

City of Kennewick
2018 Columbia Park Master Plan Vision
Studio Cascade | MT-LA
March 6, 2018



2018 COLUMBIA PARK MASTER PLAN VISION SUMMARY

The first step in developing an overall vision for Columbia Park was to review previous planning efforts and develop a vision statement to guide the planning process. This following statement captures the communities' desires for Columbia Park.

"Columbia Park is a culturally, historically and ecologically rich regional waterfront park that enhances the quality of life for local residents and visitors alike. The Park is an oasis from the harsh desert environment offering a natural destination where people can enjoy solitude, recreation, family excursions, community and regional events."

PROCESS

The 2018 Columbia Park Master Plan Vision update process began in March 2017 to coincide with the Kennewick Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan six year renewal. The project team elicited community feedback via "pop-up studios" over the course of two community events in 2017. Studios were held at the June 25th Mariachi Festival and July 29th Water Follies (Hydroplane racing) event. At each event, a tent was constructed and a library of background material was available for community review. At each event, a variety of opportunities to provide feedback were available.

Visual preference: Visual preference displays were presented with options for various park uses. Participants were encouraged to place "dots" on the activities and uses that they preferred. Participants were given three dots and asked to choose their "top three". Uses were labeled as either "current" or "future".

Mini-poll: The mini-poll offered a quick opportunity for participants to help prioritize park improvements and guide decision makers on existing and future needs.



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Comments and discussion: Numerous community members provided valuable comments and suggestions as to the future development of Columbia Park. These comments were recorded, documented and assessed for guidance and future planning.

RESULTS

Results of the pop-up studio tents offered a glimpse into the desires of the Kennewick community for future development of Columbia Park.

A total of 745 “use preference” responses were provided. Participants shared their preference when it comes to “current uses” and “future uses”. The total of all “preferred uses and activities” is summarized below.

The outcome of the public outreach highlights the need to improve or expand the opportunities for aquatics play, as well as preserve or expand the ropes course, as the top options proposed during the outreach stage.

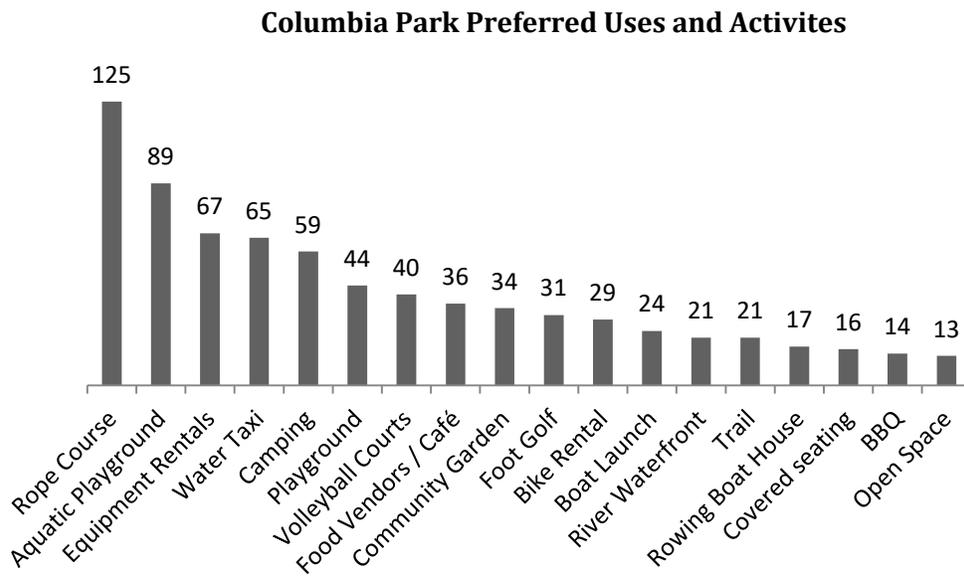


Figure 1: Results of Columbia Park visual preference survey (2017)

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MASTER PLAN VISION

The master planning steps included inventory and analysis mapping as well as activity use area mapping. This stage captured the existing amenities and uses and delineated between elements which previous master plans had created. Also noted were the locations of all kiosks and wayfinding. This will improve the experience of the Sacagawea Heritage Trail and trail road separation areas.

The 2018 Columbia Park Master Plan Vision compiled proposals from the two previous master plans to create a combined version. This includes the 2000 Columbia Park Master Plan and 2010 Columbia Park West Master Plan. Elements from both master plans are supplemented with elements from the design team and the City of Kennewick Parks Department. The 2018 Columbia Park Master Plan Vision focuses on creating park use zones to characterize and organize the park into the following zones: Active Play, Recreation, Multi-Use / Economic, Native Restoration / Passive Recreation, Regional Recreation and Event.

GOALS

Goals for the 2018 Columbia Park Master Plan Vision are derived from the previous master planning efforts to create a set of new goals for Columbia Park Visioning. They include:

- ❖ PARK SHOULD PROVIDE BALANCE AND VARIED MIX OF RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE OF ALL AGES AND ABILITIES
- ❖ PARK SHOULD EMBRACE ITS ROLE AS A REGIONAL RECREATION AND EVENT DESTINATION
- ❖ PARK SHOULD COMPLEMENT EXISTING REGIONAL RIVERFRONT PARKS AND SHORELINES.
- ❖ PARK SHOULD CREATE A SENSE OF PLACE
- ❖ DESIGN SHOULD PROVIDE FOR APPROPRIATELY SCALED AND STRATEGICALLY LOCATED COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
- ❖ SUPPORT KENNEWICK'S DIVERSE CULTURAL AND SOCIAL EVENTS
- ❖ PLAN FOR LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY
- ❖ PLAN SHOULD RESPECT AND CELEBRATE THE WATERFRONT AND SHORELINE ECOLOGY

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2017 Mariachi Festival at Columbia Park

The 2018 Columbia Park Master Plan Vision addresses the community’s desire for Columbia Park to become a destination, not just within the city, but regionally. It encourages creation of recreation-oriented economic development opportunities within the park. One opportunity that was identified was to include a regional aquatic facility and/or an event center. Such facilities would generate year-round economic benefits while increasing park use and providing revenue for park operations.

The areas defined in the 2018 Columbia Park Master Plan Vision are organized as a hierarchy of use zones. The zones are described as follows:

COLUMBIA PARK WEST:

ACTIVE PLAY ZONE:

The Active Play Zone within Columbia Park West highlights the neighborhood park ambiance within the regional destination of the Columbia River. Amenities here include those often found in local neighborhoods. They offer an escape from urban stresses and provide space for activities and events. Many community park uses achieve success from a “Great Lawn” area. A large open turf space for organized community events, pickup sports games, individual hobbies, or just enjoying the openness of nature. In addition, community parks should provide for **Pavilions** which often include large shelters with picnic tables for sheltered community event use and gatherings. Another important piece is the proposed wading area. “**The Cove**” is an area directly adjacent to the Great Lawn that will function as a pseudo beach, allowing formal access to the river for the local park users. Finally, a neighborhood park will have a play area for local kids. The Master Plan proposes a **Playground** and **Splash Pad** with an associated formal parking area. The Active Play Zone seeks to emphasize an opportunity for play for the local youth. Both the

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Playground and Splash Pad theme designs should include surrounding neighborhoods in design of these amenities in order to maximize the draw of users.

RECREATION ZONE:

The Recreation Zones' emphasis is on outdoor recreation. Its aim is to accentuate an active and healthy lifestyle. Many opportunities are proposed in the 2018 Master Plan and revolve around the existing **Disc Golf Course**, a big draw in users in Columbia Park West, which needs to have current user input on improvements to the course. During the public involvement events, the **Ropes Course** fared very well in sought after activities for Columbia Park, and should look at the improvement of the existing course. Other improvements are the shoreline improvements with additional picnic and picnic shelters, maintaining open turf areas, "**The Pier**", and adding workout stations along the existing Sacagawea Heritage Trail within the Recreation Zone. Existing amenities to remain in the proposed Master Plan is the Kiwanis Building, the walking trails adjacent to the Active Play Zone Parking lot, and the **Existing Water Fowl Pond**. The significant proposed change within the Recreation Zone is the proposed separation of **Columbia Park Drive** and **Sacagawea Heritage Trail** by adjusting the route of Columbia Drive Park further within the park.

MULTI-USE ECONOMIC ZONE:

The Multi-Use Economic Zone is a major proposal of the 2018 Columbia Park Master Plan. It introduces a commercial and park revenue aspect to the park at the intersection of North Edison Street and Columbia Park Drive. The **Improved Boat Launch** is needed for a second launch point within Columbia Park and should include a dock to assist in launching in watercraft. With improved boat launch, the need for additional **Boat Launch Trailer Parking** will also be required, and proposed to include a potential 120+ trailer parking area where the existing park materials storage is located. Also proposed is accommodating **Equipment Rentals**, which located on a major recreational river, on the Sacagawea Heritage Trail, and next to the proposed recreation Zone, will provide recreational users with the equipment they require. This can provide bicycle rentals to use on the 23 mile loop of the Sacagawea Heritage Trail. The opportunity also exists to provide a **Rental Shuttle Service** for personal watercraft (e.g. canoes, kayaks, etc.) to be picked up at multiple pickup areas and maximum 2.3 miles downstream within Columbia Park. Another desired amenity is **Waterfront Restaurant** options for the Tri-Cities area with outdoor dining, proposed within the **Plaza** area, which can provide a symbiotic economic relationship for the community and parks department.

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Figure 2: Conceptual Vision of the Aquatics Facility and Community Center.

COLUMBIA PARK CENTRAL:

NATIVE RESTORATION/PASSIVE RECREATION ZONE:

The Native Restoration/Passive Recreation Zone focuses on preserving the native waterfront areas already established as well as maintaining and improving the Audubon Society Natural Area. This area is used for passive recreation activities such as walking, picnicking, outdoor education, and wildlife watching. This zone includes some active recreation amenities to include the existing **Basketball Half Courts, Playground, Swings**, and proposed **Fishing Pier**, all of which need improvements. The significant change proposed in this zone is the separation of Columbia Park Drive and Sacagawea Heritage Trail, which may include a boardwalk system through the existing waterfront natural areas, enhancing the natural experience in this zone.

COLUMBIA PARK EAST:

REGIONAL RECREATION AND EVENT ZONE:

The Regional Recreation and Event Zone contains the core of Columbia Park's usage, from local to national events, to organized sport leagues, to local park use, and highlight the need for destination driven amenities to improve user attendance. The core of the park already serves as a major boat launch within the Tri-Cities area. Major events take place in this area such as dogshows, car shows, car sales, civil war reenactment, the Water Follies hydroplane races, 4th of July

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Figure 3: Conceptual Vision of the shoreline improvement and Event Center.

fireworks. It also hosts local events such as drone races, local plays, strollers/striders. All of these events need new or improved amenities to improve the quality of the events. The most significant attraction to the park currently is the **Playground of Dreams**, which should be updated and redesigned into a regional playground attraction. This playground should be designed to be the most sought out playground in the Columbia Basin. Amenities should include innovative and modern play, inclusive design, and educational experiences. The Playground of Dreams should attract a myriad of unique imaginations from Eastern Washington youth. Proposed attractions in the core of Columbia Park include the aquatics facility and community center, “ringside” amphitheatre and Event Center. These facilities will encourage year-round park use and generate additional revenue for the region. The **Aquatics Facility and Community Center** is proposed to be a regional attraction with amenities such as a lap swimming pool, a lazy river, water oriented playground and slides, and community event space that will emulate other Eastern Washington cities.

The **Wallula** (Nez Perce language, meaning "plenty of water") **Event Center** is proposed to be the premier event space on the Columbia River located on the Columbia River at the heart of Tri-Cities, and should attract events on a daily basis year-round. This event center can also serve as an indoor option to events such as Water Follies and 4th of July Fireworks. The Event Center should have a

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commercial kitchen available for events and food prep and an associated café, open regularly, as a food and drink attraction in the park. The proposed event center will also expand parking areas nearby to accommodate the events, as well as, provide needed parking and/or vendor space for outdoor events. The associated **Plaza** connected to the event center can be used for associated events, outdoor displays, or café seating. The **“Ringside” Amphitheater & Beach** is the outdoor performance space associated with the Event Center that provides iconic views of the Columbia River. This is the formal seating space for all performances and events within Columbia Park. The beach component will allow for users to access the Columbia River different than on the levee. **“The Jetty” and Water Taxi Docks** is the protection of the “Ringside” Amphitheater & Beach, but also serves as the docks for water travel to and from the Event Center. The improved shoreline within this zone should be an experience for park users to interact and enjoy the Columbia River and create a memorable event.

Other recreational activities within this part of the park should include full size **Basketball Courts**, an improved **Skate Park**, and full size **Multi-Use Fields with Lights**. The core of Columbia Park is also designed with expanded parking and providing a formal **Park Maintenance and Train Storage** area to collocate with the expanded uses of the core of the park. **Columbia Pond** would also be improved through shoreline management, creating both an iconic area of the park but also improving the health of the pond as well. The proposed amenities for the pond and nearby picnic area is a **Fishing Pier** and additional **Shelters**. The existing golf course is proposed to remain with the addition of an improve **Clubhouse and Restaurant** with associated **Dock**. The **9 Hole Golf Course** is recommended to remain a Par 3 course and foot golf course while integrating a disc golf option to expand on the success of the existing disc golf course and give a second, unique option for disc golf.



LEGEND

WATER FRONT IMPROVEMENT	PARK MAINTENANCE/OPERATIONS	PROPOSED BUILDING	EXISTING ROAD	EXISTING SACAGAWEA HERITAGE TRAIL	SHORELINE	POINT OF INTEREST
RECREATIONAL PROPOSAL	PROPOSED LANDSCAPE BUFFER	EXISTING BUILDING/USE	EXISTING SHARED ROAD	PROPOSED SACAGAWEA HERITAGE TRAIL	RICHLAND/KENNEWICK CITY LIMITS	GATEWAY
NATURAL AREA PRESERVATION/RESTORATION	WATER BODY	IMPROVED PARKING	PROPOSED SHARED ROAD	WALKING PATH	PAVILLION	KIOSK
TURF AND EXISTING TREES	PROPOSED BEACH	PEDESTRIAN CROSSING/TRAFFIC CALMING			SHELTER	RENTAL SHUTTLE SERVICE

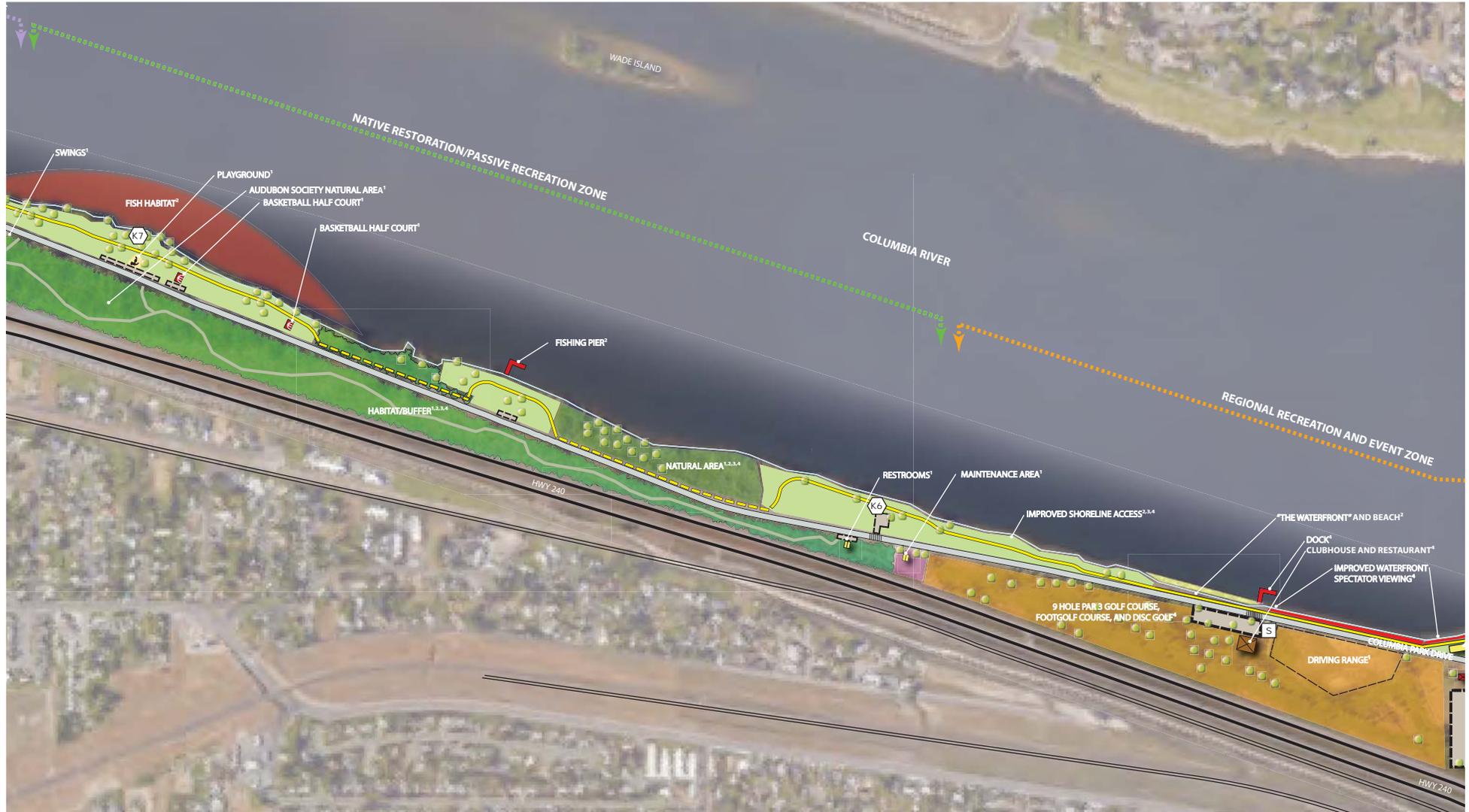
FOOTNOTES:
¹ EXISTING
² 2000 MASTER PLAN PROPOSAL
³ 2010 MASTER PLAN PROPOSAL
⁴ 2018 PROPOSED MASTER PLAN

MASTER PLAN CURRENT AS OF: MARCH 7, 2018



COLUMBIA PARK VISION - WEST - PREFERRED CONCEPT





LEGEND

WATER FRONT IMPROVEMENT	PARK MAINTENANCE/OPERATIONS	PROPOSED BUILDING	EXISTING ROAD	EXISTING SACAGAWEA HERITAGE TRAIL	SHORELINE	POINT OF INTEREST
RECREATIONAL PROPOSAL	PROPOSED LANDSCAPE BUFFER	EXISTING BUILDING/USE	EXISTING SHARED ROAD	PROPOSED SACAGAWEA HERITAGE TRAIL	RICHLAND/KENNEWICK CITY LIMITS	GATEWAY
NATURAL AREA PRESERVATION/RESTORATION	WATER BODY	IMPROVED PARKING	PROPOSED SHARED ROAD	WALKING PATH	PAVILLION	KIOSK
TURF AND EXISTING TREES	PROPOSED BEACH	PEDESTRIAN CROSSING/TRAFFIC CALMING			SHELTER	RENTAL SHUTTLE SERVICE

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 3 2010 MASTER PLAN PROPOSAL
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MASTER PLAN CURRENT AS OF: MARCH 7, 2023



COLUMBIA PARK VISION - CENTRAL - PREFERRED CONCEPT





LEGEND

WATER FRONT IMPROVEMENT	PARK MAINTENANCE/OPERATIONS	PROPOSED BUILDING	EXISTING ROAD	EXISTING SACAGAWEA HERITAGE TRAIL	SHORELINE	POINT OF INTEREST
RECREATIONAL PROPOSAL	PROPOSED LANDSCAPE BUFFER	EXISTING BUILDING/USE	EXISTING SHARED ROAD	PROPOSED SACAGAWEA HERITAGE TRAIL	RICHLAND/KENNEWICK CITY LIMITS	GATEWAY
NATURAL AREA PRESERVATION/RESTORATION	WATER BODY	IMPROVED PARKING	PROPOSED SHARED ROAD	WALKING PATH	PAVILION	KIOSK
TURF AND EXISTING TREES	PROPOSED BEACH	PEDESTRIAN CROSSING/TRAFFIC CALMING			SHELTER	RENTAL SHUTTLE SERVICE

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MASTER PLAN CURRENT / AS OF: MARCH 7, 2023



COLUMBIA PARK VISION - EAST- PREFERRED CONCEPT





LEGEND

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|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| WATER FRONT IMPROVEMENT | PARK MAINTENANCE/OPERATIONS | PROPOSED BUILDING | EXISTING ROAD | EXISTING SACAGAWEA HERITAGE TRAIL | SHORELINE | POINT OF INTEREST |
| RECREATIONAL PROPOSAL | PROPOSED LANDSCAPE BUFFER | EXISTING BUILDING/USE | EXISTING SHARED ROAD | PROPOSED SACAGAWEA HERITAGE TRAIL | RICHLAND/KENNEWICK CITY LIMITS | GATEWAY |
| NATURAL AREA PRESERVATION/RESTORATION | WATER BODY | IMPROVED PARKING | PROPOSED SHARED ROAD | WALKING PATH | PAVILLION | KIOSK |
| TURF AND EXISTING TREES | PROPOSED BEACH | | | | SHELTER | |

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