

KING COUNTY PARKS GLOSSARY

Accelerator – A term originating with the implementation of the 2004-2007 Parks Operating Levy and used to describe the adopted practice of adding an FTE annually in parallel with adding newly acquired land.

Assessed Value – The dollar value assigned to real property for purposes of determining property taxes.

BGT – Burke-Gilman Trail

BNSF – Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad corridor; also referred to as Eastside Rail Corridor.

Business Revenues – A portion of the division’s total revenues, which consists of user fees and entrepreneurial ventures.

CFT – Conservation Futures Tax levy funds are collected from property taxes levied throughout King County and its cities for the purchase and permanent protection of open space lands and are allocated on a dollar-for-dollar matching basis as part of the King County budget and based upon an application review process conducted by the King County Conservation Futures Citizens Advisory Committee. Eligible projects include farm and forest lands, salmon and wildlife habitat, urban greenways, trails, and other open spaces.

CIP – Capital Improvement Program

COB – King County Parks Levy Citizen Oversight Board, a committee appointed by the King County Council to review and report annually on King County Parks’ administration and management of funds from its two levies.

CPG – Community Partnerships and Grants Program

CPI – Consumer Price Index

DNRP – Department of Natural Resources and Parks, of which King County Parks is one of four divisions. Other divisions include the Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD), Solid Waste Division, and Water and Land Resources Division (WLRD).

ELST – East Lake Sammamish Trail

EO – Executive Office, the office of King County Executive Dow Constantine

ESJ – Equity and Social Justice

FTE – Full-Time Equivalent employee

GF - General Fund; previously referred to as CX Funds or current expense funds

GIS – Geographic Information System, which captures, stores, manipulates, analyzes, manages, and presents all types of geographical data. Also refers to the work group within King County government that provides these services.

KCSO – King County Sheriff’s Office

KCSP – King County Strategic Plan

Lake-to-Sound Trail – A 16-mile trail currently being designed which, when completed, will extend from the south end of Lake Washington in Renton to Puget Sound in Des Moines.

LOS – Level-of-service standards are measures of the minimum amounts of a public facility that must be provided to meet that community's basic needs and expectations. In the parks and recreation industry, LOS measures things like maintenance and availability/accessibility of parks, trails, or other recreational facilities.

Maury Island Site – The temporary name for the 275-acre site acquired by King County at the end of 2010 from gravel mining company, Glacier Northwest. A management planning process is underway for the site and will involve extensive public engagement, which will also help define the site’s official name.

NRPA – National Recreation and Parks Association, the national trade organization for the parks and recreation industry, which establishes general guidelines about levels of service standards.

O&M – Operations and Maintenance

P4P – Partnership for Parks, the division’s effort to engage businesses in public-private partnerships that result in direct revenue or other benefits to the system.

Parks Business Plan – Also referred to as the *2002 Parks Business Transition Plan*, which was created in response to the King County General Fund crisis at that time and set the division on a course to become a leaner, more focused and entrepreneurial agency. The division continues to operate according to the principles set forth in that plan.

PDMC – Parks District Maintenance Coordinator

PSB - Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget, a work group within the Executive Office that integrates strategic planning, budgeting, financial oversight, and performance measurement to support implementation of the King County Strategic Plan.

RCO – Recreation and Conservation Office, a state-level agency that administers the competitive distribution of state and federal funds for recreation and conservation in Washington State. RCO funds have supported many acquisitions and developments projects in King County.

REET – Real Estate Excise Tax is a state-wide tax on all property sales. A locally-imposed tax can also be levied, though the rate and uses of the funds differ by population size and Growth Management Act planning status. REET is used in King County to fund major maintenance and other capital needs in the Parks system.

Reserves – Also known as budget reserves, the amount of revenue set aside and available to cover future needs. Newly established County policy calls for levy-funded operations to have reserves equal to three months of budgeted operational expenses at the end of the levy term.

Resource Areas – A term the division uses to describe maintenance districts that largely consist of natural area parks.

RTS – Regional Trails System

Seasonals – A term referring to Parks employees who are hired to work from approximately March to October and largely perform maintenance duties.

SRT – Sammamish River Trail

SVT – Snoqualmie Valley Trail

TDR – Transfer of Development Rights

UGA – Urban Growth Area, a geographical area within King County established by the 1990 state Growth Management Act that intended to direct growth to areas within an urban boundary and to preserve lands outside of the UGA for such low density uses as rural residential use, agriculture, forestry, mining and natural preserves.

User Fees – A revenue source that originates from the collection fees from individuals or groups generated by the use of public facilities, such as ballfields, picnic shelters, indoor facilities, camping facilities, and parking.

WKCAC – Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center

WLRD – Water and Land Resources Division, another division within the Department of Natural Resources and Parks with which King County Parks collaborates closely, in particular on the acquisition of natural areas.

WTD – Wastewater Treatment Division, another division within the Department of Natural Resources and Parks

YSFG – Youth Sports Facilities Grant program, a matching grant program administered by the division that funds the development of public youth sports facilities, such as ballfields, gymnasiums, skate parks, and playgrounds, in jurisdictions throughout King County. Funds are distributed annually and come from a one-quarter of one percent car rental tax and earnings on an endowment from past sales of certain King County buildings.