When I took office in 2012, I was told that the City had a poor park system. After I did a personal park tour, I was impressed by the amount of park land that we already own. I have estimated that the City of Port Orchard has over 66 acres of park property. That equals a 12’ x 20’ area for every man, woman, and child living in the City.

I realize that some of this property was overgrown, underused, and not maintained as well as it should be. So we started to correct these issues as the money became available. Along the way, many partners have helped us clean and return some of our parks to full-service. For example, in the last three years, the LDS church has donated over a thousand hours of volunteer service in various parks.

With continued cooperation from citizens and organizations like the LDS Church, I believe that we will have our park system in outstanding shape within the next year and a half.

Tim Matthes, Mayor

McCormick Village Park had a ground breaking ceremony on May 14, 2014. Phase 1 of this project includes construction of the shared access road; a parking lot; restroom facilities; lighting, sewer, and power utilities installation; removal of stumps and slash (which will be ground up into mulch for the trail), and construction of the main loop road trails and pedestrian walking path. Phase 1 activities are anticipated to be finished by the end of summer.

Tim Matthes, Mayor
Downtown Waterfront Parks & Path

Dekalb Pier, 475 Bay Street
Phase 1 of the pier renovations are complete, which included new surfacing on the 169-ft pier. Attached to the pier is a 359-ft floating dock which offers free day-use moorage for boaters. This is an excellent spot for kayakers to launch, or for boats to tie up and enjoy a lunch at one of the restaurants located close by.

Waterfront Street Boat Launch, 535 Bay Street
The boat launch recently underwent reconstruction in a partnership with the Port of Bremerton. The launch is a two-lane ramp with concrete boarding floats. Additionally, there is a parking lot, public restrooms, benches for viewing, picnic tables, and a small memorial to our nation’s Navy.

Bay Street Pedestrian Pathway
The Bay Street Pedestrian Pathway is a multi-purpose path/trail beginning at the Port Orchard Foot Ferry Terminal and ending at the Annapolis Ferry Terminal. The completed trail will become part of the Mosquito Fleet Trail. This trail is being constructed in segments, and currently, Segments 2 and 5 are complete, which include the portion running through the Marina Park and behind the Westbay Center. Segment 4 is next, which is a bridge that will connect Segments 3 and 5.

Port Orchard Marina Park, Downtown Waterfront
This park is owned by the Port of Bremerton is located in the heart of the waterfront downtown area. Facilities include a covered performance area, covered seating, restrooms, public beach access, children’s playground, and large lawn area. Recent additions to the park as part of the Bay Street Pedestrian Pathway project include a new viewing platform, improved public access, a “Chalk Wall”, reflexology path, and benches.

Etta Turner Park, mouth of Blackjack Creek
Etta Turner Park lies on a narrow strip of land on the east bank of Blackjack Creek. The site is landscaped and has park benches, picnic tables, and a gazebo. The Bay Street Pedestrian Path runs alongside the park.
Neighborhood Parks

Clayton Park
915 Dwight Street
Clayton Park is a 1.4 acre park located in the residential area of Port Orchard. It contains three picnic tables, new playground equipment installed in 2012, a sports field, basketball court, seasonal restrooms, and a covered picnic area.

Givens Field
1025 Tacoma Ave
Givens Field is primarily an athletic field for organized teams. Two baseball diamonds are on this site and are leased to South Kitsap Western Little League. This space is also leased in the fall months for Pee Wee Football.

Givens Park
1025 Tacoma Ave
Givens Field also has facilities dedicated for public use. These facilities include newly installed playground equipment, a lighted tennis court, basketball court, restrooms, sheltered picnic areas, and restrooms. Also located on the site is the Active Club, which has three meeting rooms, bathrooms, and a kitchen. To rent the Active Club, please call (360) 876-4991.

Paul Powers, Jr. Park
2035 Sidney Avenue
The 2.5 acre park includes a playfield, a playground, and a basketball court. The non-regulation size field is perfect for youth to practice their soccer or t-ball skills.

Van Zee Park
300 Tremont Street
Van Zee Park is an 8.4 acre recreational facility containing picnic areas, trails, shelters, two baseball diamonds, a playground, a sports field, a disc golf course, restrooms, and a lighted double tennis court. The top of the existing concrete water reservoir has been fenced to allow for a safe place to ride bicycles or play basketball.
**Future City Parks**

**McCormick Village Park**
McCormick Village Park is located north of SW Old Clifton Road and east of Campus Parkway. The undeveloped site is approximately 30 acres, and is considered valuable natural habitat with forested areas, streams, and wetlands. It is currently undergoing Phase 1 construction. The unique aspects of the property will be protected and/or enhanced. Once the park is completely developed, there will be over a mile of walking trails, playgrounds, amphitheater, exercise trail, picnic areas, places for art displays, and a meadow for relaxation and outdoor, non-organized games.

**Lundberg Park**
2676 Harold Avenue
Lundberg Park was previously a five-acre RV campground for self-contained recreational vehicles. The site is heavily treed and is relatively flat. The property was developed in such a manner to minimize its impact on the forest and the surrounding areas. Thanks to volunteer work, the trails have been cleared, and work is being done to turn the park into an impediment-free park.

**Bethel South Property**
This undeveloped property is on the west side of Bethel Road, across from Fred Meyer. The property is 5.19 acres, and was bequeathed to the City in 2003 for the express purpose that the property be used as a park/community facility. A portion of the park could potentially be used as a dog park.