



# LAKE OSWEGO

## Parks, Recreation and Natural Areas System Plan

<b>Meeting Summary</b>	<b>Teen Focus Group Meeting "Master Plan Extravaganza"</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>10/19/10</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>West End Building</b>

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### **Meeting Agenda and Overview**

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Ryan Stee, project manager with the City of Lake Oswego, and Teen Program Coordinator Cydney Winslow, welcomed teen participants and introduced the Parks Plan 2025. Ryan provided an overview of the agenda and the project. Students were asked to complete a "teen" survey, modified by Ryan & the Youth Action Council, as well as to participate in a board exercise & a brief discussion.

The meeting included an open group discussion on the following topics: Are teen needs being met in Lake Oswego?, What changes would you like to see in Lake Oswego?, & What changes would you need to see for you to want to live in Lake Oswego following graduation?

Participants were thanked for their time and input. They were encouraged to help publicize the questionnaire to their peers. Images of the meeting's discussion & boards, attached to the last page, illustrate the concepts and findings identified by participants.

### **Teen Survey**

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Overall, there were several **major themes** derived from the Teen Survey.

These include:

- Students seemed surprised they were being asked to provide input;
- Students had a difficult time putting what they wanted in writing & stated it was because they didn't feel like their ideas would be taken seriously;
- Of the on-site surveys taken:
  - A strong number found recreational areas, specifically gyms & basketball courts, to be grossly inadequate
  - The most important issues among participants were:
    - A lack of teen-oriented activities;

- The building of a recreation facility & skate park;
- The divide between teens & law enforcement; and
- Parks being closed at 9pm

## **Board Exercise**

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After the survey, teens were asked to participate in a board exercise & prioritize their suggestions for the Parks Plan. Photos of each board are included on the last page.

- Overall, students found parks, recreation & natural areas to be important to very important to Lake Oswego's quality of life
- The functions & benefits of the park, recreation & natural area system that were most important included creating a unique identity for the city, keeping air & water clean, and bringing neighbors & people together
- Of recreation programs, students felt that aquatic programs/swimming, youth sports & special events were most needed
- Within walking/biking distance of every home; play for children, sports, exercise & gatherings were listed as most important. Getting involved & learning opportunities were least favored.
- In regards to the Luscher Farm Plan suggestions included:
  - A covered basketball court
  - A swimming pool
  - A 'better' skate park or BMX park
  - A market or booths for walking shoppers
  - More activities
- Other suggestions for the Parks Plan included:
  - A music venue
  - Safer places for students to run/walk
  - Skate parks or spots in parks to skate and allowing skate/long boarding on sidewalks/streets
  - Extend the park hours to the youth curfew of midnight

*(See the attached images of the actual board exercises)*

## **Final Discussion**

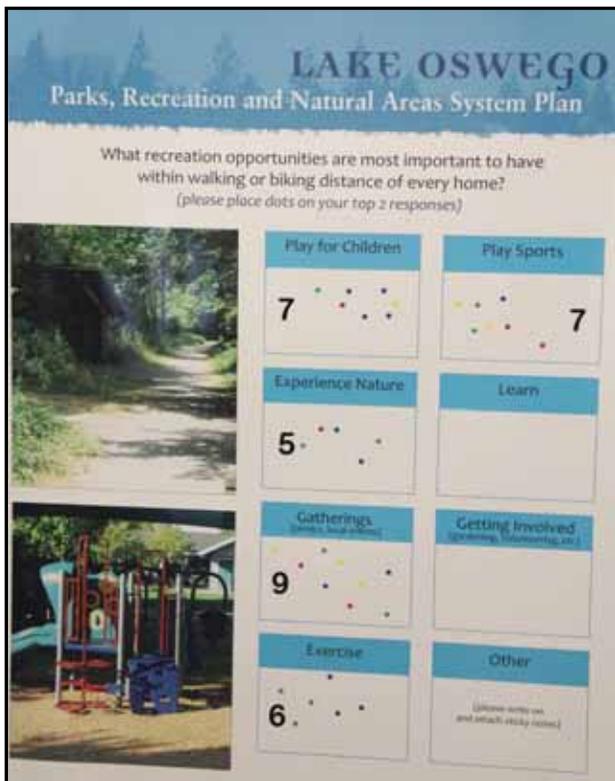
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Students were asked to participate in a brief discussion regarding the retention/returning of youth after graduation. Overall, students do not wish to come back to Lake Oswego following high school or college. We discussed what needed to change in order for youth to want to live in the City.

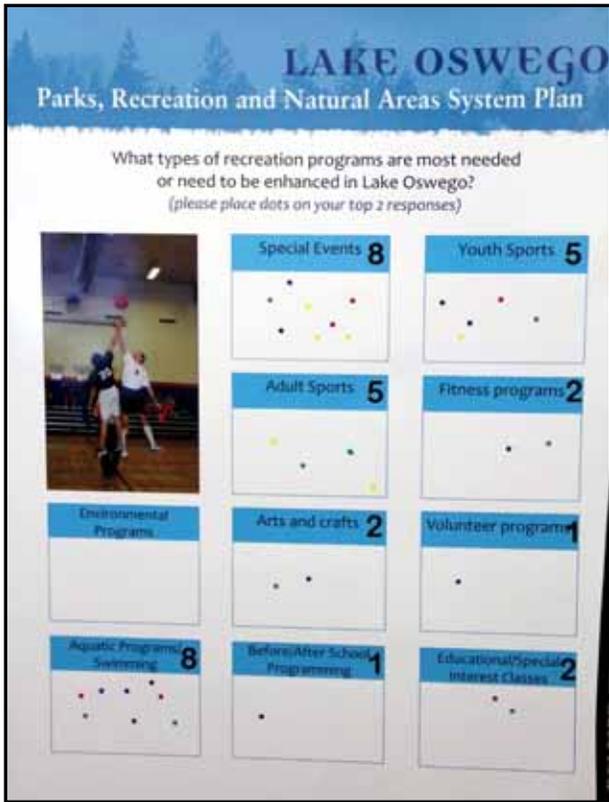
- The most common responses included:
  - A more diverse community (race and age specifically mentioned)
  - More neighborhood places (markets, small restaurants) that welcome youth
  - Less snobbery
  - A greater level of respect between youth & law enforcement
- Other responses included:
  - More affordable housing
  - More healthy alternatives for teens (to reduce drug & alcohol abuse)

### Teen Master Plan Extravaganza Board Exercises (October 19th, 2010)

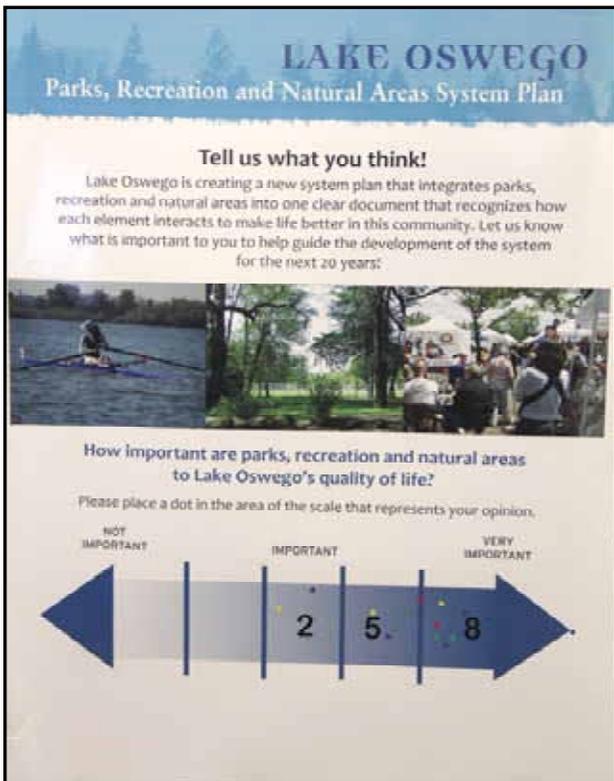
The following board exercises were available during the event. These exercises were also used in the intercept events and provided insight into where Lake Oswego youth priorities lie.



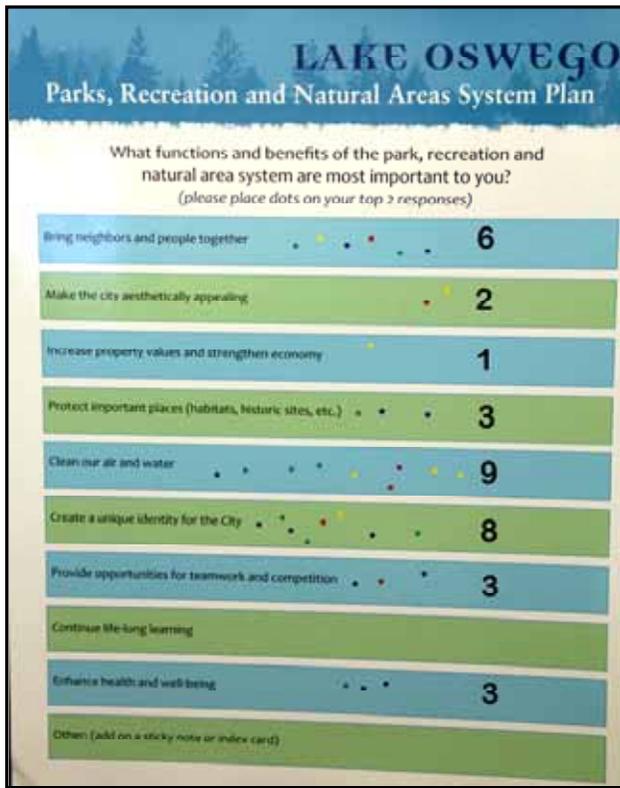
*The group felt that the recreation opportunities most important within walking or biking distance from home are Gathering spaces and places to play sports and for children to play*



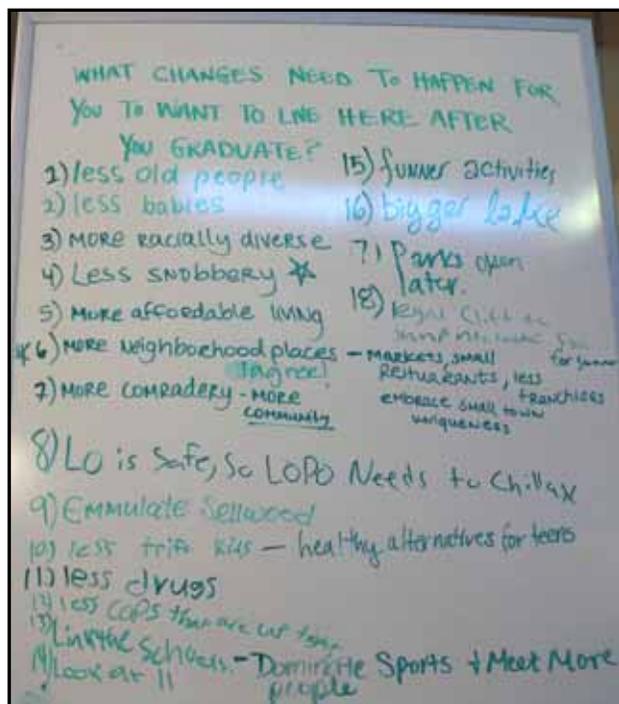
*The types of recreation most needed in Lake Oswego are Aquatic/Swimming programs and Special Events.*



*The majority of the group felt that parks, recreation and natural areas are very important to Lake Oswego's quality of life.*



The group felt that the function and benefits of the park, recreation and natural area system are mostly to clean our air and water and to create a unique identity for the city.



The group was asked what changes need to happen for you to want to live here after you graduate. See the adjacent photo for their responses.

## LAKE OSWEGO

### Luscher Area Master Plan

Along side the system plan, the City will also prepare a master plan for the Luscher Farm area that will guide uses and features at this important site.



What are your ideas for using this site to enhance the natural, recreational and historical identity of Lake Oswego? Please write your top two ideas on a sticky note or on the provided card and drop it in the box.

*Covered Basket Ball courts*  
*Swimming Pool*  
*Theme Park*  
*Trampoline Park*  
*Water Park*  
*Rock Climbing Wall*  
*Sky High*  
*Personal Training groups*  
*Thrift Shop*  
*Markets & booths for walking shoppers*

The following board asked the group for their ideas for enhancing the natural, recreational and historical identity of Lake Oswego at the Luscher Area. The bottom image is a close up of their answers.



What are your ideas for using this site to enhance the natural, recreational and historical identity of Lake Oswego? Please write your top two ideas on a sticky note or on the provided card and drop it in the box.

*Covered Basket Ball courts*  
*Swimming Pool*  
*Rock Skate Park*  
*BMX Park*  
*venue for music!*  
*Arcade*  
*Theme Park*  
*Trampoline Park*  
*Water Park*  
*Gym*  
*Rock Climbing Wall*  
*Slip and Slide Park*  
*Sky High!*  
*Personal Training groups*  
*Thrift Shop*  
*Markets & booths for walking shoppers*  
*epic trampolines SO FUN*

## Questionnaire Results

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**Respondents: 12**

**Age range: 12-18 (mostly 16-18)**

**Gender (if responded)**

Male: 4

Female: 8

**Where do you go to play:**

**Basketball:**

- Lake Oswego High School
- my street or forest hills
- Riverdale, westlake park, friends houses
- School Gym
- school gym
- school gyms
- West Lake, LOJHS, 24 Hour Fitness
- westlake park

**Skateboarding**

- around my house
- Lake Oswego Skate Park near Waluga

**Longboarding**

- Greentree Rd.

**Baseball/Softball**

- Junior High or a back yard
- Lakeridge Softball Field
- LOJHS
- westlake park
- Westlake park, Waluga Park

**Soccer**

- hazelia field
- Lake Oswego High School Fields
- Lakeridge Football Field
- LOHS
- school fields
- Westlake Park

**Football**

- Hazelia Field
- High School or Westlake Park
- LOHS
- LOHS

**Swimming**

- Friends Houses, Lake, Country Club
- lake
- Lake

- LO Pool
- LOHS
- the lake and river
- The Pool at LOHS, or Portland

**Walking, Running, Etc.**

- Along Iron Mt. Road
- around my house, in the park near Uplands, Trails that I'm able to run to, Lake Oswego Roads, and Tryon Creek
- Downtown Lake Oswego
- neighborhood, tryon creek
- school track
- Springbrook park, LOHS track
- Springbrook Park, Tryone Creek,
- springbrook park/tryon creek
- Streets
- westlake park

**Biking**

- Anywhere
- around my house, for transportation, through roads of Lake Oswego, to Portland, on long organized Bike rides around the state
- All around Lake Oswego
- neighborhood
- Streets

**Hang out**

- bridgeport, downtown LO, Foothills park
- Downtown LO, foothills park, westlake park
- downtown lo, movie theatre, uu yogurt, friends
- downtown/westlake
- Foothills, George Rogers
- Friends house, resturants
- friends houses
- Hazelia Field or Friends houses
- Millenium Park, Foothills
- Movies, restaurants

**Did we forget anything**

- Theater, movies
- Other field sports such as lacrosse
- lacrosse - school fields
- LACROSSE
- I row on the Willamette

**Why do you go to parks?**

Hang out with friends	11
Attend special events/concerts	10
Walk or bike	9
Play outside	8
Volunteer/community service	7

projects	
Play team sports/attend sporting events	6
For a specific park feature (playground, skate park, basketball court, etc)	5
Family activities	5
I don't go to parks	0
Other	0

**What do you like about the Parks in Lake Oswego?**

- Clean, and welcoming, and also well maintained
- They're green!!! They're built fairly well into nature, and good paths.
- well maintained
- There are a lot of them
- They're close by and well maintained.
- they're fun
- I like that we have a place to engage in many sports and playgrounds
- Clean, always have trash cans, always have accessible parking
- They are beautiful. I love foothills park and millenium park.

**What do you expect from your parks?**

- Same things that i like about them.
- Quality facilities, paths, cleanliness
- to stay that way
- More lacrosse turf fields!
- Available fields, bathrooms & clean
- a place to run, play with my dog, preserve the environment, teach people about the preserving the environment
- cleanliness
- I expect a safe enviornment where I am able to have fun with my friends
- To be clean with trash cans, to have something they're known for
- clean, well kept

**Where would you like youth recreation activities to be provided? (Where would you feel most comfortable going?)**

- George Rogers, Lakewood theater, West lake park, Waluga park
- dont know
- anywhere there is something going on
- Would like to have more fields at Hazelia
- downtown LO, near the school, anywhere
- Around Lake Oswego
- School Areas, gyms, fields etc.

**Where do you hear about youth/teen activities?**

- Friends, school, facebook, email, messaging
- school, friends, church
- nowhere - there is nothing going on except in my sports

- school
- school, my mom, i don't hear about many
- At highschool
- Around school.

**Please rate the following activities in the box below. If you would like to explain why you rated an activity the way you did, please do so under each activity listed**

PLEASE BE HONEST!	How is Lake Oswego doing?					
	Terrible	Bad	OK	Good	Excellent	Not sure
Baseball & softball fields	0	2	0	1	3	3
Soccer & football fields	0	1	3	1	2	2
Outdoor basketball courts	0	2	3	2	0	2
Longboarding	1	1	2	0	0	5
Gyms	1	2	2	2	1	1
Swimming or spray parks	1	2	2	0	1	3
Waterpark	0	2	1	0	1	4
Running, walking & biking trails	0	0	3	4	3	0
BMX biking	0	1	1	0	0	5
Skateboarding	0	0	2	0	1	5
Places to hang out	1	3	0	3	3	0
Activities for my friends and me	2	1	1	3	2	1
Other: <i>(Write-in)</i>	0	0	0	0	0	1

**Other Responses/Comments:**

- Lacrosse!
- The outdoor basketball courts, especially in West Lake are very low quality, the hoops are shaky, the rims are terrible, and the court isn't close to flat....
- the gyms don't get cleaned often enough
- We need to have more turf fields. A large sports complex would be nice.
- There are good running and walking trails, but not great biking trails

- it seems that my friends and I are constantly searching for new things to do that are fun but the options are very limited
- More places to just hang out
- More turf fields
- more water parks
- more transportation
- A large sports complex with several fields.
- more biking
- More activities for teenagers to give us positive activities to engage in outside of school
- Better care taken of parks and trails

**What is the #1 thing you would like to see changed in Lake Oswego?**

- **don't know**
- I already want to continue living here!
- I love this city and i think nothing needs to be changed but it would be benefical if teenagers had places to hang out
- nothing
- Nothing - I like LO alot.
- Sun needs to shine more, and there has to be more publicity about it here.
- Well not really a change, but schools need to remain great, keep fostering community events such as the farmers market, and more advertisement towards adult programs and leagues.

**What changes need to happen for you to want to live in Lake Oswego after you graduate?**

- I am a rower at Lake Oswego Community Rowing. This sport has changed my life, I love it. I want to thank the city of Lake Oswego for providing such an incredible opportunity.

**Is there anything else you would like to tell us about Lake Oswego?**

- No responses