for the Parks and Recreation Department for the PRSA as the initial phase. Phase II will identify the future home for the Chewelah Fire Services and renovate the existing Fire Station into a public fitness program. Phase III will be to construct the aquatic program as the final element of the Rec / Aquatic Center. The next steps will be to develop a business plan and implementation plan for a Parks and Recreation District to operate the Rec / Aquatic Center.

RAC Capital
Fig. 12

TRAILS

Trails represent the second most desired recreation facility after “swimming pool.” The established level of service is .25 miles per 1,000 people. Chewelah currently has no trail system in its inventory. However, recreation trails have been identified in the City’s Comprehensive Plan and the Sub-area Plan as a priority. Based on Chewelah’s population of 2,700, the current demand is for .75 miles of trails. This plan will focus a paved multi-modal trail system of 10’ wide and separated from traffic where possible.



The survey results confirm a strong desire to have a trail system adjacent to Chewelah Creek. Chewelah will prioritize a south to north orientation located near the creek where possible. This route will be the main trunk allowing alternate connecting routes over time.

Survey Response
No. 5

Trail Route

Trail development within Chewelah has been identified in the City’s Comprehensive Plan and the Sub-area Plan. The goal being to provide a recreation trail from the Everett Jenne Park near Chewelah Creek to downtown as a Type II. It is ideal to have trails be separated from traffic and accommodate multi-modal non-motorized forms of transportation at a width of 10-12 feet.

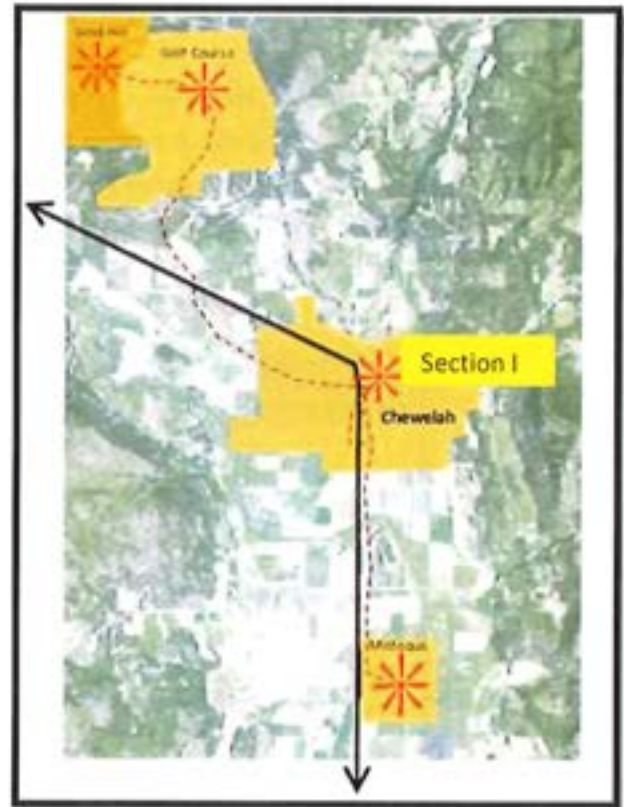
The PROS Plan expands upon this concept to make a north/south connection from Mistequa Casino through Chewelah South making a connection to Chewelah North. This desire comes from enthusiastic support to have a trail system connecting the two separated north/south neighborhoods. The trail section from Chewelah South illustrates a route adjacent to the “Old

Highway” which is less conflicted than the Sand Canyon Road alternative, which has many more driveway intersecting. This route takes advantage of an old gravel pit still owned by the Washington Department of Transportation and gravel firebreak trails that climb up the grade to the golf cart trails at the Chewelah Golf Course.

The Old Hwy route has the difficult challenge of crossing Hwy 395 at a location where the speed limit is 60mph. This obstacle may become too significant to overcome making the Sand Canyon Road route the most viable. Either route would ultimately terminate at the Chewelah Golf Course and the Gold Hill BMX bicycle facility.

The route within Chewelah South from Everett Jenne Park to the south city limits proposes both primary and alternate routes. The primary route utilizes City right of way along 3rd Street East through Chewelah Creek Park, crossing Hwy 395 through Railroad Park and looping back to 3rd street at West King Street. The 3rd Street East route will continue south to Mistequa Casino adjacent to Hwy 395.

The alternate route essentially follows Chewelah Creek as a more passive walking route offering wayside for viewing and quiet enjoyment. This route can be a Type III trail with not intending to accommodate bicycles.



Trail Route
Pic. 22



Recreation Trail
Pic. 23

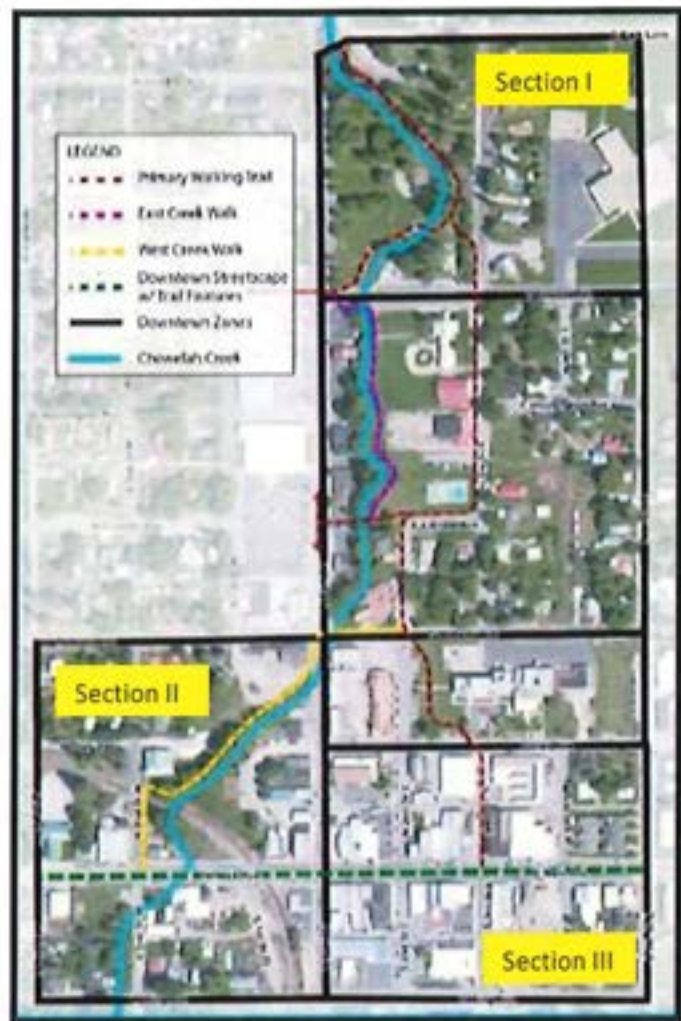
The Mistequa to Chewelah connection is supported by the Spokane Tribes which owns the Casino and Resort. The trail has the potential to provide

interpretive waysides intended to provide educational panels with content regarding the original people of the Colville Valley. This opportunity is highly received by trail advocates.

Also, worth noting is a planned street overlay project for Hwy 395 in 2025 by the Washington Department of Transportation. Early designs show bike lanes on both sides of Hwy 395. While this is helpful for alternative modes of transportation, it does not replace the public desire for a separated trail system near the creek.

Regional Trail System

There is a desire to have a regional trail system extending beyond Chewelah both north and south. Proposed is a regional trail system extending from Deer Park to Kettle Falls. This effort will require a multi-jurisdictional plan since no single agency has full jurisdiction of such a route. If RCO invites future planning grant programs, it is recommended that an application for route feasibility be conducted.



Trail Sections

Pic. 24

Trails:	1/4 mile of trail / 1,000 population
Description	Multipurpose trails located within greenways, parks and natural resource areas. Focus is on recreational value and harmony with natural environments.
Type I	Single-purpose, Separate/hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians or bicyclists/in-line skaters, 8 - 10 feet in width.
Type II	Multipurpose, hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians or bicyclists/in-line skaters, 8-10 feet in width.
Type III	Multipurpose / Equestrian, multipurpose plus 4 feet wide soft surface gravel shoulder or separated path for equestrian uses.
Type IV	Nature trails for pedestrians, hard or soft surface.

Recreation Programming

The survey response to “*availability of recreation programs,*” indicated that 90% felt a moderate to critical need for recreation programming. The current availability of recreation is provided by volunteer organization including the Chewelah Performing Arts and Cultural Arts (PACA), Scouts, Youth Soccer, Youth Basketball, Youth Softball, and Youth Little League. Like most volunteer organizations, leadership varies from year to year based on the capacity of each group. This creates an information challenge for most groups to get program information out to parents effectively. Social media has become the primary marketing tool for program information.

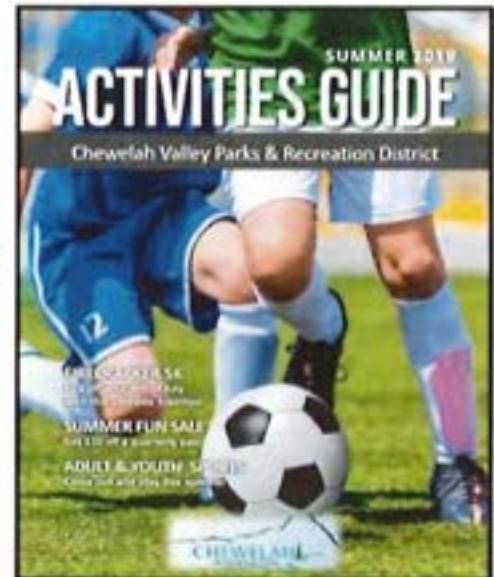


The PROS recommendation regarding recreation

programming is for the City to take a leadership role in programming. The City has the ability to initiate a year-round Parks and Recreation Program based from the Civic Center. By establishing a recreation office with regular hours, customers will have the ability to get current information on all programs and special events within Chewelah. The Civic Center is ideally located next to the public library offering related family services.

Producing an Activity Guide three times per year will facilitate registration to programs for all ages. The gymnasium, kitchen, and meeting room within the Civic Center offer a suitable base-of-operations for many recreation programs. Agreements for use of school facilities and the gymnasium owned by New Health can further support programs. The cost recovery for recreation services is generally 50% of staff costs reducing the overhead for staff.

**Survey Response
No. 6**



**Activity Guide
Pic. 25**

New programming may include:

- Summer Camps
- Tennis
- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Soccer
- Baseball
- Unlimited opportunities

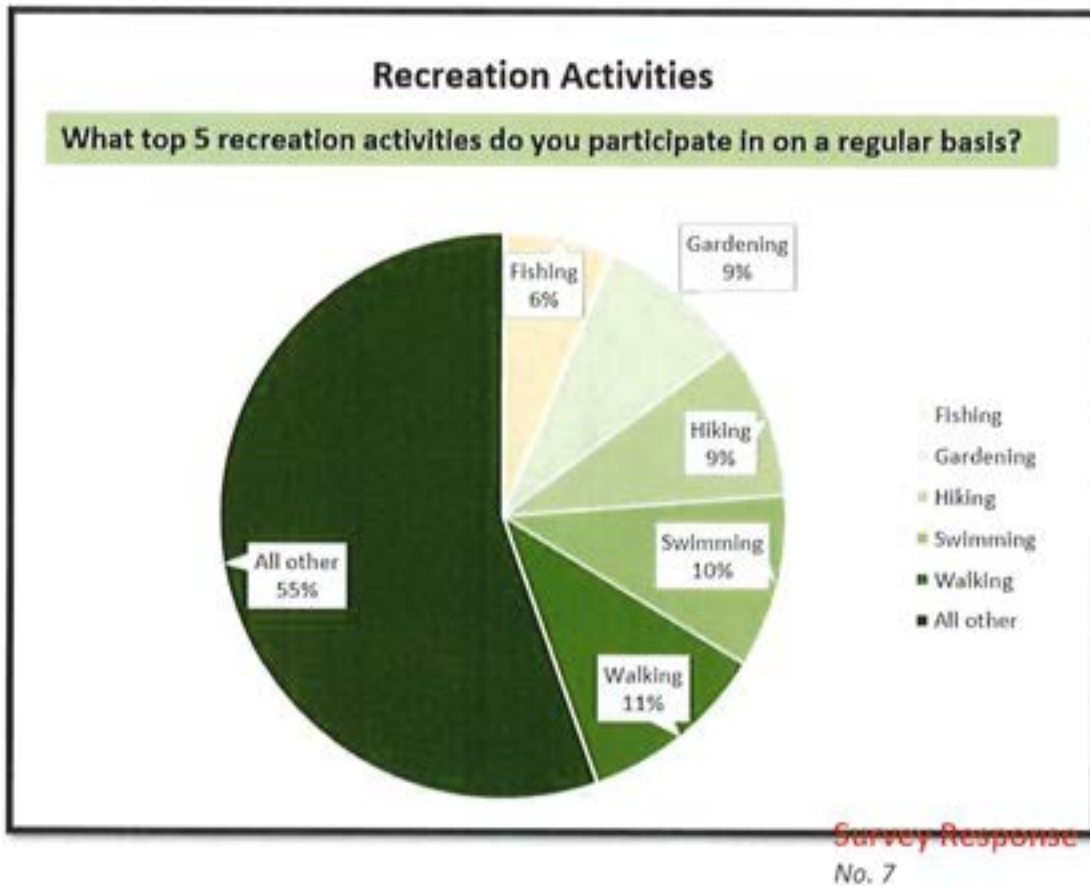
"Recreation is not a secondary concern for a democracy. It is a primary concern, for the kind of recreation a people make for themselves determines the kind of people they become and the kind of society they build."

- Harry Allen Overstreet



The primary goal for creating a recreation focus is to facilitate existing youth programs and to create new programming based on public interest. The facilitation effort will enhance the volunteer-based program's success by adding a stable access location for information and registration. Volunteer groups generally find it difficult to distribute timely information and register participants. Other considerations might include facility use, insurance, storage, and website-based registration. In other words, a key mission is to make volunteer groups more successful in their program management. The Civic Center is an ideal location for a Recreation Office and operations base for indoor programming.

The survey response to the *“Top 5 recreation activities that people participate in on a regular basis”* produced some interesting results. The largest categories are *“walking”* and *“hiking.”* This aligns with the national trend as well and is echoed in the desire for new trails. *“Swimming”* is also a large response category favoring of an indoor or outdoor swimming pool. *“Gardening”* and *“fishing”* are activities that do not produce new facility demands.



Over half of the 4,000 responses are for “Other” activities and are too varied to categorize effectively. The diversity of responses suggests that there are a variety of recreation interests in Chewelah. The recommendation of this plan is to consider all of the responses and organize new recreation programs to meet these interests. This is valuable information for recreation programs expansion in Chewelah.

Little League Case study

The case study examined is Chewelah Little League (LL). For decades the LL has successfully managed itself primarily on the dedicated field adjacent to the bowling alley. The Chewelah Recreation Association, a 501-C5 organization formed in 1938 owned the bowling alley and LL field until 2023 when it was sold to a private operator. The sale enabled the bowling alley to continue operating into the future. The LL program leases the field for \$1,500 per season, maintains the field, and pays for water and utilities. This places a financial burden on LL resulting in increased user fees and sponsorships to continue operation. The future of the LL field is now unsecured due to land transfer to private ownership. The LL program also utilizes school facilities for practices, games and tournaments on an "as-available" basis. This often results in LL schedule disruption as school programs take priority use "bumping" the scheduled LL use.

The LL leadership has expressed an interest in a new complex that would be a home for practices, games, and tournaments. The PROS Plan supports this effort and recommends a Youth Sports Complex (YSC) to accommodate baseball, softball, soccer, and other turf



YSC Concept
Pic. 27

sports. The YSC concept is illustrated fully on page 31. In this arrangement, the City would own the YSC as a city park as a home for all youth sports. This complex enhances the argument for Park District to seek funding and manage the complex as a recreation facility. The partnership would include maintenance and shared facility management for multiple uses. The LL would be relieved of the lease at the current field.

This case study relies on the creation of a Parks and Recreation District. Without additional resources, the City's General Fund cannot support the construction, management, or maintenance of the YSC. The YSC would function as a regional facility strengthening the argument for the Park District.

CHEWELAH VALLEY PARK & REC DISTRICT

Chewelah Valley Park District

The City of Chewelah has not considered the creation of a Park District previously. The State of Washington allows three types of Parks Districts:

1. Park and Recreation District (PRD)
2. Park and Recreation Service Area (PRSA)
3. Metropolitan Park District (MPD)

Each district type has similar authority and rules to operate once formed. More analysis is needed for Chewelah to type of park district that is best suited. In each case, a boundary must be established for the district. Once voted into existence a board of directors is established by vote to manage the district in accordance to RCW 36-69-010.

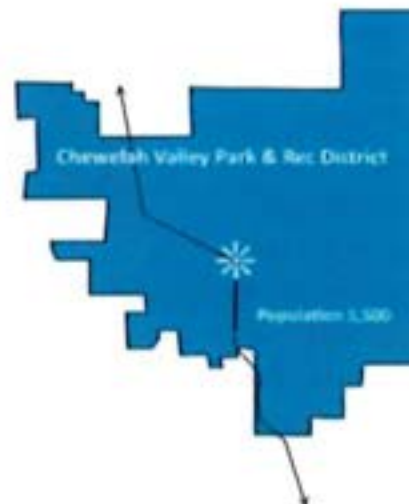
A logical boundary for the Park District would be the Chewelah School District 36 (CSD) boundary. The CSD population is 5,500 and an area of 45-square miles. Chewelah population is 2,700 and 3-square miles. This greater area distributes proposed operating and/or capital costs though a much larger tax base and lower cost per assessed value.

A Park District can apply for capital funds through the Recreation Conservation Office. The District may also propose levy for operating funds and bond measures for capital programs. Capital initiatives require a super majority vote of 60% or greater to enact. A Metropolitan Park District (MPD) has a permanent levy of \$.50 per \$1,000 AV for operating while the Park District and PRSA require a vote every 6-years allowing up to \$.60 per \$1,000 AV.

To establish a proposed budget, a district must first decide what they intend to accomplish and operate. Using the example of a Recreation / Aquatic Center, a comprehensive operating budget must be proposed. Additionally, a capital budget must be considered to expand the facility for fitness and aquatics. The capital funding could be through a bond or could be a pay-as-go approach through phasing the improvements.

Special Service Districts

- Arts District
- Cemetery District
- Park District
- Park & Recreation Service Area
- Metropolitan Park District
- Tourism District



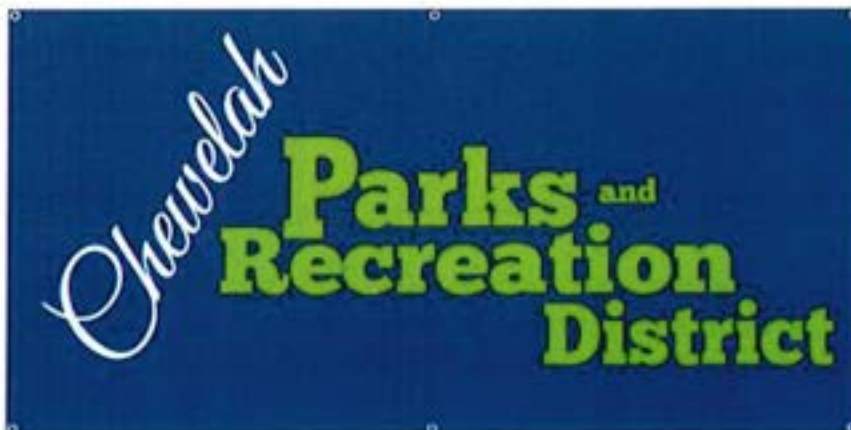
Park District Concept

Pic. 28

Park and Recreation District	Park and Recreation Service Area	Metropolitan Park District
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide leisure time activities and facilities and recreational facilities, of a nonprofit nature as a public service to the residents of the geographical areas included within their boundaries (RCW 36.69.010). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To finance, acquire, construct, improve, maintain, or operate any park, senior citizen activities center, zoo, aquarium, and, or recreational facilities as defined in RCW 36.69.010 which shall be owned or leased, and administered by a city or town, or park and recreation service area (RCW 36.68.400); To provide a higher level of park service (RCW 36.68.590). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide for the management, control, improvement, maintenance, and acquisition of parks, parkways, boulevards, and recreational facilities (RCW 35.61.010).

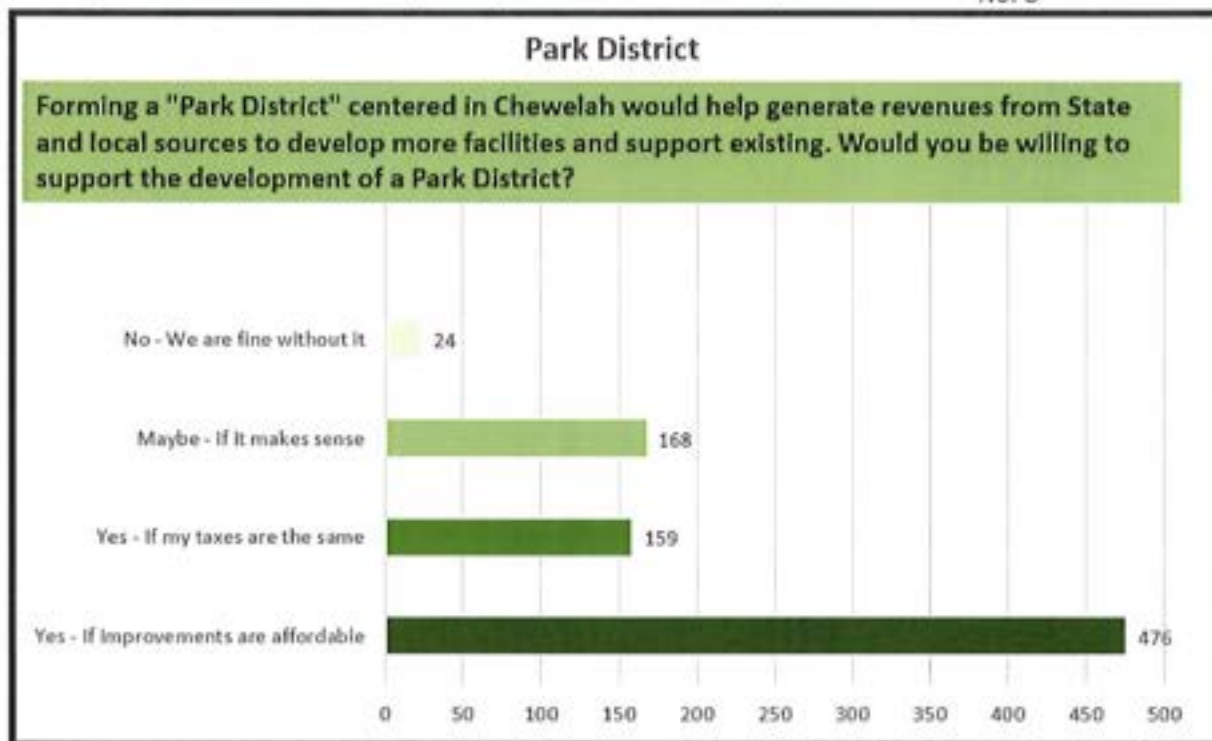
In the case of Chewelah, agreements can be formed between the district and the City. This partnership can provide a mutual benefit by shared resources similar to the arrangement by the Chewelah Fire Department and Fire District #4. The Parks District could operate as City Department within the administration of the City by agreement. This is a likely arrangement for the Chewelah since the City owns the Civic Center and the District would manage for the City. The City of Chewelah is not resourced manage a Parks and Recreation Department operating from the Civic Center without the additional resources available through a district.

District Options
Fig. 13



The question regarding the formation of a Park District is “Will it supported” by the residents within the district boundary? This question was included in the public survey with 71% indicating a Yes, if it is affordable or has minimal impact on the tax rate. Only 2% indicated a “No” response. A successful champagne to create and fund a Park District will seek voter support though education and benefits. Chewelah has created a recreation-based economy with the Casino, Ski hill, Golf Course, and Gold Hill. Investing further in recreation will have a significant return on investment. These strategies need to be defined through a Park District feasibility study to create a business plan and

Survey Response
No. 8



implementation plan for a Park District.

Another recommended partnership would be between the City and the Chewelah School District. The school district owns most of the current recreational facilities in Chewelah including three gymnasiums, ballfields, football, track, tennis courts, and more. The details of an agreement would need to be explored. However, both parties stand to benefit from use and maintenance agreements for facilities. This avoids duplication of facilities, equipment and personnel.

PRO - The argument for a Park District includes the following benefits:

- Professional Staff for facility management
- Grant writing support for programs and facilities
- Coordination support for recreation programs and events

- Improved quality of life in the PRSA
- Improved access to recreation
- Additional resource for maintenance
- Additional resources for facility development
- New resources for partnering groups
- New recreation facilities in the PRSA
- Reduced pressure on the City's General Fund

CON - The argument against a Park District includes:

- Potentially higher tax burden for the district area
- Broader and shared decision making for recreation facilities (less of control)
- Increased government

When considering the benefits of forming a Parks and Recreation District based in Chewelah, it is essential to identify and create supporters. The following is an initial list of potential supporters that would benefit from the formation of a district.

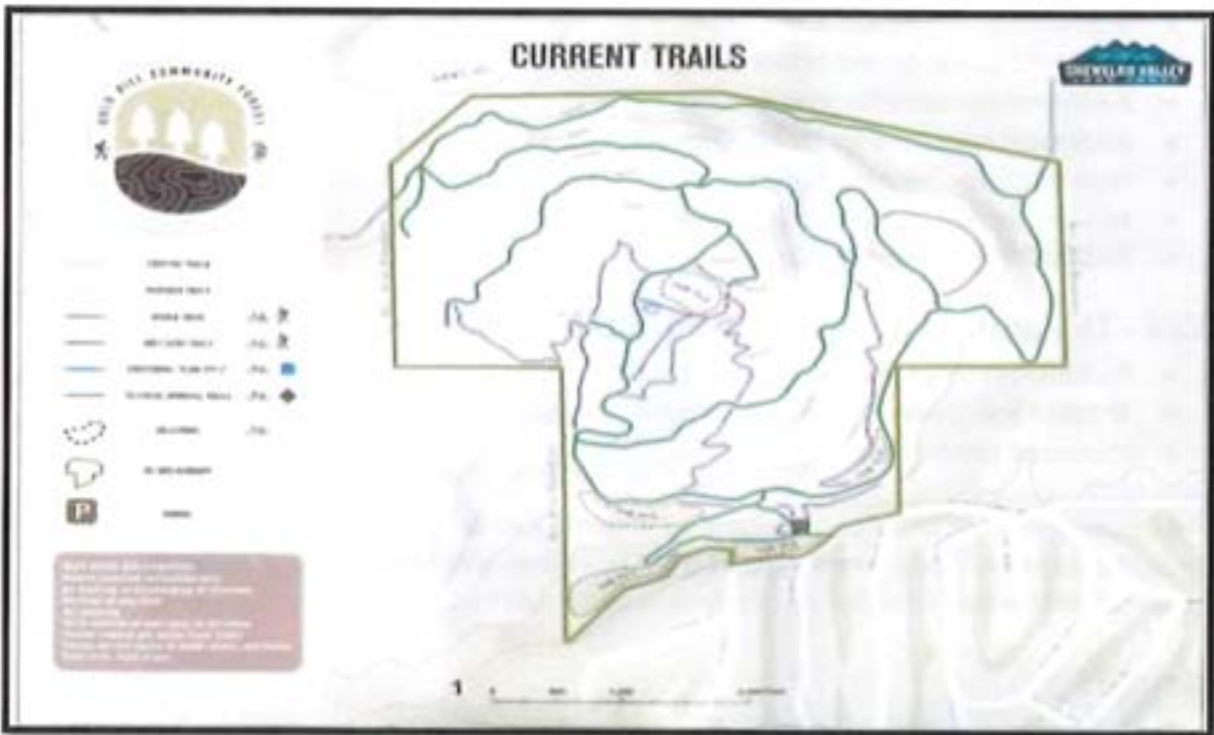
Partners

- Brown's Lake Recreation Association
- City of Chewelah
- Chewelah School District
- Chewelah Recreation Association (CRA)
- Chewelah Golf Course and Country Club (CGCC)
- New Health
- Providence Hospital
- Chewelah Recreation Association
- Creative Art District
- Performing Arts and Cultural Arts (PACA)
- Chewelah Land Trust - Gold Hill

The health care industry would benefit in several ways. Investments in recreation facilities make recruitment and retention easier for medical staff. A recreation and Aquatic Center can be used for therapeutic purposes by clients especially if there are warm water pools and water walking with resistance.

Organizations like the Chewelah Land Trust, Brown's Lake Recreation Association and PACA could receive annual funding from the district to support their programs. A Parks and Recreation Office could be a distribution point for ticket sales, maps, and user information.

The Chewelah Recreation Association (CRA) finds itself transitioning from a bowling alley owner and operator to a new mission that has yet to be formed fully. CRA could partner with a district become a non-profit program and project supporter. This could be beneficial to both parties since the district would be the operator of recreation facilities and CRA could provide program



Gold Hill
Pic. 29

access to families in need and gain access to foundation or non-profit funds. This arrangement would be improved if CRA were reclassified from a 501(c)(5) to a 501(c)(3) organization.

The Chewelah Golf and Country Club could benefit from a reduced maintenance obligation at the 3-acre tennis and pickleball facility. The City and/or district has access to RCO grants that could resurface the courts, add restrooms, and a playground under City ownership (see North Hill Park Concept). The property liability and tax liability would also be removed from the CGCC. The City is unlikely to take on this burden without the formation of a district.



North Hill Park Concept
Pic. 30

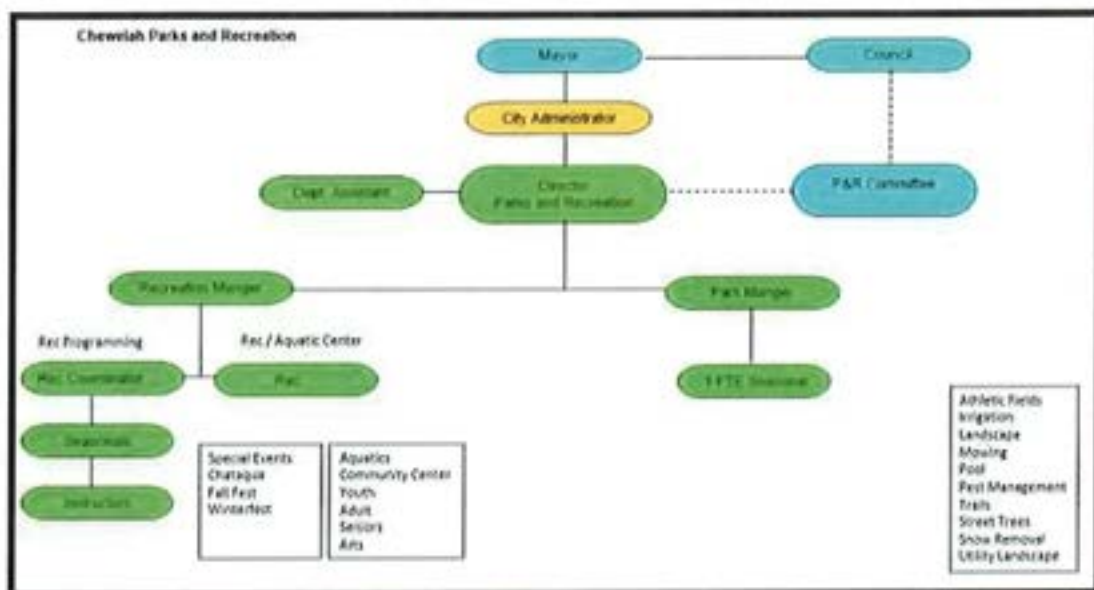
Recreation and Event Programming

The City of Chewelah has not offered recreation programming previously. Recreation programming would be incorporated into a Park and Recreation District based from the Community Center. The potential for programming is unlimited for year-round recreation for all ages and interests. Fees and charges for programs typically recover 50-75% of coordination costs. This revenue is helpful to overall costs associated with the operation of a district.

Events coordination is also benefit. Chewelah lost their largest single event “Chataqua” due to a loss of leadership and aging volunteer base. Program coordination staff could revive Chataqua and other events that a beneficial to Chewelah’s tourism economy. Volunteers remain an essential resource for events, however the overall coordination, marketing, and management of large events would be provided by paid staff.

Org Chart Concept

Fig. 14



Parks and Recreation District Conclusion

The recommendation of the PROS Plan is that Chewelah fully study and consider a strategy for a Park District formation. The extensive community engagement has revealed significant service level gaps regarding park acreage and distribution. Additionally, overwhelming response rate from 33% of the population showed a strong desire for new swimming pool in the form of an indoor Recreation / Aquatic Center. The total demand exceeds \$20,000,000 and is out of reach for both capital and operating estimates. The logical solution for Chewelah is to follow in the footsteps of Kettle Falls, Odessa, Ritzville, Republic and 60 other Washington communities in the formation of a park district.

Six-year Capital Improvement Program

COC – City of Chewelah

CVPRD – Chewelah Valley Parks & Recreation District

Project / Facility	Project Name	Estimated Cost		Completion Target	Agency	
Existing Parks	Everette Jenne Park					
		Park entrance sign/arch	75,000	REET	2024	CVPRD
		Develop SW entrance Plaza	80,000	RCO - LPM	2024	COC
		Remove deteriorated Scout Cabin	30,000	GF	2025	COC
		Create structured parking on Park Street	150,000	WSDOT	2025	WSDOT
		Develop internal paved path	70,000	RCO	2026	CVPRD
		Replace RV Park with Sport-Court	150,000	REET	2026	CVPRD
		Relocate & modernize playground	250,000	RCO-	2026	CVPRD
		Restroom upgrades	50,000	Sewer Fund	2026	COC
		Replace bridges w/ improved structures	150,000	REET	2027	CVPRD
		Tree inventory and replacement	300,000	DNR	2027	COC
		Irrigation audit and upgrade	50,000	Water Fund	2028	COC
		Central Park				
			Playground Fall Protection	10,000	RCO	2024
		Drinking Fountain	5,000	Water Fund	2025	COC
		Park Sign	5,000	GF	2026	COC
		Fence	2,000	GF	2026	COC
		Irrigation audit and upgrade	10,000	Water Fund	2028	COC
		Resurface Sport Court	10,000	RCO	2028	COC
	Pinebrook Park					
		Playground Fall Protection	5,000	RCO	2024	COC
		Relocate Disc Golf to High School	5,000	GF	2025	COC
		Park Sign	5,000	GF	2026	COC
		Walking Trail Gravel	5,000	GF	2027	COC
Proposed Parks	Chewelah Creek Park					
		Install Benches and Tables	5,000	RCO	2024	CVPRD
		Install Pedestrian Bridge	20,000	GF	2025	CVPRD
		Develop Trail	15,000	RCO	2026	CVPRD
		Park Sign	5,000	GF	2026	CVPRD
	North Hill Park					
		Transfer Land	0		2025	CVPRD
		Resurface Courts	40,000	RCO	2026	CVPRD
		Install Playground	50,000	RCO	2026	CVPRD
		Install Picnic Shelter	40,000	RCO	2026	CVPRD
		Install Restroom	70,000	Sewer Fund	2026	CVPRD
		Install Parking Lot	40,000	RCO	2026	CVPRD
	Railroad Park					
		Acquire Parcels	0		2025	CVPRD
		Acquire Lease BNSF RR	5,000	GF	2025	CVPRD
		Install Trail and Bridge	20,000	GF	2026	CVPRD
		Install Parking Lot	25,000	RCO	2029	CVPRD
		Install Playground	60,000	RCO	2029	CVPRD
Triangle DNR Park						
	Acquire Land	0			CVPRD	
	Install Picnic Shelter	30,000	GF	2025	CVPRD	
	Install Park Furniture	10,000	GF	2026	CVPRD	
Youth Sports Complex						
	Site Plan	25,000	GF	2024	CVPRD	
	Construct Fields	250,000	RCO	2025	CVPRD	
	Construct Parking and Drive	150,000	RCO	2026	CVPRD	
	Construct Concession / Restrooms	250,000	RCO	2027	CVPRD	

	Project / Facility	Project Name	Estimated Cost		Completion Target	Agency
Recreation Facilities	Park District					
		Park District Feasibility	50,000	RCO-PRA	2025	COC
		Park District Implementation	45,000	RCO-PRA	2025	COC
	Civic Center					
	Phase I	Renovate the Civic Center	750,000	CDBG	2024	COC
	Phase I	Develop a Parking Lot	750,000	CDBG	2024	COC
	Phase II	Renovate the Fire Station (Fitness)	500,000	Bond	2026	CVPRD
	Phase III	Develop Leisure Pool	5,000,000	Bond	2028	CVPRD
	Phase IV	Develop a Splash-pad	500,000	Bond	2028	CVPRD
	Teen Adventure Park					
		Develop Sport Court	45,000	RCO	2025	CVPRD
		Develop Skate/BMX	150,000	RCO	2026	CVPRD
	Develop Shelter and Furniture	60,000	RCO	2027	CVPRD	
Trails	Trails					
		Section I - Park to Colville St	50,000	RCO	2025	COC
		Section II - Hwy395 to Main	60,000	RCO	2026	COC
		Section III - Main to King Loop	75,000	RCO	2027	COC
		Section IV - Mistequa	1,200,000	RCO	2028	CVPRD
		Section V - Chewelah to Golf Course	500,000	RCO	2029	CVPRD

Capital Funding Options and Acquisition

Washington State RCO Grants

The City may pursue several grant funding sources to augment funding available for capital projects. One of the primary sources of State grant funding is through the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO). RCO administers several grant programs for recreation and habitat conservation purposes including:

- Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA)
- Community Outdoor Athletic Facilities (COAF)
- Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- No Child Left Inside (NCLI)
- Non-highway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities Program (NOVA)
- Community Outdoor Athletic Facilities (COAF)
- Recreational Trails Program (RTP)
- Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP)
- Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF)

Bond Measure

This is a property tax for the sale of construction bonds. The tax assessment can be levied up to 30-years and require a 60 percent majority approval of 40 percent of the voters who voted in the last election.

City General Fund

These are funds from a variety of sources and used to finance City government, designated in the annual operating budget.

Special Levy

This is a property tax for construction and/or operation levied. It requires a 60 percent majority approval of 40 percent of the voters who voted in the last election.

Park Impact Fees

The City of Chewelah has the ability to Park Impact Fees, assessed to new development as follows:

- Single-family dwelling unit
- Multifamily dwelling unit
- Group Home bed

Dedication of Public Park

1. Land within a short plat or preliminary subdivision that is indicated in the Chewelah comprehensive plan as public open space may be required to be reserved by the sub-divider for use by the public within a one-year period of time after final subdivision approval.

2. Subdivisions containing more than fifty lots or encompassing more than one hundred acres may be required to dedicate land for development of a neighborhood park or pay a fee in lieu of dedication as determined by the hearing examiner and city council.

3. If the preliminary plat includes a dedication of a public park with an area of less than two acres and the donor has designated that the park be named in honor of a deceased individual of good character, the city council shall adopt the designated name.

Parks and Recreation Districts

- Metropolitan Parks District
- Park and Recreation District
- Parks and Recreation Services Area

Council Bond

This is a tax assessment initiated by the City Council. The limit is based in a percent of the total assessed valuation of the City. Debt payments must identify funding source.

Real Estate Excise Tax (REET1)

Restricted funds for sales of real estate. Parks and recreation project are eligible if included in the City's six-year capital plan.

A city may use the greater of \$100,000 or 25 percent of available funds, but not to exceed \$1,000,000 per year, from revenues collected under RCW 82.46.010 for the maintenance of capital projects, as defined in RCW 82.46.010.

(3) A city or county may use revenues pursuant to subsection (2) of this section if:

(a) The city or county prepares a written report demonstrating that it has or will have adequate funding from all sources of public funding to pay for all capital projects, as defined in RCW 82.46.010, identified in its capital facilities plan for the succeeding two-year period. Cities or counties not required to prepare a capital facilities plan may satisfy this provision by using a document that, at a minimum, identifies capital project needs and available public funding sources for the succeeding two-year period; and

(b)(i) The city or county has not enacted, after June 9, 2016: Any requirement on the listing or sale of real property; or any requirement on landlords, at the time of executing a lease, to perform or provide physical improvements or modifications to real property or fixtures, except if necessary to address an immediate threat to health or safety; or

(ii) Any local requirement adopted by the city or county under (b)(i) of this subsection is: Specifically authorized by RCW 35.80.030, 35A.11.020, chapter 7.48 RCW, or chapter 19.27 RCW; specifically authorized by other state or federal law; or a seller or landlord disclosure requirement pursuant to RCW 64.06.080.

(4) The report prepared under subsection (3)(a) of this section must: (a) Include information necessary to determine compliance with the requirements of subsection (3)(a) of this section; (b) identify how revenues collected under RCW 82.46.010 were used by the city or county during the prior two-year period; (c) identify how funds authorized under subsection (2) of this section will be used during the succeeding two-year period; and (d) identify what percentage of funding for capital projects within the city or county is attributable to revenues under RCW 82.46.010 compared to all other sources of capital project funding. The city or county must prepare and adopt the report as part of its regular, public budget process.

(5) The authority to use funds as authorized in this section is in addition to the authority to use funds pursuant to RCW 82.46.010(7), which remains in effect through December 31, 2016.

(6) For purposes of this section, "maintenance" means the use of funds for labor and materials that will preserve, prevent the decline of, or extend the useful life of a capital project. "Maintenance" does not include labor or material costs for routine operations of a capital project.

Sewer Fund

The Revised Code of Washington defines "public restrooms" as part of a "system of sewerage" and therefore an allowed utility expense for capital and maintenance. The development and maintenance of new restrooms in parks could be funded by the sewer utility. Reclaimed waste water may become available over time to irrigate public parks as a water conservation strategy. The planning and infrastructure for utilizing reclaimed waste water is extensive and will require further analysis.

RCW 35.67.010

Definitions -- "System of sewerage," "public utility."

A "system of sewerage" means and may include any or all of the following:

- (1) Sanitary sewage collection, treatment, and/or disposal facilities and services, on-site or off-site sanitary sewerage facilities, inspection services and maintenance services for public or private on-site systems, or any other means of sewage treatment and disposal approved by the city;
- (2) Combined sanitary sewage disposal and storm or surface water sewers;
- (3) Storm or surface water sewers;
- (4) Outfalls for storm drainage or sanitary sewage and works, plants, and facilities for storm drainage or sanitary sewage treatment and disposal, and rights and interests in property relating to the system;
- (5) Combined water and sewerage systems;
- (6) Point and nonpoint water pollution monitoring programs that are directly related to the sewerage facilities and programs operated by a city or town;
- (7) Public restroom and sanitary facilities; and
- (8) Any combination of or part of any or all of such facilities.

The words "public utility" when used in this chapter has the same meaning as the words "system of sewerage."

[1997 c 447 § 7; 1965 c 110 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.67.010. Prior: 1955 c 266 § 2; prior: 1941 c 193 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-4, part.]

Water Fund

Water conservation is a legitimate utility expense.