



CITY OF CAMAS POLICY GUIDELINES FOR AN OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT PLAN

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Material Reference List City of Camas

The Open Space Management Plan Shall be used in conjunction with other City planning documents, such as:

Camas Comprehensive Plan including, but not limited to:

Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trail / Bikeway Plan

Camas Critical Areas Ordinance

Camas Design Standards Manual

Camas Master Shoreline Program

Camas Plant Materials for City Rights-of-Way

Camas Public Works Landscape Standards

Appropriate ordinances, Revised Code of Washington (RCW) and Washington Administrative Code (WAC)

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PREFACE

This document establishes the overall policies to guide the management of both public and private property within the Open Space Network. It should be noted and understood that it is intended that additional information and documents will be added to this 'Policy Guidelines for an Open Space Management Plan' in order to make it a fully functional Open Space Management Plan. The Open Space Advisory Committee and the Parks and Recreation Department staff is continuing to work on this phase.

1. INTRODUCTION

On January 24, 2000 the City of Camas adopted the Park and Open Space Comprehensive Plan. A critical element of this study was the concept of forming a lineal pattern of natural open space consisting of existing open space areas, wetlands, steep slopes and network connections. This system of open space is called The Open Space Network or simply "the Network" and is displayed in figure 1 below. More information on the Open Space Network and its policies are found in Section IV of the Park and Open Space Comprehensive Plan. Currently within "the Network" there are several categories of land ownership. These include:

1. Public – City, County, School
2. Private (non-tax status) – Mostly held by homeowners associations
3. Private (taxed status)

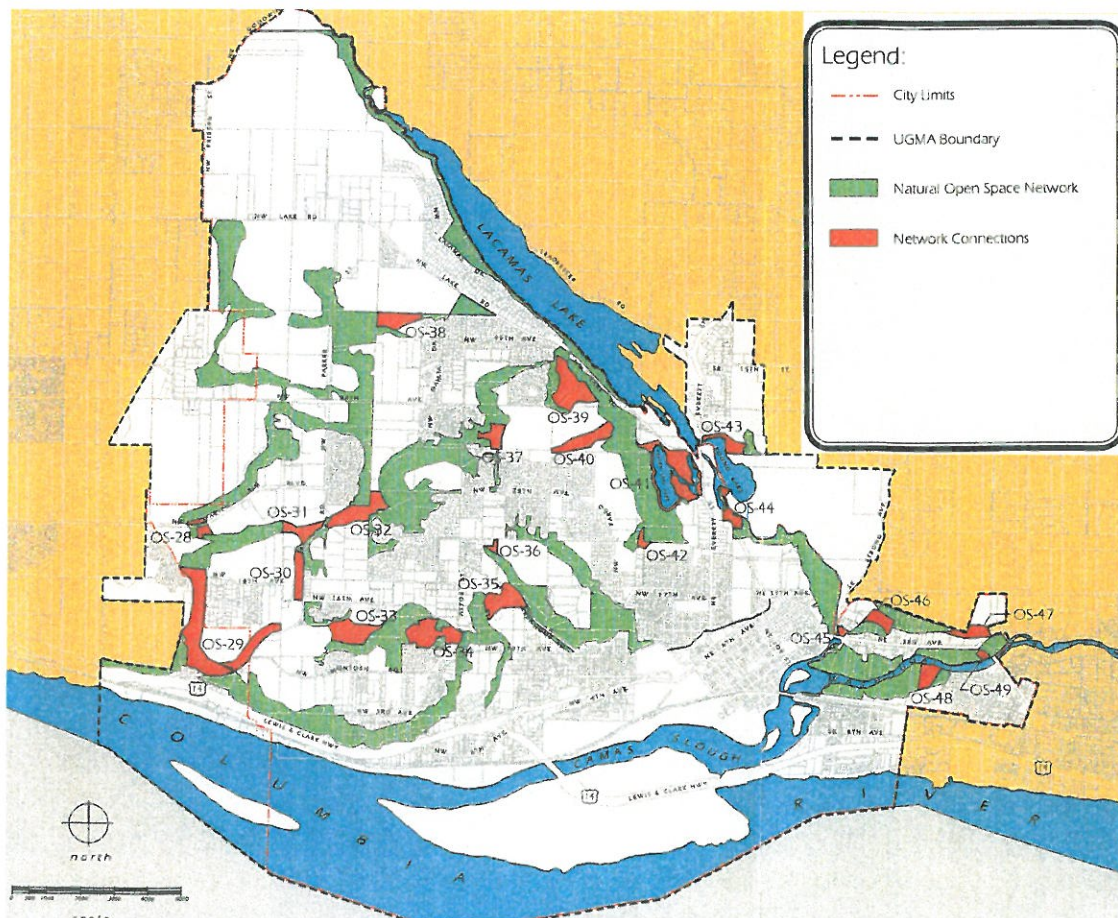


Figure 1

Five important policies relate to how this system will be created and managed:

1. While the general configuration of the Open Space Network is illustrated on figure 1, specific boundaries will be determined at the time of development. Land suitable for inclusion into the Network must meet the criteria as outlined in Parks & Open Space Comprehensive Plan Section 4.4. That criteria is summarized as follows:
 - The area must be in general proximity to the locations shown on the Open Space Network Map.
 - Areas that contribute to a continuous wildlife habitat corridor.
 - Areas needed to complete connections to the Network (which will include portions of property currently owned by homeowners associations and other private parties).
 - Areas of steep and unstable slopes or land next to streams and creeks.
 - Land needed to protect view sheds.
 - Areas of unique character or those that contain a nature interpretation or educational value.
 - Wetlands and associated buffers.
 - Land needed for trail corridors identified in Parks & Open Space Comprehensive Plan.
2. Acquisition of land for the Network will occur either during the land development process, via land purchases or other negotiated methods by the City. The City Council will determine the amount and location of land set aside for the Network.
3. New development must reflect the intent of the Network in configuration and general area.
4. The City may offer incentives to land developers for dedicating land to the Network. The City may accept gifts and dedications.
5. Natural open space in a development outside the Network may be established by negotiating with the City. The City will not be responsible for the management or maintenance of these areas.

2. PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This Open Space Management Plan document defines the policies and practices the City of Camas will follow to acquire, protect, and manage open space found within the Network. These policies are intended to:

- Set the framework for the City's Open Space Management Plan.
- Provide general direction for issue specific and site specific planning.
- Give staff the basis for informed, consistent and effective resource management decisions.
- Instruct the public, the private homeowner groups, and private property owners who also own open space, of the City's management policies.

- 2.1 **Open Space Defined:** According to the City's Park and Open Space Comprehensive Plan, open space is defined as undeveloped land left primarily in its natural environment with recreation use as a secondary objective. It may be owned by a public agency or

preserved under private ownership. This type of land often includes, but is not limited to, wetlands, steep hillsides, and large blocks of forested areas or similar spaces. Critical areas can include wildlife habitat areas, wetlands, stream and creek corridors, or places that include unique and/or endangered plant species and cultural artifacts.

2.2 Management Goals: (Based on available resources.)

- 2.2.1 Develop minimum standards for management and maintenance of natural open spaces for both City owned and privately owned open space in the Network. Maintenance standards must be based on 'Best Management Practices' and must comply with federal and state agency requirements.
- 2.2.2 Maintain and preserve important wildlife habitat.
- 2.2.3 Control the spread of invasive and non-native plant materials in the Network.
- 2.2.4 Sustain a diverse native plant community.
- 2.2.5 Continually assess potential hazards and damage within the Network and to adjacent property.
- 2.2.6 Review all proposed improvements during the permitting process to ensure the goals of the Network are met.
- 2.2.7 The City will be a resource and clearinghouse regarding potential funding opportunities such as habitat enhancement.
- 2.2.8 Support funding for the Open Space Management program is to be provided by the City.
- 2.2.9 Revise policies to ensure these goals are met.

2.3 Ownership of Open Space: Under the general policies defined in the Park and Open Space Comprehensive Plan, land in Camas that is part of the Open Space Network may be either owned and maintained by the City, private homeowner groups or other parties. However, all lands within the Network will be managed and maintained according to the policies contained herein. This includes current land in the Network that is either owned by the City, private homeowner groups, or private individuals.

3. GENERAL MANAGEMENT APPROACH

The City will assume responsibility to establish management policies of the Network and maintain all City owned lands and trails (T-1, T-4*, T-5, T-9). For lands within the Network that are privately owned, the City may assist private property owners by providing consulting services and contracting maintenance if requested. Appropriate costs and payment procedures will need to be negotiated and agreed upon by both parties.

The Open Space Network shall be managed to maintain fundamental ecological processes as well as individual species and features. The City will ordinarily not focus on the preservation of individual species, except if threatened or endangered. Instead an attempt will be made to balance all the elements and processes of naturally evolving ecosystems.

Management actions may be necessary to restore ecological processes. The City will work to restore natural regimes disturbed as a result of human activities. Removal of non-native species and reintroduction of native species are examples. The extent and type of management actions undertaken to protect or restore the open space ecosystems will be based on the management goals, available resources, and prevailing scientific theory and 'Best Management Practices'.

Management actions shall weigh human use, public safety, and the protection of the natural resources, including the health and function of ecosystems, habitat or resident plants or animals and cultural resources. Management actions shall be appropriate to the situation and can range from educational efforts to permanent closures of areas. The intent of open space within the Network is to encourage public use and enjoyment as long as adverse impacts can be reasonably minimized. While recreation use is encouraged, the level of use must be passive in nature. Even a low volume of use can result in unacceptable resource damage on sensitive lands such as riparian areas. Visitors to open space areas also have a responsibility as stewards of the land to ensure that their actions cause the least possible disturbance to the natural process. In general, the intent is to prevent or minimize human-caused and accelerated impacts, including erosion, invasion by non-native plant materials, disruption of the natural flow of water, degradation of water quality, trampling of vegetation, and displacement of wildlife. In some instances, mitigating steps may be taken to provide public access into these areas by building boardwalks or other features. If human life or property is at risk, appropriate management actions will be taken.

3.1 Roles and Responsibilities:

3.1.1 Chain of Responsibility: The Parks and Recreation Department will be responsible for developing the policies and overseeing the Network. The ultimate responsibility will rest with the City Council. The Parks & Recreation Commission will review policies and advise the City Council on open space matters.

3.1.2 Administrative Responsibility: The Camas Parks and Recreation Department will be responsible for administering the policies and programs and provide technical expertise as needed. Outside consultants may be employed as the need arises.

* *Note: Excluding at this time the maintenance responsibility for a portion of Regional Trail T-4 associated with a disputed shoreline permit which is currently in a separate and ongoing legal/regulatory process.*

- 3.1.3 **Public Involvement:** The City will encourage public involvement and participation in establishing management policies and procedures related to the Network. To provide a broad base of support, expertise and involvement, an Open Space Committee shall be formed to assist the Parks & Recreation Commission in developing policies and administrative procedures. The Open Space Committee shall disband after the adoption of the Open Space Management Plan.
- 3.1.4 **Maintenance Responsibility:** The purpose of the policies and procedures contained herein are intended to provide a uniform approach to administering and managing the Open Space Network, regardless of whether the land is owned by the City or a private group. However, the City of Camas will only be responsible for maintaining city owned land within the Network and trails (T-1, T-4*, T-5, T-9). Except as noted later in this document, private homeowner groups or other organizations will be responsible for maintaining their land within the Network. The City will be responsible for seeing that the policies and the intent of this Plan are met on private property within the Network. The Open Space Committee will develop enforcement guidelines and recommend appropriate ordinance(s) for consideration by the Parks Commission and City Council.
- 3.1.5 **Emergency Responsibilities:** If emergencies arise which shall threaten adjoining property or the Network itself and the private party is unable to resolve the problem as requested; the City may repair the problem and charge the private party. The Open Space Committee will develop enforcement policies, payment procedures and recommend appropriate ordinances for consideration by the Parks Commission and City Council.

3.2 General Management Policy:

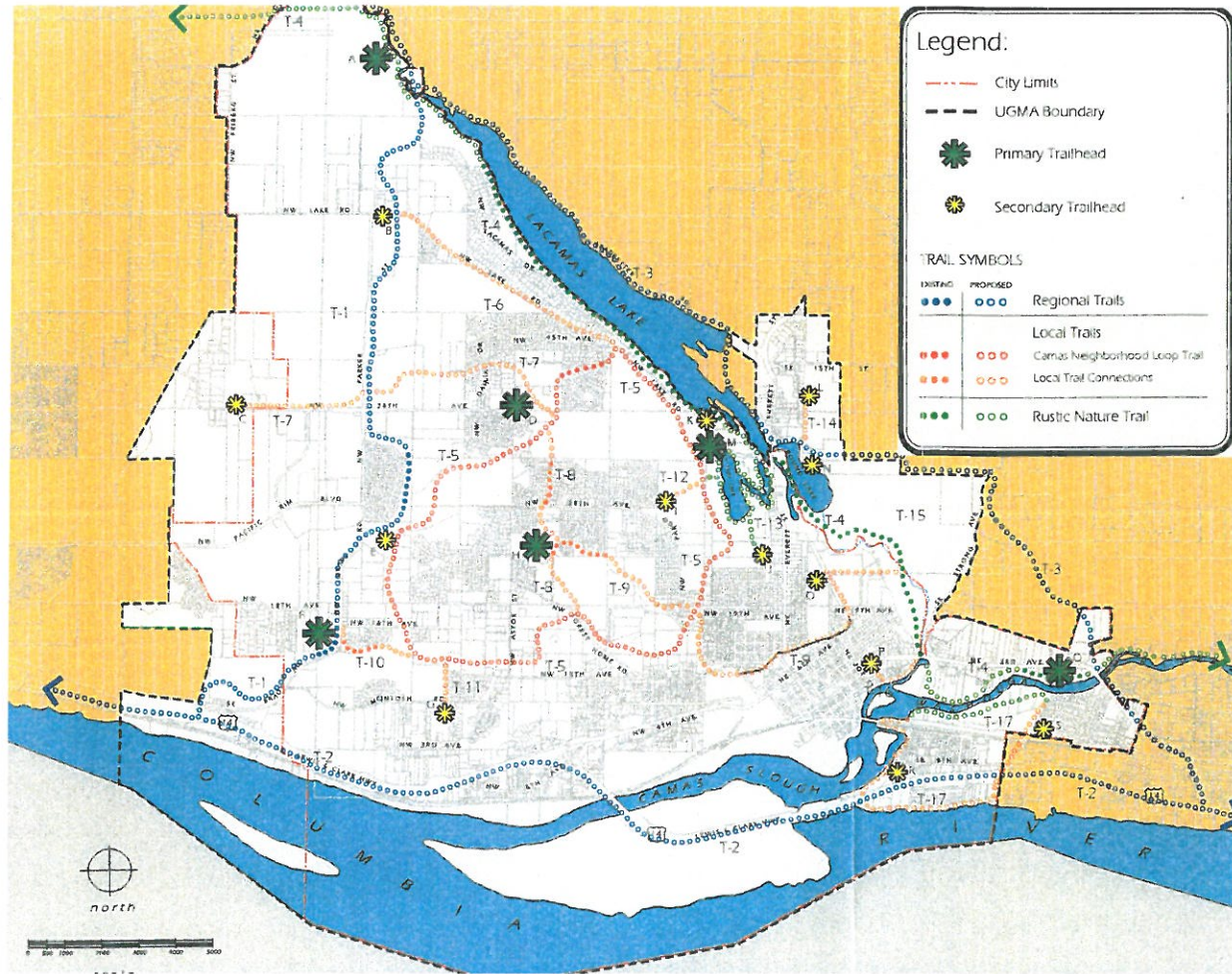
- 3.2.1 **Passive Uses Only:** Public uses in the Open Space Network shall be limited to passive and informal uses such as trail use, informal play, picnicking, nature studies, environmental education or other uses as approved by City Council. The Open Space Committee will develop procedures for parties to submit potential uses for consideration.
- 3.2.2 **Improvements in Open Space:** Improvements in the Open Space Network shall be limited to approved enhancements such as plantings, trails, boardwalks, viewing stations, bridges, signs, benches picnic tables, small shelters, and maintenance remedial projects designed to protect the land and public as approved by City Council. Where possible, the use of natural materials will be encouraged.
- 3.2.3 **Monitoring Management Practices:** On a continuing basis, the City will monitor Network conditions and its management practices. New public laws such as requirements related to the Endangered Species Act will require the City to adopt specific management and maintenance goals, policies and procedures following 'Best Management Practices'.

* *Note:* Excluding at this time the maintenance responsibility for a portion of Regional Trail T-4 associated with a disputed shoreline permit which is currently in a separate and ongoing legal/regulatory process.

- 3.2.4 **Facility Considerations:** The development of facilities within the open space areas must take into account scenic views, impact on adjoining property, enjoyment of the user, protection of the environment, and overall cost to maintain the system.
- 3.2.5 **Monitoring Use and Conditions:** The City shall monitor use and conditions, and based on the guidelines contained herein, shall recommend mitigation actions including cessation of use if conditions warrant. Such actions or recommendations may be specific to the occurrence, type of activity, or the location of the activity.
- 3.2.6 **Research:** The City will undertake research as necessary to mitigate environmental or operational problems.
- 3.2.7 **Volunteer Assistance:** The City will encourage volunteers or organized groups to assist in open space cleanup, maintenance, and organizing volunteer work parties consistent with the adopted volunteer programs and policies.
- 3.2.8 **Monitoring Complaints:** The Parks and Recreation Department shall be the primary monitor of complaints from staff, other agencies or the general public on current operations or conditions within the open space areas. The documentation will include the basis of the complaint, results of the investigation and resolution of the issue.

3.3 **Permits:** All significant improvements (such as trails, trail heads, grading, vegetation removal, etc.) that are proposed for the Open Space Network will require agency approvals and permits. The City of Camas Department of Public Works will act as lead agency in the permitting process. The Parks Department will review all development proposals that may directly or indirectly be effected to ensure that the Network goals are met. As required by law a number of state and federal agencies may require permits and approvals for any work conducted in the Open Space Network. This will be especially true for work in or adjacent to wetlands, water bodies or other sensitive lands. Careful planning and performing of work will be required to avoid or mitigate for potential impacts. For improvements on City owned property, the City will secure required permits and bear associated costs. For improvements on private property, existing or proposed open space, the payment of permits is as follows:

- For those improvements sponsored by the City, the City shall pay.
- For those improvements sponsored by the private parties the private parties shall pay.



4. TRAILS

Intent: The Parks & Recreation Open Space Comprehensive Plan recognizes that trails are an integral part of the park and open space system and that the open space corridors provide an important linkage element. A trails plan that creates this pedestrian linkage system is included in the Park and Recreation Open Space Comprehensive Plan and is displayed above.

The City will be responsible for selected trails (T-1, T-4*, T-5, T-9) in the designated Network as shown on the Trails Comprehensive Plan. Other trail segments shown on the plan will not be the responsibility of the City unless City Council approves the inclusion of added trail segments.

* *Note: Excluding at this time the maintenance responsibility for a portion of Regional Trail T-4 associated with a disputed shoreline permit which is currently in a separate and ongoing legal/regulatory process.*

The City’s responsibility for the selected trails (T-1, T-4*, T-5, T-9) (existing and future) will include the following:

Public Liability – The City will encourage private landowners to make their land available for public use. RCW 4.24.210 provides that private landowners who allow members of the public to make recreational use of their land without charging a fee shall not be liable for unintentional injuries to such users.

Maintenance – (See Section 4.8.5) Trails T-1, T-4, T-5, T-9, will be maintained by the City. Maintenance will include the trail surface and the right-of-way on either side of the trail. (See Section 4.3 Trail Design Standards.)

Design / Permits – The City will be responsible for the design and securing of permits for selected main trails development. However, new trails which are directly related to a new development will be the responsibility of the developer.

Cost of Development – The City will be responsible for the construction cost of selected main trail development including trailheads and associated improvements. However, new trails which are directly related to a new development will be the responsibility of the developer.

4.1 Priority of Trail Development: Trail development shall be encouraged within the Network as long as they conform to the trail plan and do not adversely impact the open space area or where mitigating actions can be pursued.

4.2 Conditions for Trail Approval: The following conditions need to be in place before a specific route is approved:

- Consistent with the Trails Plan.
- Is needed to complete an existing segment or provide direct linkage to the adjoining neighborhood.
- Environmental impacts can be mitigated.

4.3 Trail Design Standards:** Trail and route design can vary to accommodate a range of open space conditions and trail needs. Passive non-motorized trail use is emphasized and may include hiking, running, self-guided interpretive walks, fishing, horseback riding and bicycling where designated.

Regional Multi-Use Trail**

Class	1A
Appropriate use	walking, running, bicycling, skating, and equestrian where permitted (with added 2’ unpaved area)
Surfacing	Paved (asphalt, concrete)
Surfacing width	12’+
Horizontal clearance	2’
Vertical Clearance	10’ minimum

* *Note: Excluding at this time the maintenance responsibility for a portion of Regional Trail T-4 associated with a disputed shoreline permit which is currently in a separate and ongoing legal/regulatory process.*

** *Trail Design Standards from Parks, Recreation, & Open Spaces Comprehensive Plan adopted January 24, 200*

Easement or Right of way width	26' minimum; 52'+ desirable
Sight screening	Yes
waterway or sensitive area*	Setback from property 16' minimum; 20' from
	Slope 5% maximum desirable

Local Trail

Class	2A
Appropriate use	walking, bicycling, skating,
Surfacing	Paved or unpaved (asphalt, concrete, gravel, granite chips)
Surfacing width	6'-10'
Horizontal clearance	2'
Vertical Clearance	10'
Easement or Right of way width	24' minimum; 40' desirable
Sight screening	Yes
Setback	10' minimum; 20' from waterway or sensitive area
Slope	10% maximum desirable

Rustic Trail

Class	1
Appropriate use	walking, hiking, mountain biking, equestrian
Surfacing	Crushed aggregate
Surfacing width	4'
Horizontal clearance	2'
Vertical Clearance	10'
Easement or Right of way width	24' minimum; 30'+ desirable
Sight screening	No
Setback	15' from waterway or sensitive area
Slope	20% maximum desirable

Primitive Trail

Class	4
Appropriate use	walking, hiking, mountain biking, equestrian
Surfacing	Compacted earth, crushed aggregate
Surfacing width	1-6'
Horizontal clearance	1'
Vertical Clearance	8'
Easement or Right of way width	22' minimum; 24' + desirable
Sight screening	No
Setback	10' from waterway or sensitive area
Slope	20% maximum desirable

4.4 Trail Design Concepts:

- 4.4.1 **Trail Alignments:** Trail alignments should take into account critical wildlife habitat, vegetation, soil conditions, steep slopes, surface drainage construction and/or maintenance costs and other physical limitations.
- 4.4.2 **Enjoyable Experience:** Trails should be routed to create enjoyable views, provide easy walking or bicycling, and pass by interesting or unique features.
- 4.4.3 **Limit Aesthetic Impact:** Locate trails to minimize their visibility from a distance.
- 4.4.4 **Alignment with Private Property:** Keep trails as far away from private property as prudent.

4.5 Trails in Sensitive areas:

- 4.5.1 **Buffers:** Provide a vegetated buffer between a trail and a wetland, sensitive area or the edge of a body of water as noted in 4.3 Trail Standards*.
- 4.5.2 **Barriers:** Construct boardwalks, railings, see-through fences and viewpoints to allow visual access to areas and keep trail users on the trail.
- 4.5.3 **Boardwalks:** Design wetland crossings for maximum protection of the wetland and locate in an area suitable for public use.
- 4.5.4 **Use of Vegetation for Barriers:** Provide adjacent vegetation at access points that is dense enough to discourage off-trail travel. If necessary, install additional thick or thorny native vegetation to prevent access.
- 4.5.5 **Protecting Trails:** Cover earthen-based trails with dense turf where it crosses floodplains or other areas subject to periodic flooding to reduce puddling and walkers skirting the area.
- 4.5.6 **Siting Trails Along Streams:** Site trails away from active stream channels to prevent local bank erosion. In streamside locations where access is permitted or encouraged, provide access via boardwalks or other methods to minimize adverse impacts.
- 4.5.7 **Bridges:** Install bridge crossings in locations that will provide minimum impact to the water's edge and habitat while providing a rewarding experience for trail users.

- 4.6 **Trail Access for the Disabled:** Since the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) indoor and outdoor recreation facilities and experiences are now available to Americans with disabilities. Establishing guidelines for universal design in outdoor environments has been less forthcoming. One of the best design guides that addresses trail use is "Universal Access to Outdoor Recreation, a Design Guide," published by PLAE,

* *Trail Design Standards from Parks, Recreation, & Open Spaces Comprehensive Plan adopted January 24, 2000*

Inc. a subsidiary of MIG Berkeley, California 1993. A summary of the major design guidelines is presented below.

4.6.1 ROS: ROS** (Recreation Opportunity Spectrum) is a means of defining classes of outdoor recreation environments. In the Open Space Network most ROS classifications will be primitive, although some trails should be accessible in the urban/rural or roaded-natural environments.

4.6.2 Level of Accessibility: To the maximum extent feasible, accessible recreation trails should coincide with the route for the general public. At a minimum, accessible recreation trails must be designed to provide the expected level of accessibility given the site ROS classification.

4.6.3 Design Standards:

	Easy (urban trail)	Moderate (roaded natural)	Difficult
clear width (minimum)	48"	36"	28"
sustained running slope (maximum)	5%	8.3%	12.5%
maximum grade allowed (1)	10%	14%	20%
cross slope (maximum)	3%	5%	8.3%
passing space interval (maximum)	200'	300'	400'
rest area interval (maximum)	400'	900'	1200'
small level change (maximum)	1"	2"	3"

(1) for a maximum distance of 50'

4.7 Trailheads: (See Section 7.2)

4.8 Trail Security and Safety:

4.8.1 Responsibility: The Camas Parks and Recreation Department will be responsible for establishing the general level of security and safety policies.

4.8.2 Patrols and Inspections: All public trails will be managed and maintained at a level to promote enjoyment and safe trail use. The level of trail security and safety effort will be based on the trail type and amount of use, with Class 1A receiving the greatest effort and Class 4 receiving the least effort. The Open Space Committee will establish appropriate levels.

4.8.3 Trail Visibility: While trails located within open space areas can provide a sense of remoteness within a quiet setting, user safety and security cannot be overlooked. When laying out specific trail routes and segments, on-trail visibility is important for the user. To achieve a certain level of trail security, long segments of a trail should be visible and dense underbrush cleared from the trail's edge.

** Chapter 2 from *Universal Access to Outdoor Recreation, a Design Guide*, published by PLAE, Inc. a subsidiary of MIG Berkeley, California 1993

4.8.4 Trail Inspection Checklist: The Parks and Recreation Department will create a trail inspection timetable, a checklist and complete it upon every inspection. The inspection will include the trail itself and the area within the trail right-of-way. At a minimum the following items will be inspected:

- Trail surfacing conditions
- Signs of erosion (trail or adjoining property)
- Vegetation encroachment
- Hazardous trees and vegetation
- Vandalism
- Other hazardous or safety issues

This documentation will be reported to the Parks & Recreation Commission at regular intervals.

4.8.5 Trail Maintenance Responsibility: For the selected trails (T-1, T-4*, T-5, T-9) the City will be responsible for trail repair, litter control, vegetation control, erosion control, signage, and other hazardous or safety conditions.

4.9 Trail Surface Repair:

4.9.1 Trail Repair: Trail repair will be dependent upon the type and conditions of trail. Safety or hazardous conditions will be repaired on a priority basis.

4.9.2 Trail Erosion: Trail erosion will be repaired as soon as possible. Safety or hazardous conditions will be repaired on a priority basis.

4.9.3 Trail Resurfacing: Surface sealing or similar treatment should be conducted on all paved trails on an as-needed basis.

4.10 Trail Cleanup and Litter:

4.10.1 Trail Cleanup: Trails will be kept clean and free of limbs, encroaching vegetation or other debris. Cleanup will be dependent upon the type of trail, amount of use and special environmental conditions. The Open Space Committee will establish appropriate levels.

4.11 Trail Vandalism: Because of the remote character of trails; trail layout, signage, and other features should be designed to discourage vandalism. Making the trails as visible as possible and making signs out of materials that are difficult to vandalize can achieve part of this objective.

4.12 Use of Volunteers: The City should promote the use of volunteers to help manage and maintain the trail system. The formation of a special support group to work on one specific trail should be encouraged. Other duties/tasks for volunteers include:

- Trail Patrols and inspections

* *Note: Excluding at this time the maintenance responsibility for a portion of Regional Trail T-4 associated with a disputed shoreline permit which is currently in a separate and ongoing legal/regulatory process.*

- Minor trail enhancement, maintenance or repair
- Trail cleanup campaigns
- Presentation of environmental education and appreciation programs
- Recommendations on policy and use changes

5. SIGNAGE

Intent: Signs that provide direction, information, and describe rules and regulations regarding the use of the area should be posted within the Open Space Network. These signs should be restricted to trailheads and along trails. Signs along trails should be kept to a minimum.

- 5.1 Uniform Signage Program:** The Camas Parks and Recreation Department will establish a uniform signage program and encourage private developments to follow the polices and recommendations contained herein.
- 5.2 Trail Information:** Trail signs will be designed to educate, inform, and orient the visitor as well as encourage appreciation of the local natural resources. Signs will be of a minimum number and size required to serve the intended function. Signs will be designed and placed to provide the minimum intrusion upon the natural setting.
- 5.3 Trail Challenge:** Signs should assist the user in determining if the trail is within their range of ability and interest. An example is shown below.



- 5.4 Regulation Boards:** Regulation boards will be located at trailheads to provide information on the open space area, regulations and intended use. They may also include informational and interpretive material.
- 5.5 Informational and Interpretive Materials:** Informational materials may be provided to assist visitors in appreciating the open space and its preservation. Materials should emphasize the functions of the natural environment, the importance of preserving the open space, and ways the visitor can appreciate this environment.

6. LAND MANAGEMENT

Intent: The City is to manage the Open Space Network through preservation and maintenance of the vegetation and wildlife in a manner that ensures the health and safety of the users and adjoining property.

6.1 Roles and Responsibilities:

6.1.1 Use Policies: The Parks and Recreation Commission will be responsible for establishing policies of use and management of all lands (public and private) within the Open Space Network.

6.1.2 Private Homeowner Responsibilities: Private landowners are encouraged to maintain their own open space or enter into an agreement with the City to maintain the land, provided they bear the full cost of required services. Appropriate agreement format and procedures to be established by the Open Space Committee. If open space on private property is not being managed according to the policies and recommendations found in this document, the City may require the property owners to do so, then property owners shall pay for the cost of the maintenance.

6.2 Soils and Geologic Protection:

6.2.1 Erosion Material: Best bioengineering solutions will be utilized for erosion control.

6.2.2 Controlling Erosion: Control soil erosion and sedimentation by careful location and construction of trails as outlined in Section 4, restricting public use on steep hillsides, and utilizing soil erosion mitigating techniques (wood retaining walls, riprap, use of special erosion control matting materials, etc).

6.2.3 Protecting Special Features: Protect special geologic and other features from public intrusion by controlling access.

6.3 Diseases and Pest Control:

6.3.1 Discovery of Disease and Pests: When diseases and pests are discovered in the Network, the City shall take appropriate action on City owned property and main trails. When discovered on private property the City will notify and request appropriate action.

6.3.2 Use of Pesticides: The use of pesticides is permitted as long as licensed personnel administer them. The use of manual or other methods is encouraged. (The city should develop and follow an integrated pest management program that identifies the most appropriate method for controlling pests.)

6.4 Vegetation Control:

6.4.1 Noxious Weeds: The City, Home Owner Associations and private landowners are required to control noxious weeds. The State of Washington has adopted a

noxious weed control program (WAC.17.10.001). The City of Camas is located within Region 8 and is required to comply with applicable regulations.

6.4.2 Use of Herbicides: Post and pre-emergent vegetation control methods are permitted, although manual removal or other methods are preferred. The use of herbicides should be integral with a 'Best Management Practices' program.

6.4.3 Invasive Vegetation: Invasive vegetation is encouraged to be removed and replaced with appropriate native material. The use of domestic grasses and the development of highly maintained areas should be discouraged. The exception can be around high use areas such as trailheads, visitor centers, etc.

6.4.4 Private Owner Responsibility: It will be a private property owner's responsibility to remove invasive vegetation that originates on said property and grows into the natural open space area.

6.4.5 Examples of Invasive Vegetation: Examples of invasive vegetation materials found in the Camas area include:

- Morning glory
- Scotch (Scots) broom
- English ivy
- Yellow iris
- Purple loose strife
- Reed canary grass
- False bamboo
- Evergreen blackberry

6.4.6 Degraded and Deteriorated Areas: Seriously degraded or deteriorated areas of the network should be restored by responsible party as soon as possible to minimize further damage. Restoration methods to be approved by Park & Recreation Department.

6.4.7 Areas subject to Fire: Areas subject to fire should be annually mowed or otherwise controlled to reduce the possibility of fire damage. Areas of Open Space that abut developed private property must be maintained per Fire Department requirements. Owners of the Open Space property will be responsible for the cost of this fire prevention maintenance.

6.4.8 Maintaining Scenic Views From The Trail: Notwithstanding more restrictive plans, vegetation may be controlled to create or maintain important scenic viewpoints and vistas from the trail.

6.5 Tree Care and Management:

6.5.1 Tree Pruning: Trees will not be pruned or maintained except when a hazardous condition exists as described below or unless otherwise consistent with 6.4.7 or 6.4.8.

- 6.5.2 **Views from private property:** Trees or vegetation will not be removed or pruned to improve views from adjoining private property.
- 6.5.3 **Falling Trees:** Trees subject to falling or which are otherwise unhealthy will not be cut down unless they pose a potential danger to other trees, users of the trails or cause significant damage to the environment. Leaning trees that could potentially fall onto private property will not be removed unless a consulting arborist concludes that the tree is a hazard and the City agrees. Downed trees will not be removed from Open Space.
- 6.5.4 **Natural Debris:** Vegetation debris resulting from natural conditions or removal operations may or may not be removed from the Network at the discretion of the Parks Department.

6.6 **Streams and Wetland Management:**

- 6.6.1 **Protecting Surface and Ground Water:** Protect surface and ground water from contamination and minimize interference with the natural flow.
- 6.6.2 **Streams:** Streams will generally be left to seek out their natural course except when events alter a stream's course and the stream then damages or threatens valuable habitat or adjacent public or private property.
- 6.6.3 **Erosion Control Measures:** Erosion control measures will favor the use of natural materials or methods that promote the setting.
- 6.6.4 **Fish Habitat:** Streams, stream banks, and stream corridors may be enhanced to promote fish habitat by sediment control measures, additional native plantings and restricting public access subject to regulatory compliance.
- 6.6.5 **Wetlands:** Management of wetland areas will be kept to a minimum, except under specific management controls set by state and federal agencies. The City of Camas should not accept mitigated wetland areas until the monitoring time period has lapsed.
- 6.6.6 **Management Responsibility of Streams:** The City of Camas will coordinate management responsibilities of all streams in the Open Space Network but should seek input from specialists for a specific field of need.
- 6.6.7 **Culvert Maintenance:** Each year culverts and similar devices will be inspected, repaired, and cleaned to reduce sedimentation buildup or blockage.

6.7 **Wildlife Management:**

- 6.7.1 **Wildlife Promoted:** Wildlife is encouraged except for those that pose a threat to public health and safety.
- 6.7.2 **Protecting Wildlife:** Protect animal populations from the impact of human actions by restricting access to sensitive areas or providing supplemental habitat.

6.7.3 Trapping: The trapping of animals, except for removal from the area, in accordance with State laws, shall be restricted.

7. PARKING

Intent: The purpose of this section is to provide guidelines for parking within the Open Space Network. Parking should be encouraged at select areas to provide staging areas for those using the trail system in the open space area.

7.1 Location of Parking Areas: New parking areas shall be located and constructed to minimize damage to natural resources. Parking areas shall be limited and designed to accommodate motorized and non-motorized vehicles, pedestrians and access to public transportation.

7.1.1 Parking Restrictions: Parking within open space areas will only be permitted in designated parking areas.

7.2 Trailheads:

7.2.1 Location of Trailheads: Trailheads are encouraged at public access points to trails. Trailheads will be designed to meet the following minimum standards:

	<u>Major Trailhead</u>	<u>Minor Trailhead</u>
Number of Parking spaces	10-20	3+
Parking surfacing	paved	crushed aggregate
Setbacks from private property	minimum per City code	minimum per City code
Typical facilities	restroom, drinking fountain, shelter	signage
Optional	telephone, picnic area, signage	

7.2.2 Litter: It is illegal to litter.

8. DOGS

Intent: These policies and regulations apply to dogs and their owners in the Open Space Network. The intent is to permit dogs and their owners to both enjoy the open space areas as long as public safety is not threatened, a clean environment is maintained, and sensitive areas are not disturbed.

8.1 Dogs Permitted: Unless otherwise posted, dogs on a leash are permitted on trails in the Open Space Network. Dogs may be allowed to run free in specified open space areas as designated by the City.

8.2 Dog Cleanup: Dog owners are required to remove and properly dispose of excrement.

8.3 Dogs Not Permitted: Dogs are not permitted off trail within critical areas and associated buffer zones of critical areas.

9. BICYCLES, SKATEBOARDS, AND OTHER NON-MOTORIZED VEHICLES

Intent: The intent is to permit bicycle, skateboard, and other non-motorized vehicle riding in open space areas.

9.1 Bicycles, Skateboards, and Non-Motorized Vehicles Permitted: Bicycles, skateboards, and other non-motorized vehicles are permitted on all trails unless otherwise designated.

9.2 Bicycles, Skateboards, and Non-Motorized Vehicles Operation: Bicycles, skateboard, and other non-motorized vehicles should be operated in a safe manner at all times. They must not become a safety hazard or nuisance to the public or create adverse impacts on the environment. Pedestrians have right-of-way.

10. EQUESTRIAN

10.1 Equestrian Riding Areas: It is unlawful for any person to ride or lead a horse in the Open Space Network or Trail System not designated and posted as an equestrian riding area.

10.2 Reckless Riding: It is unlawful for any person to ride a horse in a careless, negligent or reckless manner so as to create a nuisance, or to endanger the life, property, or others in the Open Space Network. Pedestrians have right-of-way.

10.3 Horse Clean Up: Horse owners are required to remove and properly dispose of excrement.