



TRI COUNTY PARK DIRECTORS
Meeting Agenda

Date: Monday, April 27th
Time: 4:30PM
Location: Conference Call
Meeting ID: 932 4334 1889

<https://zoom.us/j/93243341889>

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Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/abNhra4MMS>

1) **Outdoor Recreation**

- a. Response to Governor Addressing Outdoor Recreation and Park Use
 - i. Aligning local parks with State's decision
 1. Recreational hunting, fishing, and boating
 2. Outdoor exercise, including hiking, running, walking and biking
 3. Golfing
 4. Day use activities on public parks and public lands

- Snohomish County Parks and Recreation have been in discussions with Jon Snyder and have been putting together a plan alongside Washington State Parks. They will be opening boat launches, trailheads, and day use areas beginning on May 5th. They anticipate camping to begin around May 20th, ahead of the Memorial Day holiday. They are considering opening community parks while keeping playgrounds or bathrooms closed. Keeping play structures closed is in alignment with the Governors directions given on April 27th.

- The City of Everett would like to know everyone's interpretation of "day use activities" at public parks. Snohomish County believes that "day use" implies any usage of the park other than camping. By not opening camping the intent is that local recreation will take place rather than recreation by people traveling from outside the state and beyond.
- The City of Tumwater Parks will open for biking, hiking, and dog walking. They are not open for large gatherings or events as per the Governor's order. They are considering opening restroom facilities for areas which have destination use while the local parks would keep their facilities closed.
- The City of Maple Valley's parks have been open to passive use but the parking lots which were closed off will be opened. Their playgrounds, restrooms, and sports courts will remain closed. Their golf course and boat launch will open May 5th and they are unsure of the opening date of their dog park.
- The City of Edmonds will open parking lots while high touch areas/facilities such as playgrounds remain closed. They are considering Porta Potty use since they are managed by a third party and The City does not have the staff to manage restrooms. They have a large fishing pier that has been closed but they will consider opening this and implementing social distancing on the pier.
- The City of Shoreline never closed their restroom facilities and they only closed the gates to one park on the sound. This park has a narrow space from the parking lot to the beach and they plan to keep this closed.
- Discussions of further/more strict local government regulations and how these will play into operations. Even though the Governor has lifted some restrictions we still have to prove to local governments and Mayor's that we can operate safely within the given parameters.
- The City of Issaquah will keep park amenities such as playgrounds closed and consider some restroom openings. Their parks system will be open for access including their play fields.
- The City of Kirkland is keeping amenities closed but their parks have been open for passive use. They will open their marina and boat launch.
- The City of Lynnwood had only closed their Sports Center. They are in conversations with Premier Golf discussing the best practices in reopening.
- The City of Covington's skate park will remain closed, but they are thinking of opening their community park. They may also reopen one restroom.
- The City of Federal way will open their boat launch May 5th. Their dog park has been open. Dog Park users are the biggest violators of the regulations and guidelines which are in place.
- The City of Lakewood opened last Monday for some day use. They will reopen their dog park but keep all restrooms and play fields closed. They also opened their boat launch last week.
- The City of Auburn's restrooms and sport courts will remain closed for a while longer. This is also due to budget cuts and how many laborers they must have to reopen services.

- Metro Parks Tacoma does not have staffing to facilitate reopening. Through layoffs and furloughs there is major impact to opening again.
- The City of Monroe is considering reopening parking lots but that will entice crowds. One of their lakes has multiple uses all in one area and will most definitely be crowded if it is opened.
- Washington State Parks will reopen for day use on May 5th. Due to some local jurisdictions or further restrictions on certain areas, some State Parks may open after Memorial Day. There will be issues with their staffing and ability to clean restrooms. They want to coordinate with other agencies who have state parks near them to try to align as much as possible.
- The City of Seattle is considering the best ways to open parking lots. Their parks and restrooms have been open as well as the operation of their four shelters. They will be opening a new shelter for youth. They have 60 social distance ambassadors, explaining and educating park restrictions to the public. They have implemented a “Keep it Moving” campaign. They have a discussion tomorrow to determine the opening of boat ramps. Their dog parks are open. Union and nonunion park employees are caring out these ambassador duties. They anticipate equity questions about working the same job at different pay rates, but they worked with the unions on this topic before beginning the ambassador program. Robert Stowers is the manager of this program and will be invited to a future call to answer more specific questions.
- City of Everett will reopen parking lots to parks. Their financial impacts are great as they have had to lay off several staff members in the recreation division and cancel numerous recreation programs and services. Last Wednesday, their council voted to close the Swim center and Senior Center through 2021 and possibly further.
- The City of Spokane has four large golf courses and golf is a large part of recreation for their parks department. They have already lost 1.3 million dollars this year. Restrooms will remain closed as they do not have the seasonal staff to manage them. They have survived without FTE layoffs or furloughs. They currently have four seasonal right now when they would normally have around 300 so the level of service is impacted.
- The City of Quincy’s Aquatics Center is typically open for 12 weeks of the year. They will have to do a risk vs. reward analysis and decide if it is worth opening if determined it can open. The City of Quincy has 7000 people and the community pool means a lot to the kids.
- Discussion about the need for more information on aquatics restrictions. There have been implications noted that the opening of pools this summer “isn’t likely”. Physically closing beaches presents unique challenges if this becomes necessary. Many agencies aren’t hiring on their lifeguards, so this presents a further challenge. The group requested a more in-depth aquatics analysis and plan.

- The Department of Natural Resources plans to open hiking and back country trails with public health as the top priority.
- The Cities of Enumclaw and Tukwila will keep their restrooms and amenities closed.
- The City of Lakewood is only opening their large 350+ acre park parking lot to reduce impact to neighborhoods. Their restrooms, playgrounds, will remain closed until June 1.
- The City of Kent will keep restrooms and all other active areas closed until the full maintenance workforce comes back online and they receive direction on “gathering” restrictions. They are still considering whether to open parking lot gates and boat launches.
- The City of Selah is keeping green spaces open, but bathrooms and playgrounds closed.
- The City of Seattle’s play equipment, hard surface courts, and parking lots to 15 regional parks are closed. Their comfort stations remain open.
- The City of Covington’s restrooms, playgrounds, and sports courts are likely to stay closed. They will probably re-open their community park for walking, running, and biking. They are undecided on whether to open parking.
- The City of Bothell will likely open gates to closed parking lots at 3 parks facilities. Amenities including restrooms and playgrounds will likely remain closed. TBD on reopening sports fields and sports courts for incidental use.
- The City of Longview will keep high touch point areas such as restrooms and playgrounds closed. They will be opening their community gardens and dog parks.
- The City of Spokane is keeping all restrooms and playgrounds closed and implementing a "Go before you go!" slogan. Their dog parks will remain closed.
- The City of Mountlake Terrace will open their boat launch and fishing pier while playgrounds and restrooms remain closed.
- Pierce County Parks will open parking lots and trail heads on May 5th and promote stays of 2 hours or less. They will not provide restroom or athletic field use.
- The City of Longview’s sport courts and fields remain closed.
- The City of Poulsbo’s parks have been open, but the restrooms have been closed. No changes at this point.
- The City of Shoreline’s tennis and basketball courts are closed. Their skatepark and playgrounds will remain closed. Their athletic fields are open for drop-in use and their off-leash dog areas remain open.
- Discussion of tennis, possibly singles Tennis, as the next logical reopening phase.
- Discussion of rethinking fireworks shows that were initially cancelled. Most agencies are continuing with the cancellation of their fireworks shows because of the large amounts of crowds this gathers. This type of celebration and the

associated costs may not be the right message we want to send to the public at this time either.

- Discussion of baseball/softball seasons possibilities. Overall, these seasons and their likelihoods are undetermined.
- Discussions regarding golf course reopening and related food and beverage services. While golf course restaurants will not reopen with golf, there are possibilities of food truck services or window service like drive through food and beverage service.
- The City of Puyallup will proceed with event cancellations through July
- The City of Shoreline will likely proceed with event cancellations through the end of August
- The Cities of Monroe and Issaquah will continue to announce event cancellations monthly. They are currently cancelled through the end of May.
- The City of Covington is likely cancelling all summer events.
- The City of Bothell has cancelled its 4th of July parade and all recreational programming including Music in the Park, summer camp out, and all recreational classes for the remainder of the year. The first phase of their citywide furloughs and layoffs are taking place beginning in May.
- Normandy Park has cancelled all parks, arts and recreation events, and programming until September.
- The City of Kirkland has cancelled special events through June. They are awaiting the next steps from the Governor to determine events past June.

2) Other Concern's, Questions, Input for the Group?

- Colorado and Utah have joined in on the collaboration framework.
- A recent NRPA Survey showed that 86% of recreation agencies are waiting for further direction on Day Camp/Child Care programming.
- Discussion of Forest Service land operations and how we can align with their reopening. Discussion of adding a FS representative to this call.
- A Public health Official will be joining our next call scheduled for Thursday, 4-30-2020.
- Jennifer Burbridge's new email is Joey.Furuto@seattle.gov

Meeting Adjourned 5:26

Respectfully Submitted; Emily Young

Administrative Coordinator, City of Everett Parks and Community Services