

SANKEY PARK conceptual redesign

October 2016



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The Community Service Center (CSC) is an interdisciplinary organization that assists Oregon communities by providing planning and technical assistance to help solve local issues and improve the quality of life for Oregon residents. The role of the CSC is to link the skills, expertise, and innovation of higher education with the economic development and environmental needs of communities and regions in the State of Oregon, thereby providing service to Oregon and learning opportunities to the students involved.

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I. INTRODUCTION

THE PARK:

Founded in 1935, Sankey Park has been an iconic public space for generations of Sweet Home residents. The park's central location makes it readily accessible to members of the Sweet Home community and visitors of all demographics. In addition to typical city park amenities such as play equipment and restrooms, Sankey provides access to serene natural areas and wooded trails. The site plays host to many events each year from community movie nights to the annual Oregon Jamboree music festival.



FIGURE 1.1: Sankey Park is centrally located near downtown Sweet Home, Oregon

At nearly 17 acres, Sankey Park is the largest developed park within the City of Sweet Home. In contrast to smaller neighborhood parks, Sankey provides activities and amenities to a citywide audience, designating it a “community park” by national standards. It is the only such park serving Sweet Home’s approximately 9,000 residents.

There are two major areas in Sankey Park, commonly referred to as “upper Sankey” and “lower Sankey,” seen in **Figure 1.2**. Lower Sankey, which is located on the northern side of the park includes the majority of amenities; Upper Sankey is located to the south and is largely undeveloped with the exception of a BMX track and parking area.

THE PROJECT:

Sankey Park is both a treasure and a concern to the local community. While the park provides opportunities for recreation and access to green space in the heart of downtown, this comes with serious concerns of inappropriate park use

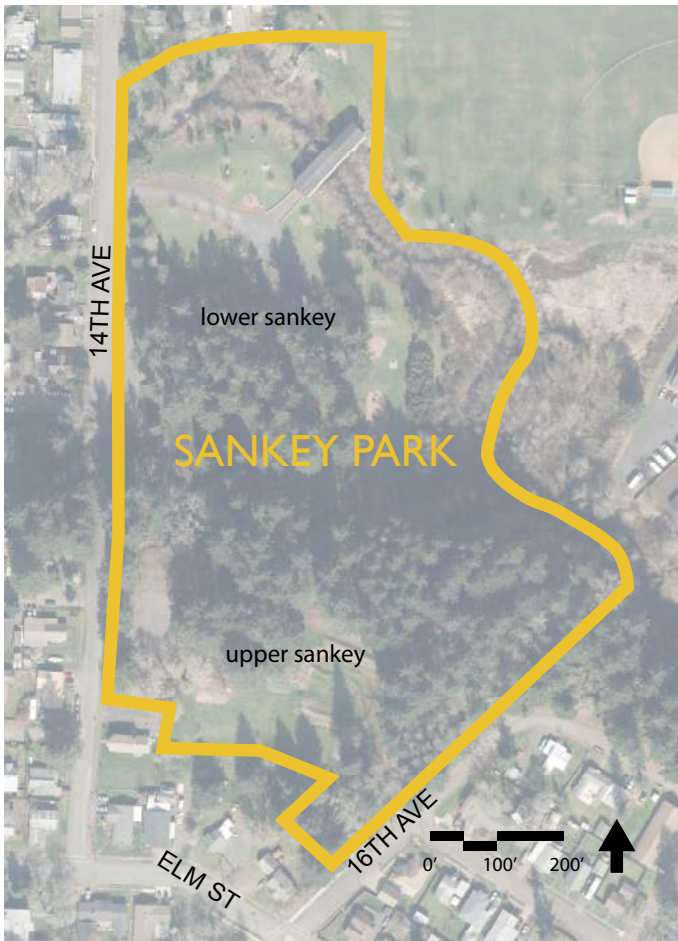


FIGURE 1.2: Sankey Park layout

and poor stewardship by park visitors. Long time residents share fond memories of the site while simultaneously noting concerns about the disrepair of current facilities. Issues of loitering and illegal behavior have caused safety concerns for residents who are apprehensive about bringing children, family members, and visitors to the space.

The current plan re-envisioned Sankey as a vibrant community space for all Sweet Home residents and visitors. Drawing insights from the community itself, it honors the site's past while looking forward and providing for the future.

DESIGN PROCESS:

The Community Service Center approached the redesign for Sankey Park as a community driven project. The needs, wants and requirements of the community, gathered from community events and interviews, were primary inspirations for the design.

The concept plan for Sankey Park is intended to be inspirational yet attainable. CSC envisions a future Sankey Park that is an asset to the City of Sweet Home and a point of pride for community members. Balancing sound design principles with community desires and the existing context of the site, the following plan proposes strategies for achieving this vision.



BE A PART OF YOUR COMMUNITY AND SHARE YOUR IDEAS!

WHEN?
August 8
6-7:30 PM
drop in any time!

WHERE?
The bandstand at Sankey Park
877 14th Ave.

QUESTIONS?
Contact Mike Adams at
(541) 367-6243 or
madams@ci.sweet-home.or.us

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED!

SANKEY PARK

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

What is important to you about Sankey Park?
 What would you like to see here in the future?
 We want to hear what matters to you!
 Join us as we share ideas about the future of this community space!




FIGURE 1.3: Input for the design was gathered at community workshops

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II. CURRENT CONDITIONS

INFRASTRUCTURE

The existing infrastructure within the park is an accumulation of years of park development. While many newer elements are in good repair and experience regular use, defunct infrastructural elements remain on site as well. Major site elements can be seen in **Figure 2.1** and are outlined in more detail below.

1. Dahlenburg Bridge and weir:

The now obsolete concrete weir crosses the historic channel of Ames Creek. The Dahlenburg footbridge, constructed in 1989 as part of a high school trade class, is now closed.

2. Weddle Bridge:

This historic covered bridge was moved from its original site and reconstructed in Sankey Park in 1990. Due to loitering and vandalism, the bridge is closed to the public during the week. The fire suppression system on the bridge is in need of repair.

3. Rental home and outbuilding:

Previously a dwelling for city park employee, the residence is now rented by the city to

private citizens. Fences and plantings screen the home from the park. Structures appear to be in relatively good condition.

4. Public restrooms:

Restrooms are plumbed and feature separate multi-stall male and female facilities. Restrooms are in fair condition but suffer from issues of vandalism.

5. Park storage:

A storage building for maintenance equipment is located adjacent to the public restrooms. This structure is not accessible to park visitors.

6. Cannon:

A small cannon is located near 14th Avenue. It is in acceptable condition but is placed without regard to other site elements.

7. Historic gazebo:

This WPA structure is centrally located in lower Sankey. It is currently in poor condition, suffering from structural issues, vandalism, and potentially serving as a campsite. There is no functional lighting in the structure and no seating. The concrete floor is seriously compromised. The heavy timber construction

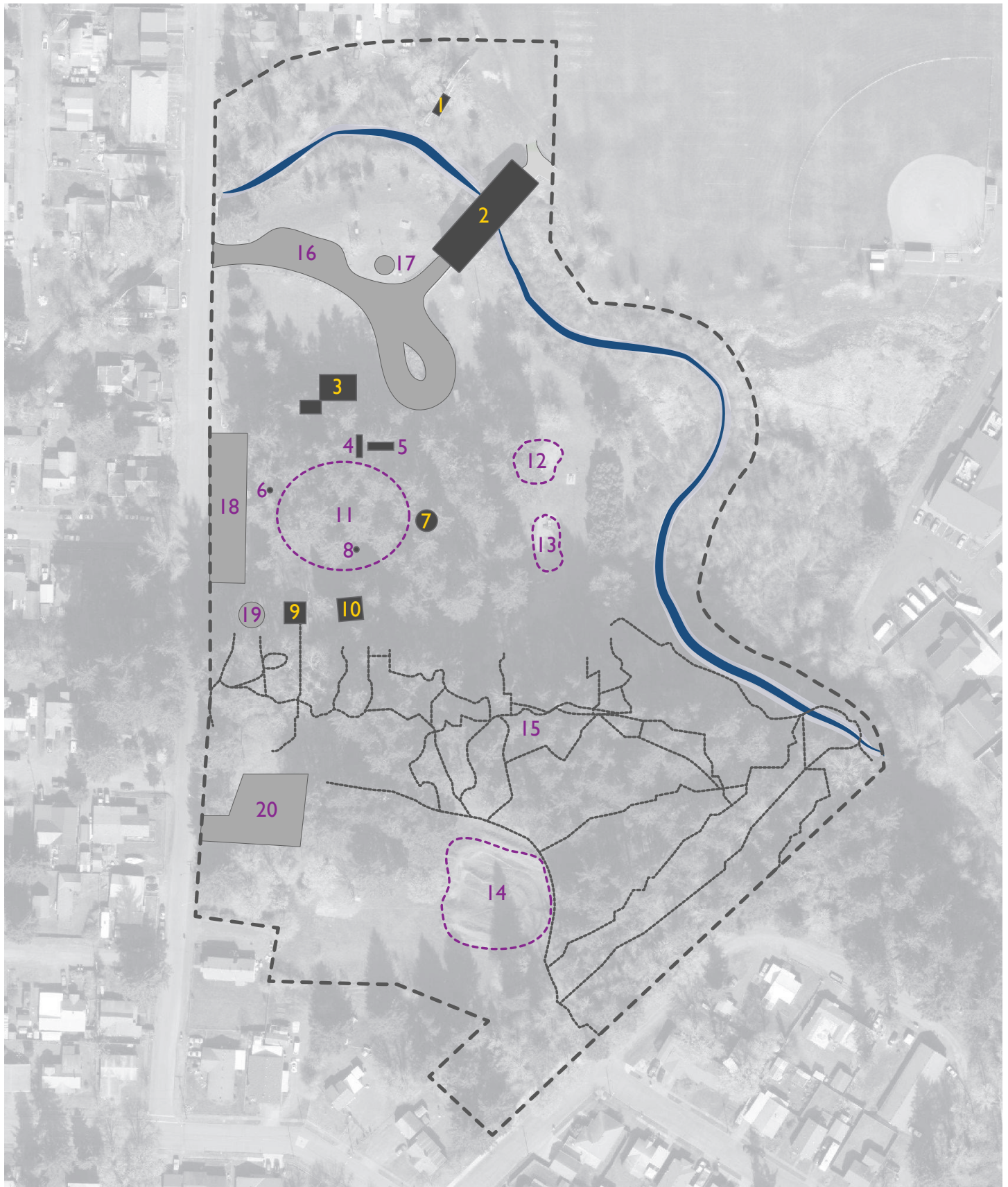


FIGURE 2.1: Existing park infrastructure



1. Dahlenburg Bridge



9. Girl Scout house



11. Picnic infrastructure



12. Concrete box near playground

obscures views into and out of the structure.

8. Pulley:

A pulley is located in central lower Sankey. It is in acceptable condition but is placed without regard to other site elements.

9. Girl Scout house:

This small structure is available for rentals and is used by a local Girl Scout troop. It has both water and electricity and includes a restroom, partial kitchen, and storage area in addition to a large meeting space.

10. Historic bandstand:

This WPA structure features unique wood architectural detailing. It is in usable but poor condition. Used as a stage and event space, there have been complaints of loitering in the structure as well as reports of camping beneath the elevated floor.

11. Picnic infrastructure area:

The central area of lower Sankey includes multiple picnic tables, barbecues, and trash cans. This infrastructure appears to be of varying ages and its condition varies. There are also two covered kiosk-like structures with electrical outlets that are currently used as charging stations; these are in acceptable condition. The remains of additional picnic infrastructure can be found on the slope between upper and lower Sankey, however these elements are in incredibly poor condition and are no longer usable.

12. North ("new") playground area:

New metal playground equipment is located near the gravel drive area. It features play elements suitable largely to elementary school aged children. This equipment appears to be in good condition. This area also includes a nearby horseshoe pit in fair to poor condition and a large poured concrete box of undetermined purpose in poor condition.

13. South playground area:

This metal/plastic play structure and swing set are in relatively good condition. The ground treatment around these structures is severely degraded. These structures are suitable to elementary school aged children. The location of these structures is far from other site elements and is particularly hard to access from current parking areas.

14. BMX track:

The BMX track is located in Upper Sankey. It is in generally fair condition. It shows signs of light use but also is experiencing issues of erosion and weedy vegetation overgrowth.

15. Trail network:

The trails throughout the wooded sections of the park are extensive. Despite the relatively small area they cover, over a mile of trails exist on site. In many cases these trails appear to be the result of unregulated/informal use rather than formal trail construction. These trails range from poor to fair condition.

16. Gravel drive and parking:

Located to the south of Weddle Bridge this gravel drive is the only vehicular entrance into the site. It is in good condition but appears to experience only irregular use.

17. Flag pole and brick terrace:

A flag pole is located to the west of Weddle Bridge set within a brick circle. While this area is in good condition, there is no associated seating and the purpose of the brick-paved area is unclear.

18. Lower paved parking:

This centrally located parking area is the one most frequently used by visitors. It is in fair condition and seems to accommodate the necessary number of vehicles. It includes a gateway arch that may have previously included a sign but that is currently in poor condition.

19. Ornamental concrete planter:

The concrete circle to the west of the Girl Scout house was originally a small wading pool/water feature and now features ornamental plantings. The concrete includes the handprints of children from the community and is in fair condition. A bench is located nearby.

20. Upper paved parking:

The large parking area in upper Sankey is in good condition. It appears significantly underutilized for its size.

OTHER ELEMENTS**Paths and circulation:**

There are no paved pathways on the site. Unpaved trails are limited to the wooded hillside between upper and lower Sankey, and to the wooded southeastern section of the park; there are no unpaved trails between site elements in either upper or lower Sankey. There is no public sidewalk along 14th Avenue, which borders the park to the west.

Lighting:

No cohesive lighting exists within the park. Current lighting is limited to lights on existing structures. There is no pathway, parking, or area lighting within the park. There is electrical power in both the restrooms and the Girl Scout house, as well as to covered charging stations and the rental home.

Signage:

There is no sign identifying the park or providing general park rules or information. Wayfinding/trail system signage is also absent on site. Some interpretive signs related to Ames Creek are present on site but are not cohesive.



13. South playground area



14. BMX track



15. Trail network



19. Ornamental concrete planter

INFRASTRUCTURE SUMMARY

Challenges:

- Many existing site elements are in poor condition and require maintenance or replacement;
- The site lacks a unified layout and has no defined pathways through open space;
- Trail system is disorganized and many informal trails are redundant and poorly defined; and
- Vandalism and litter are prevalent.

Opportunities:

- Existing playground equipment is in relatively good condition, though poorly located;
- Parking is abundant; and
- Water and electricity are already present on site.

HISTORICAL FEATURES

Established in 1935, Sankey Park has been a part of the lives of multiple generations of Sweet Home residents. Structures on site remain from the earliest days of the park, speaking to the site's long history within the community. Despite the historic significance of these elements, their current conditions are generally poor and they are not protected through legal designation. The locations of these historic features are shown in **Figure 2.2**.

1. Weddle Bridge:

This historic covered bridge was originally constructed in 1937 near Scio, Oregon. It was deconstructed in 1989 and reconstructed in its current location across Ames Creek the following year. Prior to the move it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places but lost this designation with its relocation. Although it is eligible for re-listing it has not been registered.

2. WPA gazebo:

The gazebo (historically called the "roundhouse") is a Works Progress Administration project that dates from 1938-1939. The structure is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Documentation exists from the 1970's of an initial inquiry for listing which was never completed (See **Appendix B**). The structure is currently in poor condition and its heavy structural elements make visibility in and around the structure poor, creating a potential safety hazard.

3. WPA bandstand:

The bandstand was also constructed by the Works Progress Administration in 1938-1939. It is particularly notable for its unique architectural detailing. Many of the more intricate details are missing or in poor condition. The structure is currently not ADA



FIGURE 2.2: Historical features on site

accessible. As with the gazebo, it is eligible for listing but has never been registered.

4. Cannon:

The small cannon located near 14th avenue is of unknown cultural/historic significance.

5. Pulley:

The pulley located in central lower Sankey of unknown cultural/historic significance.

HISTORICAL FEATURES SUMMARY

Challenges

- Historic bandstand and gazebo are in poor condition and invite undesirable



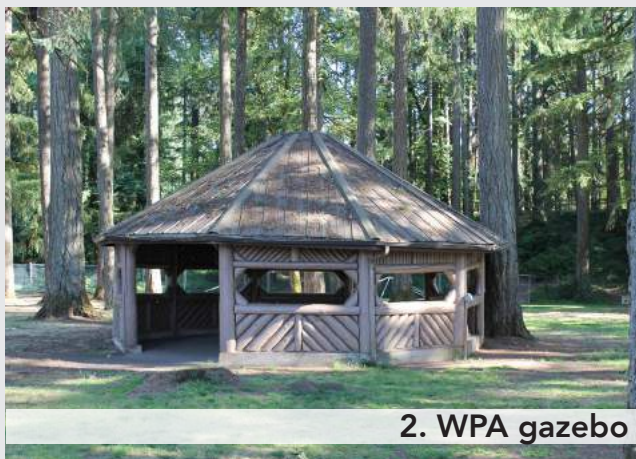
1. Weddle Bridge

activity;

- Cannon and pulley are of potential historic or cultural importance but are poorly placed and information on their significance is not readily available;
- Presence of historic structures on site may restrict kinds of renovations; and
- Weddle Bridge lost NRHP listing when moved from its original site.

Opportunities

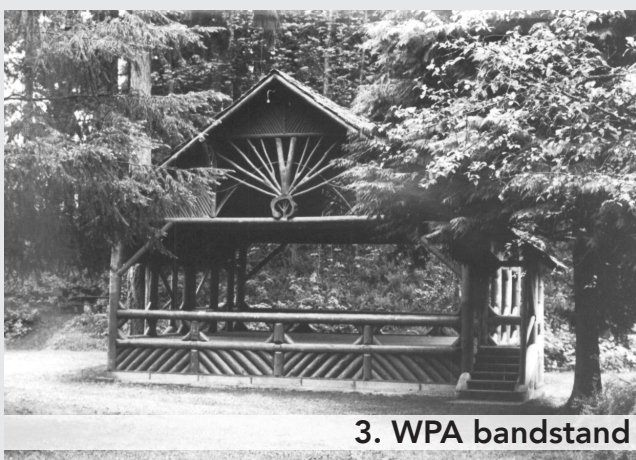
- Bandstand and gazebo could offer needed shelter for programming if renovated;
- Gazebo and bandstand are WPA structures of historic significance with potential for official listing and protection;
- Weddle Bridge is also potentially eligible for re-listing; and
- Weddle Bridge provides an iconic event space and a potential for rental income.



2. WPA gazebo



3. WPA bandstand



3. WPA bandstand

ECOLOGICAL FEATURES

Despite Sankey's small size and urban setting the park contains a surprising array of native Oregon habitats and species. Mature Douglas firs shade the central picnic area in lower Sankey while Oregon white oak specimens can be found around the edges of the sunnier upper Sankey. The wooded central and eastern sections of the park include a mix of native hardwoods and conifers. Perhaps most notably, the site is bordered to the north and east Ames Creek, and much of this area is designated wetland. Notable ecological features on site may be seen in **Figures 2.3 and 2.4**.

1. Ames Creek:

Ames creek is part of the lower South Santiam Watershed. Historically, these waterways have been home to spring chinook and winter steelhead salmon, though populations have been decimated by habitat modifications and hatchery practices. The section of Ames Creek found in Sweet Home is described by the South Santiam Watershed Assessment as "in poor condition, characterized by narrow buffers dominated by grass/shrub or urban riparian vegetation (weeds, brush, occasional trees, and hardened banks)" (South Santiam Watershed Assessment, 2000). Nevertheless, fish sampling conducted by OSU has shown the presence of numerous fish species in urban sections of the creek, including in Sankey Park.

2. Designated Wetland:

This portion of the site is designated a wetland in the National Wetlands Inventory. It is a non-tidal wetland classified as part of the "palustrine system," which is characterized by low vegetation such as shrubs and small trees. It is a seasonally flooded wetland, in which surface water is present for extended periods though the water table is highly variable.

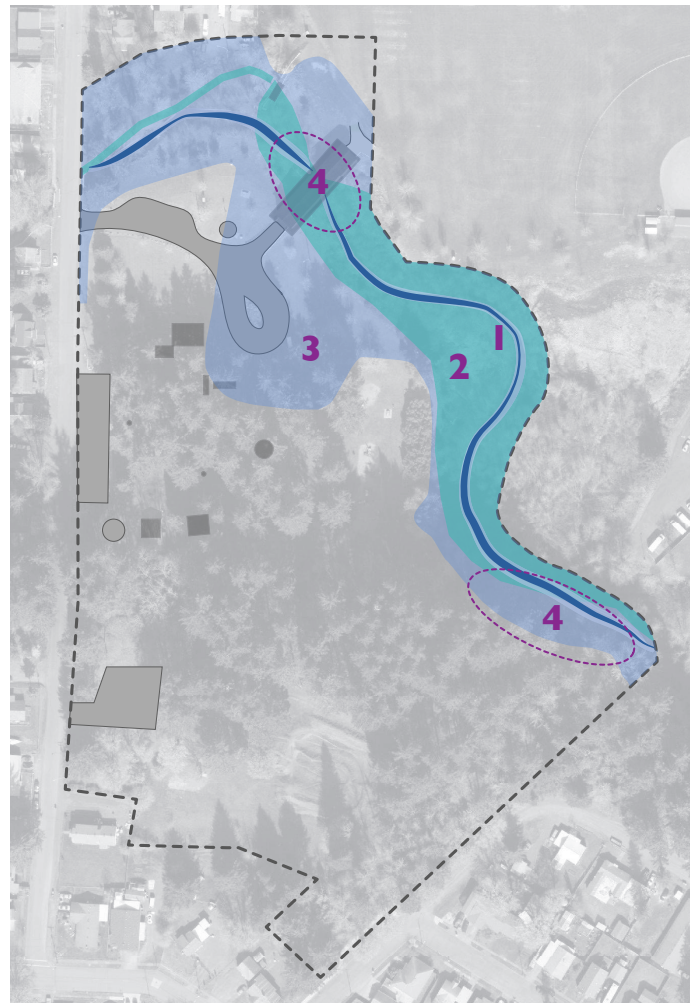


FIGURE 2.3: Ecological features: water

3. FEMA 100 year floodplain:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency designates floodplains based on the probability of flooding in a given year. This area of the park is within the 100 year floodplain, meaning it has a 1% chance of flooding in any given year. This is the storm level on which most regulations are based.

4. Significant bank erosion:

Several sections of Ames Creek are experiencing significant problems with bank erosion. While erosion is a natural process, it is likely that a mix of unprogrammed human access, devegetation of the banks, and increased/uneven flows from surrounding development are exacerbating the process.



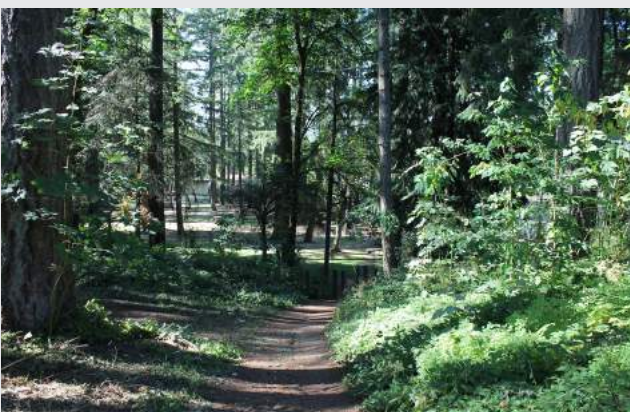
1. Ames Creek



4. Significant bank erosion



6. Scattered white oak specimens



7. Mixed mid/late-successional forest

5. Mature Douglas fir:

The central lower Sankey area is shaded by a grove of mature Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*). Despite the established canopy structure, this area is highly developed with no native understory present.

6. Scattered white oak specimens:

Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*) specimens are found around the edges of the central open space in upper Sankey. Best adapted to low-density growing conditions, Oregon white oaks are a keystone species of the Willamette Valley. The specimens in upper Sankey are experiencing some crowding from other species but some still exhibit healthy "open-grown" structure.



FIGURE 2.4: Ecological features: vegetation

7. Mixed mid/late-successional forest:

The wooded central and eastern sections of the park are largely dominated by mature Douglas fir but includes a robust deciduous understory of bigleaf maple. Close to the creek, riparian species such as willow and alder are also present. Diverse native forbs and groundcovers are present, though significant invasion by English ivy (*Hedera helix*) and blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*) is present.

Opportunities

- Despite presence of invasive plant species, a diversity of native plants exist on site;
- Past studies indicate significant potential for Ames Creek as freshwater habitat; and
- Upper Sankey contains nice oak specimens and potentially high quality oak habitat.

PREVIOUS RESTORATION

Past actions have been taken to restore and protect Ames Creek, most notably in 2002-03. Efforts at bank stabilization and re-vegetation have met with limited success, due largely to lack of maintenance and problems with vandalism. Thus, despite extensive plantings of native riparian vegetation, blackberry continues to dominate the area. Recent concerns about camping and illicit activity have prompted the removal of all vegetation near the creek edge in the wetland area. In addition to being of poor ecological quality, this is merely a temporary solution unless ongoing maintenance is performed.

ECOLOGICAL FEATURES SUMMARY

Challenges

- English ivy and other invasives are prevalent;
- Erosion and unprogrammed use threaten creek integrity;
- Significant litter is present in creek and woods area; and
- A potential conflict exists between healthy vegetative structure, including native shrubs, and park user safety and visibility.

CONTEXT + CONNECTIONS

Sankey Park is surrounded by a wide variety of neighboring uses. Residential neighborhoods border the park on the west and south. To the northeast, the Boys and Girls Club and a senior center, both on 18th Avenue, are within easy walking distance of the park. The northern side of the park is adjacent to Sweet Home High School and downtown lies just beyond. Sankey Park's central location within the community makes it easily accessible to community members of all demographics. Important connections are shown in **Figure 2.5**.

1. Weddle Bridge entrance:

Weddle Bridge serves as an access point to the park from the high school. Due to issues of loitering and high school truancy, this access point is typically closed during weekdays. The connection is poorly developed on the high school side of the bridge.

2. Ames Creek footbridge:

A small footbridge across Ames Creek provides entry to the park from the northeast. This access point is close to both the Sweet Home Boys and Girls Club and a senior center on 18th Avenue. The current access point is poorly defined and the existing bridge is of a temporary construction without permanent footings.

3. Neighborhood trailhead:

A newly constructed sidewalk on 16th Avenue includes an entry point to the southeastern section of the park. This entry is not well developed or signed and has no lighting. Although the park and sidewalk are at similar elevations, they are separated by the historic railroad easement which sits several feet below and must be crossed to reach upper Sankey.

4. Weddle Bridge loop drive

The paved drive and gravel loop near Weddle

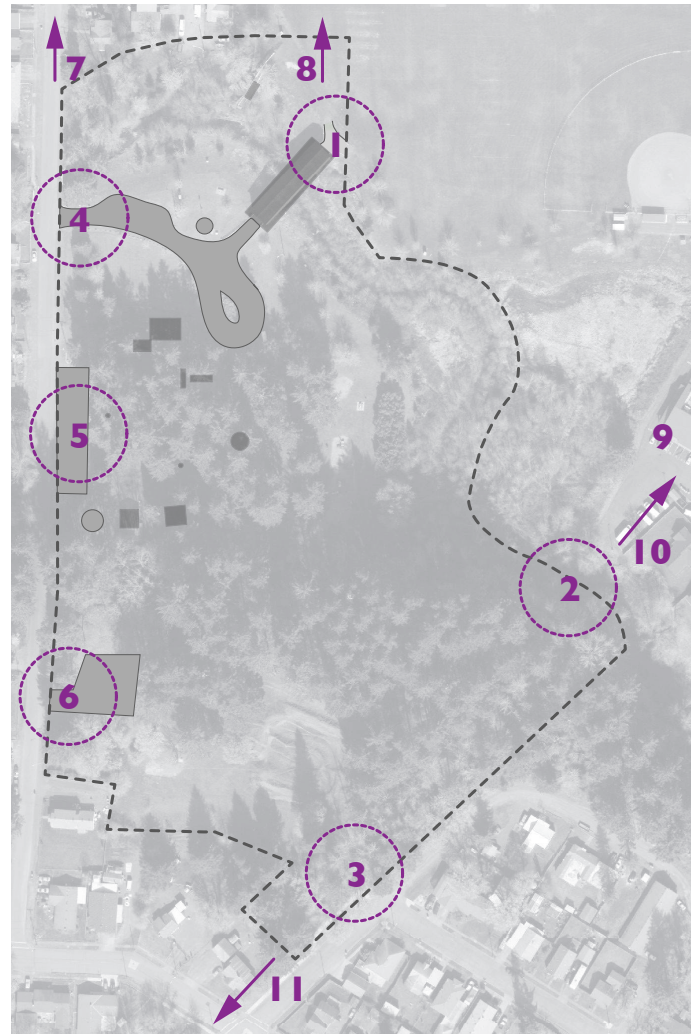


FIGURE 2.5: Site context and connections

Bridge include extensive parking. These parking areas are not used to capacity.

5. Lower Sankey 14th Avenue parking:

This area serves as the typical main entrance to the park, even for pedestrians. The majority of vehicles on site use this lot though parking appears sufficient for current volumes.

6. Upper Sankey 14th Avenue parking:

The upper Sankey lot is large and features ample off-street parking space; it is largely unutilized.

7. To downtown

Main Street lies less than half a mile to the north of Sankey Park.

8. To high school

Sweet Home High School borders the park to the North.

9. To community centers

The Boys and Girls Club of Sweet Home and the Jim Riggs Senior Center are located to the east of the park on 18th Avenue. Though connections are poorly developed currently, these facilities are within walking distance of the park.

10. To South Hills Trail

Connections to the South Hills Trail can be found to the south of the park.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Many community groups are already invested in Sankey Park. These include Sweet Home Trails, Sweet Home High School, and the South Santiam Watershed Council. The park is also the meeting place of a local Girl Scout troop and hosts diverse community events. The BMX park in upper Sankey was built and maintained largely through community support. Notably, the park is home to the Oregon Jamboree, a country music festival with nearly 20,000 attendees, each year.

CONTEXT + CONNECTIONS SUMMARY

Challenges:

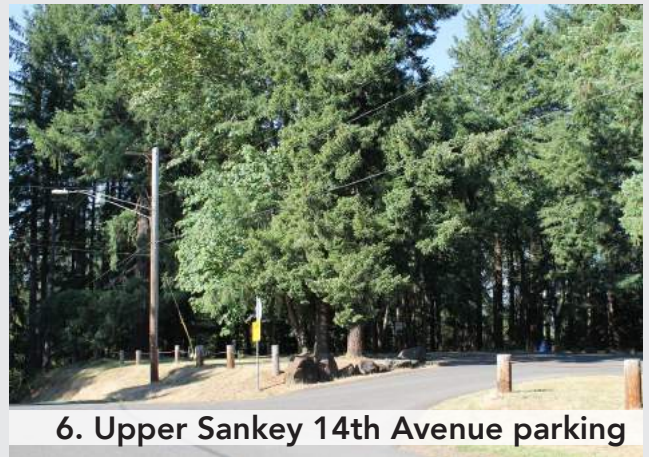
- Most access occurs from the west; other access points are poorly developed;
- Connection to high school has been



2. Ames Creek footbridge



5. Lower Sankey 14th Avenue parking



6. Upper Sankey 14th Avenue parking



10. To South Hills Trail

closed due to undesirable activity on Weddle Bridge;

- Little signage in park to direct users to extended trail system;
- No sidewalk connection to downtown; and
- No “sense of arrival” or “face” of the park.

Opportunities:

- Proximity to downtown makes park easily accessible to Sweet Home residents;
- As Sweet Home’s largest park and only park designated as a community park, the space is well-known within the community;
- Park connects to extensive local trail system, including the South Hills Trail; and
- Neighboring uses could provide partnerships for educational and recreational programming.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Throughout the design process, ample opportunities were provided to Sweet Home residents for sharing their opinions and desires for the park. Community Service Center staff conducted extended phone interviews with invested community members. A community workshop was held in the park where residents could engage with the design process through mapping, imagery, and writing activities. Surveys were conducted in the park during a “Movies in the Park” event. Visits to the local skate park and an afternoon event at Sankey were targeted at youth.

Overwhelmingly, community members spoke of the park as both a beloved local treasure and a problematic safety concern. Many residents fondly recalled memories of the park from years ago and voiced sadness about the degradation of the park in recent years. Community members consistently spoke of the importance and value of the park to the Sweet Home community and many voiced a desire to see a space they could be proud of representing their community. While specific amenities such as water play and basketball courts came up repeatedly, the most frequent wishes for the park centered around cleanliness and safety rather than programming.

Community members were given several open-ended prompts to help express their opinions, including:

- “What do you love most about Sankey Park?”
- “What do you see as the biggest challenges at Sankey Park?”
- “What would your ideal Sankey Park be like?”

Visitors could also vote on specific amenities by placing dots on an image board.



Community Meeting



Health Fair



Health Fair

BY THE NUMBERS

- 7 Extended phone interviews (15-30 minutes each)
- Community meeting (10-15 participants)
- Youth surveys (15-20 kids)
- Movies at the Park (30-40 participants)
- Health fair (21 surveys + an additional 30-40 visitors)

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Most loved parts of Sankey:

- The natural landscape
- Trees
- Location

Biggest challenges:

- Loitering and illicit behavior
- Perceived lack of safety for families
- Disrepair, dirtiness, and vandalism of facilities

An ideal Sankey Park would be...

- "Clean"
- "Safe for kids and families"

Most desired amenities:

1. Water play
2. Basketball court
3. Dog park
4. Access to creek
5. Improved playground

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III. RECOMMENDATIONS

VISION + GOALS

Based on information gathered through site analysis and community feedback, a new vision for Sankey Park was developed. This vision was based on the physical challenges and opportunities of the site, community context, uses, and programming, visitor perceptions and desires, and financial and logistical restrictions.

“The new vision for Sankey Park is to revitalize the site into a safe, functional, and active community space while retaining the essential character and historic nature of the park, minimizing cost, and building upon the goals of the Sweet Home Park System Master Plan.”

Seven goals were developed to support and build toward this final vision. As with the vision, these goals came directly from the results of site analysis and community feedback.

- **GOAL 1:** Address safety concerns and improve overall perception of park
- **GOAL 2:** Improve recreation and

- programming opportunities on site
- **GOAL 3:** Improve connections to the Sweet Home community and park neighbors
- **GOAL 4:** Improve circulation on site and create a cohesive relationship between site elements
- **GOAL 5:** Activate Upper Sankey
- **GOAL 6:** Protect and foster Sankey Park’s natural habitats
- **GOAL 7:** Honor site history and culture

FINAL DESIGN

Final design recommendations for the site are intended to address the goals outlined above. Many of the goals are addressed through multiple design moves and, similarly, most design moves serve more than one goal. The final conceptual plan for the site is shown in **Figure 3.1**. A detailed description of the major design moves is outlined below and illustrated in **Figures 3.2 through 3.5**.



FIGURE 3.1: Final concept plan

VISION:

To revitalize Sankey Park into a safe, functional, and active community space while retaining the essential character and historic nature of the park, minimizing cost, and building upon the goals of the Sweet Home Park System Master Plan.

GOALS:

GOAL 1: Address safety concerns and improve overall perception of park



GOAL 2: Improve recreation and programming opportunities on site



GOAL 3: Improve connections to the Sweet Home community and park neighbors



GOAL 4: Improve circulation on site and create a cohesive relationship between site elements



GOAL 5: Activate Upper Sankey



GOAL 6: Protect and foster Sankey Park's natural habitats



GOAL 7: Honor site history and culture

MAJOR DESIGN MOVES**Define new main entry:**

The entry plaza provides a vibrant, welcoming new face to Sankey Park. In addition to providing convenient parking close to the expanded playground and relocated restrooms, the entry hub includes a kiosk with park information and maps as well as access to paved and unpaved trails. It also includes a seating area in convenient view of the playground for parents and families.

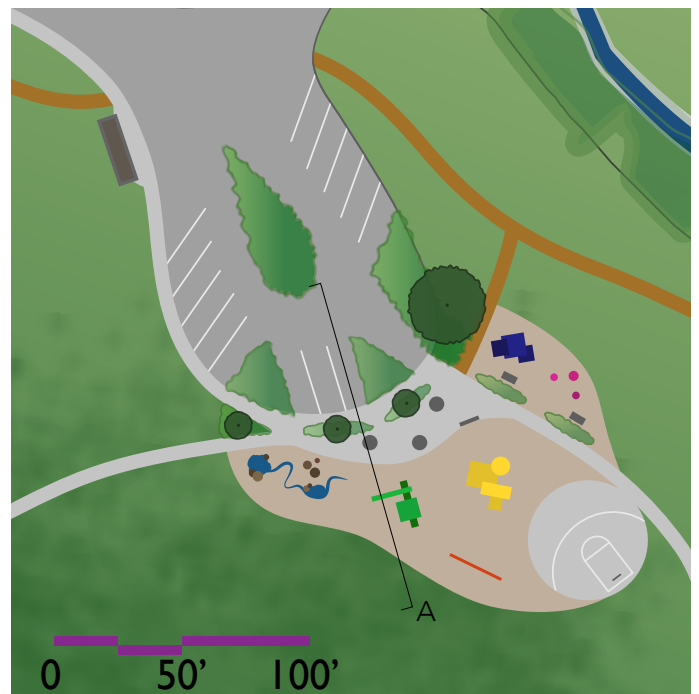


FIGURE 3.2: Main entry plaza, playground and parking area concept



FIGURE 3.3: Section “A” through main entry hub; the plaza and playground are easily accessed from the parking area but are visually screened with ornamental plantings

Add new active recreational amenities and refurbish old:

Existing playground equipment is consolidated near the main entrance. In response to community feedback, water play features, a basketball court, and play equipment for pre-school aged children is added to the existing equipment. In upper Sankey, the existing BMX park is renovated with support from local community groups. Improved areas for passive recreation are facilitated in the creation of two picnic areas and the addition of unpaved trails for jogging and walking.



Simplify and define trail system:

Trails throughout the wooded sections of the park are consolidated and improved. Redundant and poorly maintained trails are closed off and native understory vegetation is re-established in these areas. Wayfinding

signage is added throughout the system. Access is limited to the low-lying railroad easement on the eastern side of the park; trails in this area are closed and the area is densely vegetated.



Open up sightlines in lower Sankey:

The central area of lower Sankey is re-envisioned as an open event space underneath the canopy of towering Douglas firs. Removal of the rental home and relocation of the gazebo, restrooms and storage open up views across the site and improve visitor comfort and safety.



Provide connections between major site elements:

Trails are created in upper and lower Sankey, directing circulation on site. A paved central loop connects major elements in lower Sankey and unpaved trails circumnavigate both upper and lower Sankey and provide additional connections.



Renovate gazebo and bandstand and relocate gazebo:

The gazebo and bandstand are renovated and both structures are lit. To the extent possible while keeping historic integrity, sightlines into the structures are improved. The bandstand is reinforced to prevent access underneath and trails are directed behind it to improve

sightlines and visibility, addressing safety concerns. The gazebo is relocated to a sunnier location where it can be used as an interpretive center and outdoor classroom.



Restore Ames creek east of Weddle Bridge:

The protection of Ames Creek as habitat is balanced with the needs of park users for safety and recreation. Banks are stabilized under Weddle Bridge and in the eastern corner of the park. Canopy vegetation is restored east of Weddle Bridge and understory vegetation is planted in limited areas where sightlines are not an issue (See **Figure 3.6** for more details).



FIGURE 3.4: The new picnic area provides a sunny open space for families along the banks of Ames Creek by the historic Weddle Bridge.



FIGURE 3.5: Trails throughout the park provide new opportunities for recreation such as jogging and dog walking.

INFRASTRUCTURAL RECOMMENDATIONS

In addition to the spatially explicit design recommendations shown in the concept plan, there are several additional recommended infrastructural improvements:

Lighting:

Lighting is considered an important component for addressing safety concerns in the park. Added lighting is intended to make the park less hospitable for illegal and unsafe activity after hours and to improve the safety of visitors enjoying the park at dawn and dusk. While added lighting could encourage additional after-hours visitation, legal and safe after-hours use is considered preferable to leaving the area unlit and susceptible to illegal uses. Overhead lighting is recommended along

paved trails and in all parking areas. Lighting is also recommended at the bridge access from 16th Avenue. Additionally, lighting should be installed within and around significant structures including the restrooms, the gazebo, and the bandstand. Light fixtures should have concrete footings and posts should be at least 15 feet tall to minimize vandalism. Lighting is not recommended along unpaved trails or in wooded areas of the park to help maintain a natural aesthetic, prevent light pollution, and discourage after-hours park use.



Accessibility:

Making Sankey Park accessible to community members with varying physical capabilities is a priority of the design recommendations.

Site elements such as restrooms, picnic areas, and the playground are all located within close proximity to parking areas. Additionally, paved trails connect site elements, allowing visitors with strollers and wheelchairs to more easily navigate the site. Compliance with ADA standards will be required for many features throughout the park and should be adhered to for all elements possible.



FEMA floodplain:

A portion of the site is located within the FEMA designated 100 year floodplain. While parts of this area are programmed in the current design, restrooms and historic structures should not be sited within this area. Additional development within the park should take this into consideration.



Irrigation:

At the time of design development, the irrigation system has been recently repaired and is functioning. As long as the existing system is working effectively and efficiently, existing irrigation can be retained. Should additional repairs or replacement be necessary, it is recommended that irrigation be concentrated in select areas. In particular, the two picnic areas, the unprogrammed open space near the playground, and the area surrounding the relocated gazebo would benefit most,. The central loop area in lower Sankey will benefit little from irrigation since lawn is unlikely to grow in the dense shade found in this area.



MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Maintenance:

Regular maintenance of the site is crucial to assure a positive perception of the park. In addition to regular maintenance issues such as repairing broken elements, stocking restrooms, replacing lights, and emptying trash, it is important to budget and plan for larger maintenance issues such a hazard tree removal, erosion prevention, and invasive species removal. Especially if large projects such as creek restoration are to succeed, it is important to plan for continued maintenance. It is recommended that infrastructural improvements be largely funded through grants and donations, reserving a major portion of the parks budget for maintenance and labor.



Tree management:

Tree thinning has been proposed in the past as a means for improving visibility and lighting in lower Sankey. The current design considers building relocation and path lighting to be sufficient for improving visibility and lighting, however limited tree thinning might still be considered for several other reasons. First, the removal of a small number of select trees in front of the bandstand could dramatically improve views to the stage and thus expand the potential uses of this event venue. While not strictly necessary, this could open up additional programming opportunities on site and improve user experience. Some additional tree removal may also be necessary during the construction of the new playground area. Finally, because the majority of the trees in lower Sankey are of a mature size, they should regularly be assessed for any signs of disease or structural concerns. In the event that trees are removed, it is recommended that trees

be used on site if possible. Alternatively, it is possible that the expense could be partially offset by selling the lumber.



Creek restoration:

While specific restoration actions are important, budgeting and planning for ongoing maintenance in this area to be crucial to any restoration plan that is adopted. Restoring the area without planning for continued care and maintenance will allow the site to revert back to its current degraded condition. Ultimately, a restoration of a more modest scope coupled with an ongoing plan of management will be more effective when compared to a comprehensive restoration that lacks a management budget.

Any restoration plan should make sure to address the following issues:

- The presence of invasive blackberry and other non-native species;
- A lack of canopy vegetation in many areas, increasing water temperatures;
- Impacts of human access;
- Visitor safety concerns associated with a dense shrub layer; and
- Erosion around Weddle Bridge and on the eastern edge of the park; this will be particularly important with the added trail access from the 18th Avenue area. Siting and installation of this trail should be coupled with bank stabilization and erosion prevention measures. Constructing portions of this trail as an elevated boardwalk may be necessary or desirable and should be considered. While such construction methods are significantly more expensive than traditional paths, these costs may be offset by a reduction in need for associated erosion controls. Such a path also has the benefit of limiting the ability of

visitors to depart from the designated trail.

Figure 3.6 demonstrates three distinct management strategies for the creek, to be used in different areas throughout the park. West of Weddle Bridge, an open understory is maintained near the picnic area, giving visitors the opportunity to get close to the water (A). While access to the creek is not encouraged, it is likely to occur; by providing a well-lit, safe, and less ecologically sensitive area where access is easy, human impacts may be concentrated in this smaller area rather than dispersed throughout the site. In the wetland area, groundcovers and wetland grasses are restored along with canopy trees, discouraging access and helping to combat invasives without impeding sightlines; a trail on higher ground allows visual access but keeps visitors out of the wetland (B). Finally, in the eastern section of the park, the waterfront trail parallels the creek (C). With handrailings and a potentially elevated deck, visitors are kept away from the water. This allows the restoration of native shrubs along the creek banks, where human access and sight is less important.

Ultimately, plans for restoration should ideally be developed by an environmental consultant or design firm. This is especially necessary for erosion prevention measures, as improper techniques and siting could exacerbate problems elsewhere in the creek. To minimize cost, plantings could be done in-house or with volunteers from the community. This restoration project may be particularly suitable for grant funding and the pursuit of such grants is strongly encouraged. Partnering with and drawing on the expertise of the South Santiam Watershed Council may be particularly valuable.



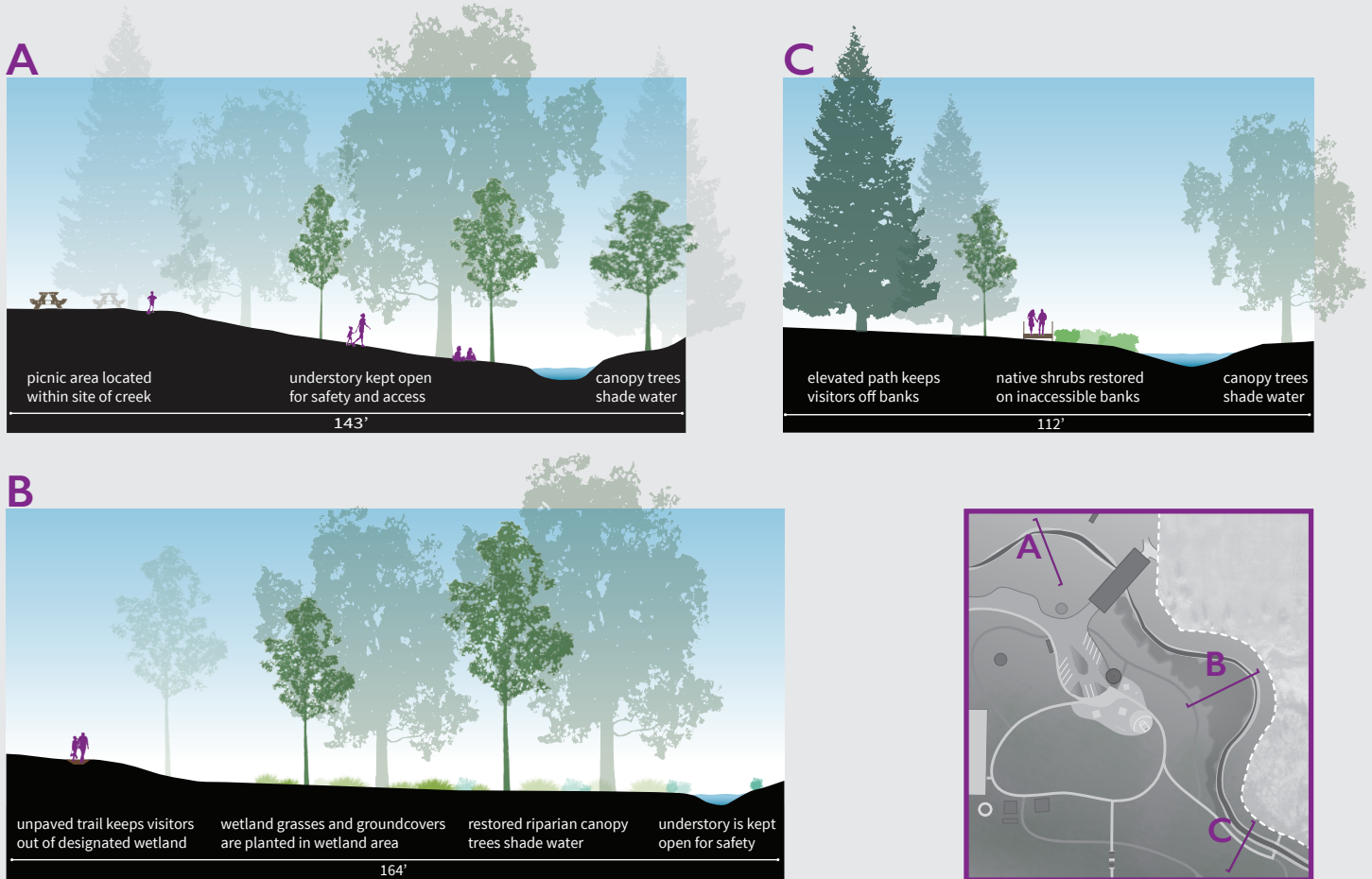


FIGURE 3.6: Creek management and restoration strategies differ throughout the park based on programming and site features; Sections A, B, and C provide simplified conditions for three major areas, east of Weddle Bridge, west of Weddle Bridge, and at the waterfront trail, respectively.

Oak release and invasives:

Oregon white oaks grow best in open conditions. Historically, the Willamette Valley was dominated by open savanna with large “open-grown” oaks with wide spreading canopies and branches. Present day management of the land has allowed other species to crowd the oaks, preventing them from growing wide horizontal branching structures indicative of healthy specimens. “Oak release” is the term used to describe removing other trees from around oaks, allowing them to grow to their full size. While cutting down trees to protect other trees may

seem counterintuitive, the dramatic losses in Oregon white oak habitat since the 1800’s makes it a sensitive species in need of special protection. Upper Sankey has several nice oak specimens that could benefit from the removal of neighboring trees. In addition to providing habitat for many animals that depend on Oregon white oak trees, the wide-spreading branches of healthy oak trees provide a pleasant, shady space for park visitors.

The wooded areas of Sankey Park, similar to the riparian areas, are experiencing significant issues of invasion in the understory. The

dominant invasive in this area is English Ivy (*Hedera helix*), a groundcover vine that is banned in many cities due to its invasive nature. Again, consistent maintenance will be necessary to limit the growth and spread of such invasives. Such work is relatively straightforward and provides a good opportunity for volunteer and community involvement in park management. Invasive plants tend to prefer edge conditions and disturbance, so the closure of many of the trails will help minimize additional invasion. Despite the presence of invasives, a robust and diverse community of native understory plants is also present. If ivy and other invasives can be limited, native species may be able to recolonize these areas, though additional plantings, especially where trails are closed, may lead to greater success.



Outreach to HP department:

The gazebo and bandstand are both eligible for listing with the National Register of Historic Places, as is Weddle Bridge. Such registration requires research and documentation of the structures. The University of Oregon Historic Preservation department might be able to provide additional guidance in this area. Hiring a student intern to document the structures and complete the registration process could be a low cost option for protecting the structures.

While listing of the structures does not need to happen in the first phase of the project, it is important to understand the ramifications for historic integrity of any planned renovations. Before any restoration is undertaken, therefore, it is important to consult experts in this area to assure that the structures' eligibility for listing is not compromised.



BMX maintenance and options for upper Sankey:

The BMX track in upper Sankey is retained in the current plan with the understanding that maintenance needs to be improved. Because poor track conditions are a direct safety hazard to users rather than just an aesthetic concern, the maintenance of this track is imperative if it going to continue to be a part of the park. Additional community support, either through donations, volunteer labor, fundraising, or other means, should be the primary strategy for maintaining the track, as opposed to the use of city funds. One potential user group to explore is RC enthusiasts, who might be interested in helping maintain the track for use with radio controlled vehicles. Ultimately, if the community support is not present to maintain the BMX track to an appropriate level of safety, we recommend removing it and using the fill dirt elsewhere on site, potentially for bank stabilization in later phases of the project. Many community members voiced desires for a dog park and the site of the current BMX track would be a suitable site for this feature if the track is removed.



COST ESTIMATES

Cost estimates are intended to give a general sense of the financial costs of project components. These estimates may be helpful for planning purposes but it should be noted that they are not actual quotes. Prices for services such as restoration and the relocation of structures may vary significantly based on contractor quotes.

In addition to the use of city funds, there are opportunities to secure funding from other

Item	Units	Quantity	Price Per	Total Amt.
Renovations and Site Preparation				
Removal of defunct picnic infrastructure, concrete pads,	LS		TBD	TBD
Tree removal	EA	1-5	TBD	TBD
Renovations to historic structures	LS		TBD	TBD
Relocation of restrooms, storage, gazebo, and modular home	LS		TBD	TBD
BMX track renovation	LS		TBD	TBD
Creek restoration	ACRE	1.5	\$5,000 - 8,000	7,500-\$12,000
TOTAL:				TBD
Landscaping and Infrastructure				
Lighting				
pathway lighting (paved trails and entries)	EA	23	\$4,000	\$92,000
parking lot lighting	EA	5	\$5,500	\$27,500
Seating				
picnic tables	EA	10	\$1,500	\$15,000
benches	EA	10	\$1,000	\$10,000
Signage				
trail signs	EA	10	\$150	\$1,500
main kiosk	EA	1	\$5,000	\$5,000
interpretive signs	EA	4	\$500	\$2,000
Trails				
paved (assume 6' wide)	SF	10,632	\$4.28	\$45,505
soft surface (assume 5' wide)	SF	17,337	\$0.78	\$13,523
trail bridges	LF	45	\$375	\$16,875
concrete stairs	SF	540	\$7.50	\$4,050
Railings for ADA path and stairs	LF	200	\$50.00	\$10,000
Entryway plantings				
topsoil (12")	CY	111	\$25	\$2,775
soil preparation	SF	3000	\$0.25	\$750
plants (shrubs)	EA	180	\$30	\$5,400
perennial plants - 4" pots (installed)	EA	200	\$2.50	\$500
trees	EA	4	\$250.00	\$1,000
Paving				
parking area (asphalt)	SF	8500	\$3.00	\$25,500
entry plaza (concrete)	SF	800	\$7.50	\$6,000
Miscellaneous Infrastructure				
bike racks	EA	2	\$200	\$400
water fountain	EA	1	\$2,000	\$2,000
trash cans	EA	10	\$500	\$5,000
TOTAL:				\$292,278
Playground Improvements				
Relocation of existing equipment	LS	1	TBD	TBD
Resurfacing for existing equipment	SF	10,000	\$0.78	\$7,800
New play structure (ages 2-5)	EA	1	\$35,000	\$35,000
Splash pad/water play area	EA	1	\$65,000.00	\$65,000
Basketball hoop area	EA	1	\$4,000	\$4,000
TOTAL:				\$111,800
TOTAL COST:				~ \$420,000

sources. Grant funding may be especially applicable for restoration of the historic structures as well as for creek restoration and oak release. Private donations from community groups may also be a possibility. Because grants and donations are typically harder to secure for operations and maintenance, it is recommended that city funds be used largely for such aspects and grants and donations be sought for capital improvements.

Costs may be reduced not only through the acquisition of additional financial resources but through volunteer labor and donated materials. Building partnerships with local businesses and community groups may help to the cost of labor and supplies for many of the smaller projects such as signage and ornamental plantings.

immediate experience and are thus less time-sensitive.

It should be noted that while phasing is a useful guideline, the practicalities of funding and labor may necessitate deviating from the phasing plan. Additionally, some elements that are chiefly reserved for later phases may require consideration earlier, even if they are not fully implemented until later. Notably, while creek restoration is reserved for a later phase, the construction of the waterfront trail will almost certainly necessitate bank stabilization and some consideration of how restoration will proceed in that area. Similarly, while registration of historic structures is slated for the final phase, it would be important to understand enough about their value to preserve their historic integrity during renovations.

PHASING

The phasing plan is a concept for prioritizing and ordering the various elements of the park redesign. Phasing is based around the concept that actions that directly affect park users are more likely to garner community support and excitement. By putting such actions at the beginning of the project, we hope to sustain excitement for later phases as visitors see and experience the tangible results of Phase 1. With this in mind, actions that are crucial to visitor comfort and safety are found in Phase 1, along with moves that strongly affect visitor perception. Actions that enhance user experience and expand programming are slated for Phase 2. Efforts to enhance the long term character of the park through restoration, preservation, and signage are reserved for Phase 3 of the project. While important for the overall success of the redesign, these actions have less bearing on the general public's

PHASE 1: CREATING A NEW IMAGE FOR SANKEY PARK

Community support is critical for a successful redesign, and altering the community's perception of Sankey is as crucial as altering the physical structures on site. Phase 1 is focused on creating a new image for the park through the creation of a new entry area, as well as on improving the experience and safety of park visitors through basic renovations and maintenance.

Enhancing overall appearance and safety of lower Sankey:

- Remove rental home
- Relocate cannon and pulley
- Move restrooms and storage
- Remove defunct infrastructure
- Move gazebo

Developing main park entry area:

- Renovate and improve playground
- Install paved central loop trail
- Develop picnic area by Weddle Bridge
- Install pathway and parking lot lighting
- Pave new parking area
- Construct entry plaza area

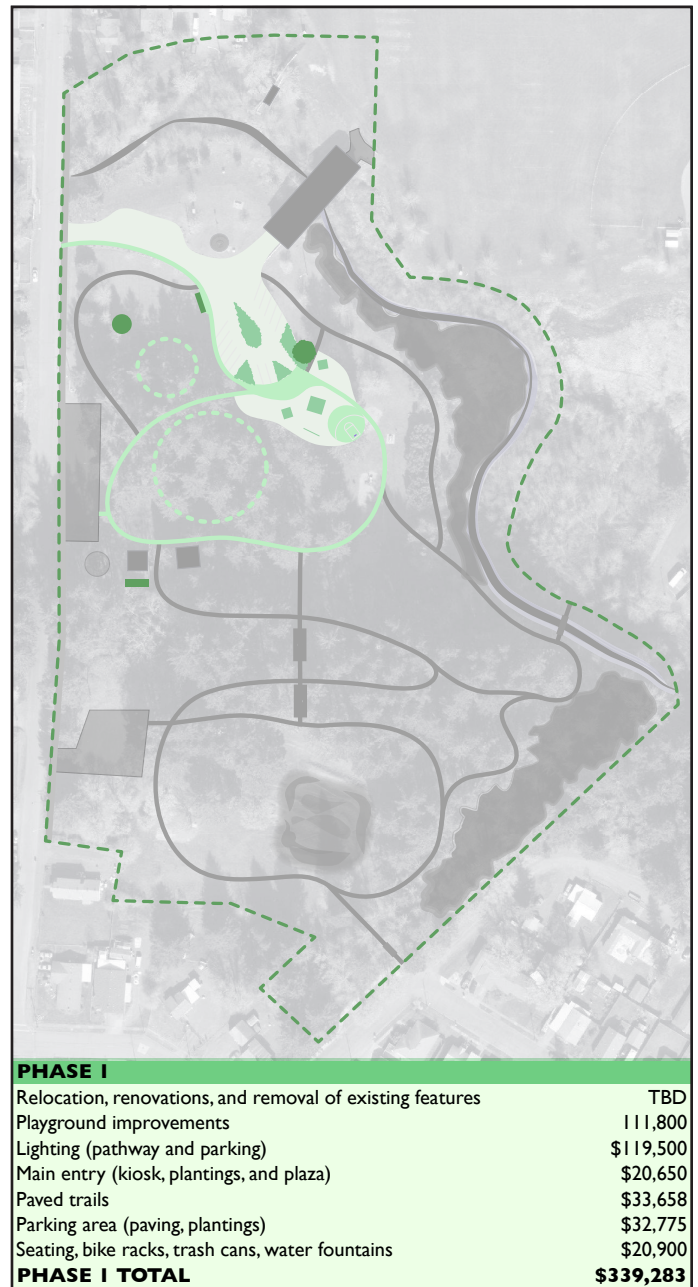


FIGURE 3.7: Phase 1 improvements

PHASE 2: EXPANDING ON SUCCESS AND CREATING CONNECTIONS

After developing a strong central hub of activity in Phase 1, Phase 2 expands this vibrant community space into the rest of the park through trails and additional infrastructure. Of note in this phase is the connection of site elements through a cohesive network of trails that link and connect various elements on site.

Develop circulation throughout site:

- Install ADA waterfront trail
- Install unpaved trails
- Install signage on trails
- Close off old trails and manage invasives

Develop Upper Sankey:

- Add upper Sankey picnic area
- Renovate BMX park

Improve historic structures:

- Renovate gazebo
- Renovate bandstand

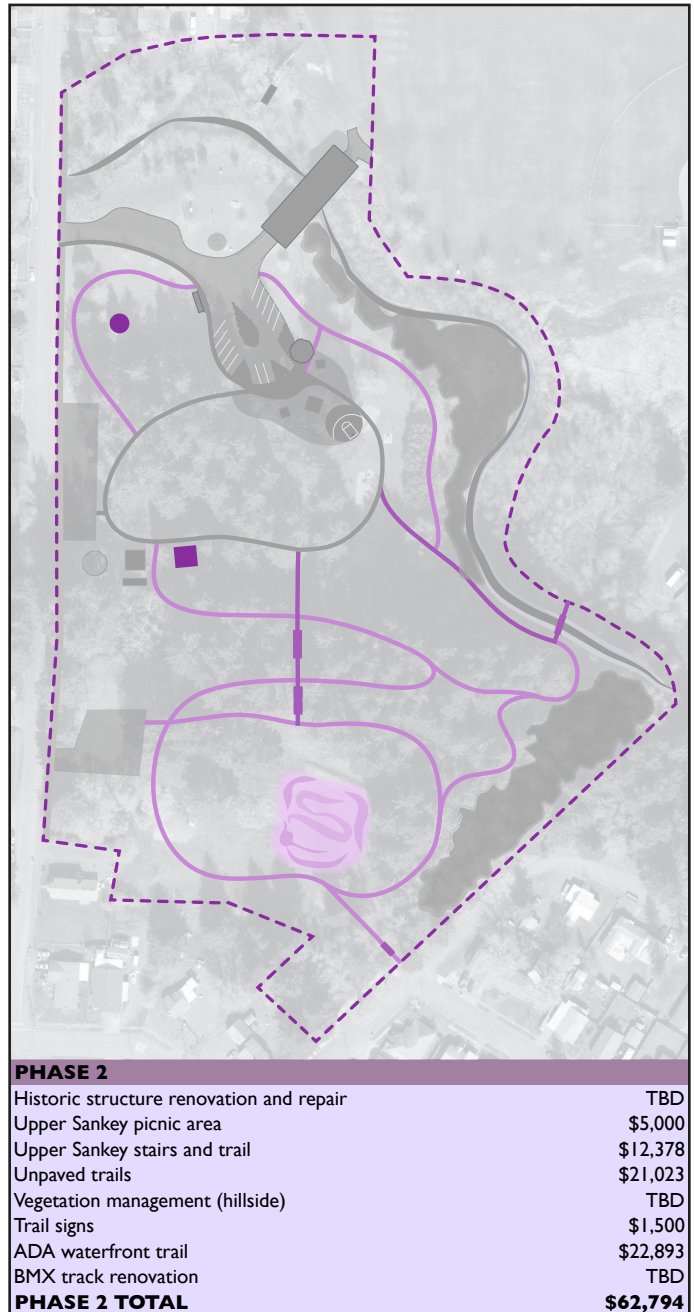


FIGURE 3.8: Phase 2 improvements

PHASE 3: STRENGTHENING A SENSE OF PLACE AND IDENTITY

Phase 3 enhances the facilities and amenities created in the first two phases, creating a special, unique space that is ecologically and culturally situated.

Manage and restore vegetation:

- Restore riparian areas
- Thin trees
- Vegetate railroad corridor

Enhance site culture and interpretation:

- Add interpretive signage
- Register historic elements on site

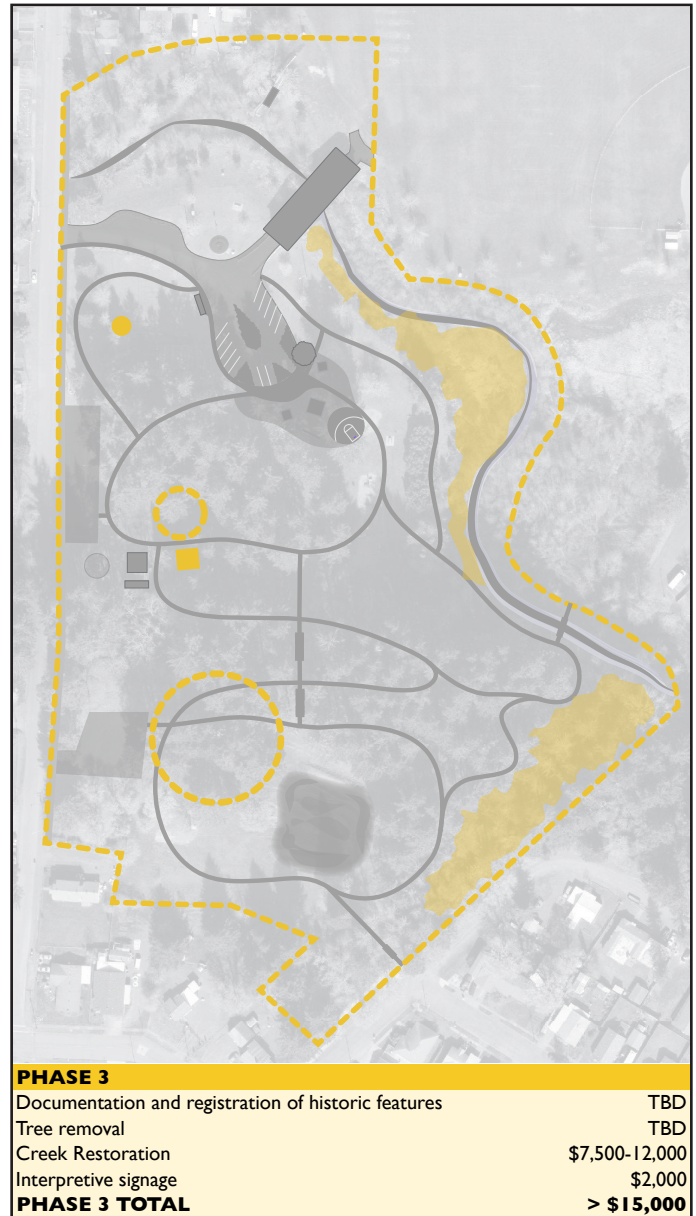


FIGURE 3.9: Phase 3 improvements

APPENDIX A funding resources

The potential funding sources listed below are compiled from a variety of sources; additional information about many of these resources can be found in the 2014 Sweet Home Park System Master Plan. These resources along with the partnerships outlined in this document are not comprehensive but will provide a useful starting point for securing needed park funding. For a more comprehensive overview of funding options, including partnerships and local tax options, please refer to the Sweet Home Park System Master Plan.

FEDERAL/STATE PROGRAMS:

County Opportunity Grant Program

<https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/GRANTS/pages/county.aspx>

Department of State Lands (DSL), Wetland Grant Program

<http://statelands.dsl.state.or.us>

Land and Water Conservation Fund

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/stateside.htm>

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

<http://www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/pages/home.aspx>

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Restoration Center

<http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/restoration/>

Oregon Bicycle and Pedestrian Program

<https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/>

[BIKEPED/Pages/grants1.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/BIKEPED/Pages/grants1.aspx)

Oregon Community Foundation Grants

Website: http://www.ocf1.org/grant_programs/grant_programs.html

Oregon Department of Forestry

<http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/>

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)

http://www.oblpct.state.or.us/Gov/ERT/about_us.shtml

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD)

<http://www.prd.state.or.us>

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

https://www.oregon.gov/OWEB/GRANTS/pages/grant_faq.aspx

Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC)

<http://www.oregon.gov/CCWD/OYCC/>

Recreation Trails Program

<https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/GRANTS/pages/trails.aspx>

U.S. Department of Transportation

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tea21/index.htm>

ORGANIZATIONS/FOUNDATIONS:

Ben B. Cheney Foundation

<http://www.benbcheneyfoundation.org/>

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

<http://www.gatesfoundation.org/How-We-Work/General-Information/Grant-Opportunities>

The Brainerd Foundation

<http://brainerd.org/funding/default.php>

The Bullitt Foundation

<http://www.bullitt.org/grants/grantmaking-process/>

The Conservation Fund American Greenways Program

<http://www.conservationfund.org/>

The Collins Foundation

<http://www.collinsfoundation.org/submission-guidelines>

Flintridge Foundation

<http://www.flintridge.org/>

Fohs Foundation

<https://www.tgci.com/funding-sources/fohs-foundation>

Ford Family Foundation

<http://www.tfff.org/how-we-work/grants>

Forest Legacy Program

<http://www.fs.fed.us/cooperativeforestry/programs/loa/flp.shtml>

Kodak American Greenways Awards Program

Website: <http://www.conservationfund.org/conservation>

Meyer Memorial Trust

<http://mmt.org/>

The Nature Conservancy

<http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/oregon/>

The Oregon Community Foundation

<http://www.oregoncf.org/grants-scholarships/grants>

Oregon Recreation and Park Association (ORPA)

<http://www.orpa.org/>

The Trust For Public Land

<https://www.tpl.org/>

Woodard Family Foundation

<http://www.woodardff.com/>

Willamette Restoration Initiative

<http://willametteinitiative.org/>

LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

Local partnerships may provide additional financial or volunteer support to the City for park related projects. A list of potential partners

- Cascade Timber Consultants
- Sweet Home Trails Group
- Sweet Home Tree Commission
- Sweet Home Economic Development Group (SHEDG)
- Sweet Home Active Revitalization Effort (SHARE)
- Sweet Home Fire
- Sweet Home Chamber of Commerce
- Army Corp of Engineers
- Linn County Parks
- Sweet Home School District #55
- Religious organizations
- Community associations
- Boy Scouts of America
- Girl Scouts
- Knights of Columbus
- American Legion
- South Santiam Watershed Council

APPENDIX B other resources

The following resources may provide useful information on technical issues, regulations, or the local context of Sankey Park.

ADA Guide for Small Towns

<https://www.ada.gov/smtown.htm>

Engineering with Nature: Alternative Techniques to Riprap Bank Stabilization.

https://www.fema.gov/pdf/about/regions/regionx/Engineering_With_Nature_Web.pdf

Guide for Using Willamette Valley Native Plants Along Your Stream

<http://www.linnsxcd.oacd.org/NativePlantGuide05.pdf>

National Wetlands Inventory

<https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/index.html>

Protecting Streambanks from Erosion

http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2_043438.pdf

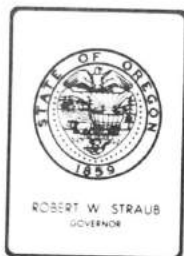
South Santiam Watershed Assessment

<http://www.sswc.org/wp-content/uploads/2008/12/South-Santiam-Watershed-Assessment-January-2000.pdf>

Sweet Home Park System Master Plan

<http://www.sweet-home.or.us/DocumentCenter/View/2474>

In addition to the preceding resources, the following pages contain the archived information on the historic structures on site. This information may be useful in documenting and registering these historic features.



Department of Transportation
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Parks and Recreation Branch

525 TRADE STREET S.E., SALEM, OREGON 97310

14th Ave.
 Sweet Home
 Linn County

July 3, 1978

Mr. Randy Westrick
 City of Sweet Home
 1140 12th Avenue
 Sweet Home, OR 97386

Dear Mr. Westrick:

Thank you for your recent inquiry concerning the pealed log bandstand and "round house" in Sankey Park in Sweet Home. These structures are of real interest as examples of 1930s park architecture in the Rustic Mode. The bandstand, with its patterned diagonals of log half-rounds and bent twig tympanae, is particularly interesting, for there do not appear to be many like it--if any--still standing in Oregon.

In the event that the City of Sweet Home wishes to pursue nomination of these structures and an appropriate portion of Sankey Park to the National Register of Historic Places, we are enclosing materials which explain the ramifications of registration and the necessary forms.

As for the technical problems of preserving the structures, it may be that some replacement of portions of the timbers, skirting, etc. is in order. As a guideline for the degree of replacement which is acceptable without jeopardizing the integrity of the structures, we recommend the enclosed Guidelines promulgated by the Secretary of the Interior.

You may find it helpful to contact the Oregon State University Department of Forestry, where Prof. Robert Graham and his colleagues have developed techniques for arresting decay and prolonging the effective life of structural timbers. Prof. Graham may be reached at 753-9166.

If questions arise in the course of your work on this matter, please be in touch. I can be reached at 378-5001.

Sincerely,

ELISABETH WALTON POTTER
 Elisabeth Walton Potter
 Historic Preservation Specialist

EWP:ko
 Enc.



City of Sweet Home

1140 12TH AVENUE
SWEET HOME, OREGON 97386
503-367-5128
June 14, 1978

Oregon State Parks
State Historical Preservation Office
Salem, Oregon 97310
Attn: Elizabeth Potter

Dear Ms. Potter:

In a recent conversation with Dave Powers concerning renovation of two buildings in Sweet Home's Sankey Park, I was referred to you regarding placement of one or both of these structures on the National Register of Historic Places. Although these structures do not meet the requirement of being fifty years or more old, Mr. Powers felt, after my description of the buildings, that the uniqueness of their architectural style might qualify them for consideration on the National Register of Historic Places. The shelters were built in the 1930's by CCC possibly in cooperation with some local civic groups. I am currently researching the origins of the park and the structures within it.

The "Roundhouse" structure is actually a ten sided building constructed almost entirely of log materials. A hole exists at the peak of the roof indicating that the original design called for a fireplace in the center building.

The most interesting structure in the park, and quite possibly in the City, is the "Bandstand" which was probably built coincidentally with the roundhouse. This building was also built almost entirely of log materials. As the enclosed photographs show, the craftsmen who erected these structures went to great detail to develop geometrical patterns with the logs used for building materials. On the bandstand, driftwood was used for ornamental work.

Although the buildings are not old by many communities' standards, they are two of the oldest public buildings in Sweet Home. The people in the community have emotional ties to Sankey Park and the Roundhouse and Bandstand. For forty years this park has been the site of church picnics, company picnics, weddings, family reunions, and many other local events.

The problem we are facing now is that many of the timbers in the buildings are rotting. This rotting is ruining the structural soundness and much of the ornamental qualities possessed by both structures.

The City of Sweet Home welcomes any assistance your agency can provide us concerning rehabilitation of these buildings. For further information please call 367-5128.

Sincerely

Randy Westrick

Randy Westrick, City of Sweet Home





Pavilion #1 North Elevation

LINN COUNTY INVENTORY OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

Historic name Sankey Park PavilionsInventory number 532BAddress Sankey Park, Fourteenth AvenueCity Sweet HomeTownship 13S Range 1E Section 31DATheme Architecture/Art/GovernmentPresent use Park PavilionsPresent owner City of Sweet HomeRecorded by Elaine C. SmithDate May 8, 1984

Date of Construction: 1938-39

Style: Oregon Rustic

Condition: Excellent to Fair Deteriorated

Description: Pavilion #1--Rectangular, open sided, log structure; shingle gable roof supported by pole rafters and brackets with purlins; decorative carved twigs between brackets and purlins; decorative log work set in "stickwork" fashion in gable ends and foundation skirting; carved twig sculpture panel in each gable end; concrete foundation.

Pavilion #2--10 sided log structure; 10 section roof with wood shingles is supported by pole rafters; logs placed in diagonal "stickwork" fashion form stub wall on 8 sides; 2 sides left open for entrances; concrete foundation.

Historic Significance: Land for the park was purchased from John Wodtli, a member of the Swiss emigrant community that first settled in the Sweet Home area in the 1880s. Construction of the pavilions was a Works Project Administration project. The pavilions were designed by Riley Thompson and the project was supervised by him. Pavilion #1 was built to serve as a bandstand. A proposed natural hillside amphitheater located south of this structure was never completed.

Remarks: Pavilion #1 is notable for its decorative sculpture elements and is the only example of the Oregon Rustic style.

PAVILION #1 713

PAVILION #2 714

Sankey Park Pavilions
Page 2

Sources:

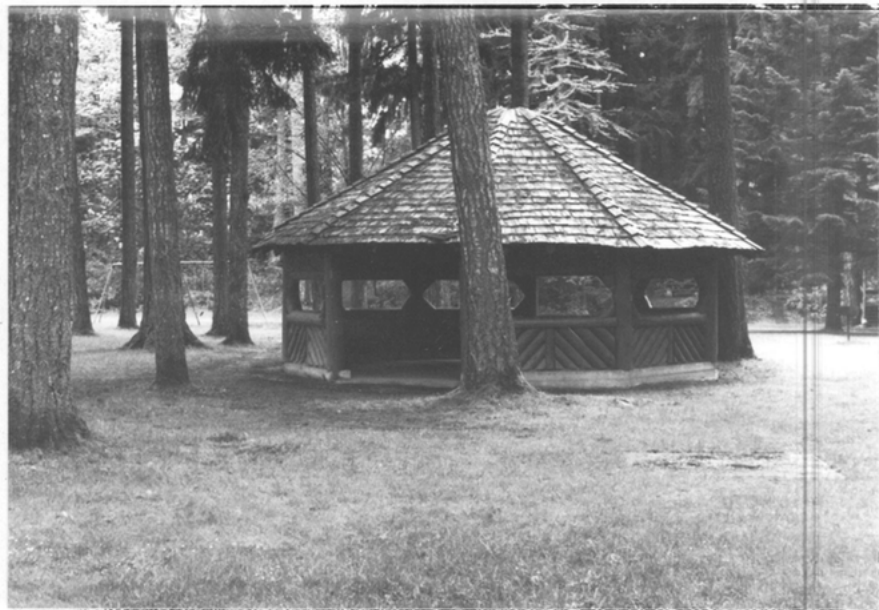
- Albany Democrat-Herald, "Crowds Attracted to Unique Park", p. 10, June 20, 1959.
 Carey, Margaret Standish and Hainline, Patricia Hoy. Sweet Home: In the Oregon Cascades.
 Brownsville: Calapooia Publications, 1979.
 Steinbacker, Martha. In the Beginning..., Tell & Sell/Sweet Home Printing, Sweet Home,
 OR, 1979.
1905 Oregon State Census of Linn County, transcribed by Harley and Helen Haskin, Harry
 and Elsie Youngberg, 1981, p. 370.



South Elevation

713

Pavilion #2



714

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APPENDIX C design process work

Before generating a final design, three preliminary design concepts were developed from community input and presented to the community for feedback at two events, Movies in the Park and The Sweet Home Health Fair.

Each of these concepts had a distinct theme based on a vision and a set of supporting goals. The final design blends elements from each of the three preliminary designs, based on the feedback provided by community members. The three preliminary designs are included on the following pages for reference.

CONCEPT 1: PRESERVATION

Vision

Creating the greatest improvement in park experience, function, and aesthetics while retaining existing features and character and minimizing cost

Goals

- Make better use of existing site features in programming
- Restore and improve historic structures
- Restore and protect creek habitat
- Create cohesive relationship between site elements
- Activate upper Sankey area
- Address safety concerns

CONCEPT 2: EDUCATION

Vision

Fostering community connections with park

neighbors to promote on-site educational and interpretive opportunities in ecology, history, and recreation

Goals

- Improve connections to surrounding neighbors
- Balance restoration and educational access to creek
- Reprogram existing structures for educational uses
- Provide interpretive elements on site
- Create cohesive relationship between site elements
- Activate upper Sankey area
- Address safety concerns

CONCEPT 3: RECREATION

Vision

Re-envisioning Sankey Park as a community hub for recreation and physical activity through significant reprogramming of site elements

Goals

- Provide desired recreation facilities not accessible elsewhere in Sweet Home
- Prioritize creek access with minimal harm to habitat
- Construct or renovate existing structures to better meet user needs
- Create cohesive relationships between site elements
- Activate Upper Sankey area
- Address safety concerns

CONCEPT 1: PRESERVATION



CONCEPT 2: EDUCATION



The relocated gazebo functions as an info hub connecting to the park's interpretive trail system



The education hub features teaching and learning spaces for classes and group events



A seating area connects Upper and Lower Sankey and activates the bandstand area



An integrated nature and water play space for kids is paired with a team-building course for adults and teens in Upper Sankey



Weddle Bridge serves as an active gateway for groups to educational elements on site



The consolidated playground integrates features for kids of all ages including a basketball court



Access to the creek is allowed for classes and community education events



Berms made from dirt from the removed BMX track provide privacy for park neighbors

CONCEPT 3: RECREATION



The adventure play area combines water play and nature play along the banks of the creek



The relocated and consolidated playground includes a separated space for younger kids



A new multi-use pavilion serves as the park's central gathering space



A sand volleyball court provides an active space for visitors of all ages near the central pavilion



Open space along the banks of the creek allow visitors to interact with the water



A full size basketball court provides recreation opportunities for teens



Berms made from dirt from the removed BMX track provide privacy for park neighbors



An enclosed 1-acre area provides a recreation space for visitors' four-legged friends