

**Youth & Teen
Program and Facilities Plan
City of Bellevue -Parks & Community Services**



July 13, 2004

Purpose

Youth/Teens ages 10 – 18
Program and Facilities Plan Update

Identify recreation service gaps for youth and teens ages 10-18 in the Bellevue Community and answer the following three questions

- Is Bellevue Parks & Community Services providing services that are relevant and effective?
- What role should the City have in supporting programs and services for youth and teens?
- What type of facilities do we need for youth and teens?

**Demographics: Census 2000
Bellevue Youth and Teens ages 10-18**

- 11,538 residents between 10 and 18
- 10.5% of the City's population
- 16% live in single parent households
(of individuals age 18 and under)



Race / Ethnicity

Race / Ethnicity	Bellevue Residents	Bellevue Residents 10-18
White	74.3%	69.1%
Black or African American	2.0%	2.6%
Asian or Pacific Islander	17.6%	18.7%
2 or more races	3.3%	6.2%
Hispanic	5.3%	6.3%

- From 1996-2003, English-as-A-Second Language (ESL) students increased from 15% to 22% for middle school students.



School Statistics

- Approximately 89% of high school students attend public school.
- 11% of high school students attend private school or home school.
- 37% of students at Highland Middle School use the Free/Reduced Cost Lunch Program.
- 6% of students at Bellevue H.S. and Newport H.S. use the Free/Reduced-Cost Lunch Program.
- Bellevue School District's dropout rates have decreased.
- Issaquah School District - 820 Bellevue residents attend Issaquah middle and high schools.
 - Elementary (727) Middle (403) High (417) Total = 1547 students

Characteristics of this Generation (millennium, generation y, echo boomers...)

- Highly experienced in and influenced by technology
- Extremely well-informed (Due to technology)
- Will change jobs/careers frequently throughout working life
- Will question and/or challenge the process when given direction
- Comfortable dealing with diversity



Collecting Information

- Began reviewing youth and teen recreation services (ages 10-18) fall 2003.
- Developed data gathering process.
- Completed internal inventory providing a picture of funding allocations and programs and services for youth/teens ages 10-18 within Parks and Community Services.

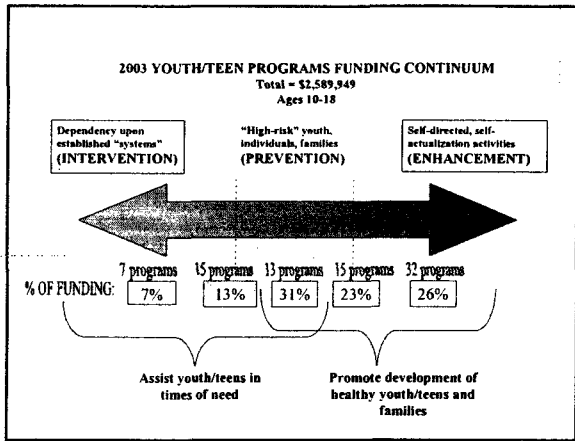
Collecting Information

- Surveyed over 400 youth ages 10-18 from various social, economic and ethnic backgrounds.
- Facilitated discussions with youth service providers from over 30 organizations, with various backgrounds including education, recreation, human services and the faith community.
- Survey was translated into Spanish and several focus groups targeted Latino and other youth of color.
- Completed a roundtable discussion to test our findings.
- Hosted a School's Out Washington focus group on After School Programs in Bellevue.

Emerging Themes:
Is Bellevue Parks & Community Services providing services that are relevant and effective?

- Internal review
- Where services lie on the continuum





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Is Bellevue Parks & Community Services providing services that are relevant and effective?

- External Review – Community comments:
 - Services are relevant and effective, but couldn't assess shifting services on continuum without a comprehensive mapping of existing resources and opportunities throughout the community.
 - Recommends a more collective approach to marketing City and Community's services.
 - Suggests there is not a deliberate strategic approach to coordinating service delivery.
 - Continual update of youth and teen recreation trends.
 - Continue to support culturally relevant services.

Emerging Themes:
What role should the City have in supporting programs and services for youth and teens?

- Information and Referral
Identify existing community assets and resources.
- Funding Agency
Continue to provide scholarships and grant opportunities.
- Leadership
Develop a community-wide comprehensive marketing plan for youth and teen programs.
Provide innovation and serve as a community conduit for cutting edge youth programs.
- Facilitation
Address youth and teen access to programs both geographically and culturally.
- Partnerships
Develop, encourage and support partnerships throughout the community.

Emerging Themes:

What type of facilities do we need for youth and teens?

- Before building new facilities we should better utilize current facilities for recreational purposes:
 - malls, gyms, and movie theatres
 - schools, public and private facilities.
- Youth expressed the desire to have dedicated space for their own recreation use.
- Youth enjoy parks that currently exist.
- Youth, teens and adults requested more skate parks.



Trends that affect facility use for youth and teens ages 10-18

- Lack of transportation to and from programs.
- Desire for non-traditional sports such as skateboarding.
- Increased interest in traditional sports.
- Interest in non-competitive recreation opportunities.
- Youth identified "the mall" as the number one place to hang out.



Next Steps – Fall 2004

- Develop strategies, goals and an action plan.
- Complete draft of plan.
- Present draft plan to Park Board.
- Present draft plan to Council.

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Park Board Feedback