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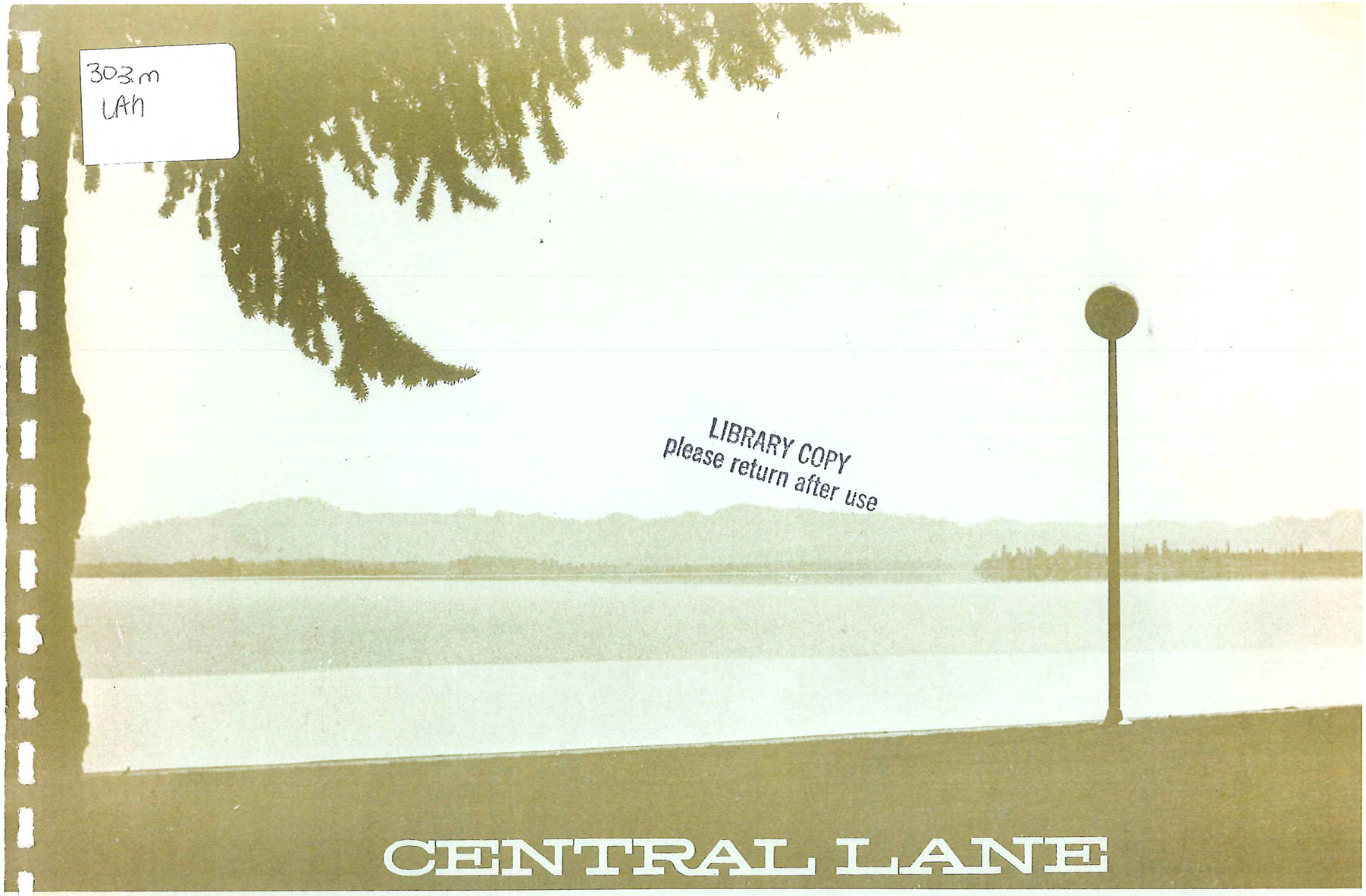

CENTRAL LANE REGIONAL PARKS

Published January, 1970 by the
Central Lane Planning Council
1643 Oak Street
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CENTRAL LANE

REGIONAL PARKS

Central Lane Regional Parks constitutes the regional park element of the Eugene-Springfield Metropolitan Area Preliminary 1990 General Plan. It relates to the type of parks and open space that provide region-wide benefits or attraction. It does not cover the needs for future neighborhood and community parks, which should be thoroughly considered by a subsequent study.

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Lane County Parks and Recreation Division

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Oregon State Game Commission
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
U. S. Bureau of Land Management
U. S. Forest Service
U. S. Soil Conservation Service
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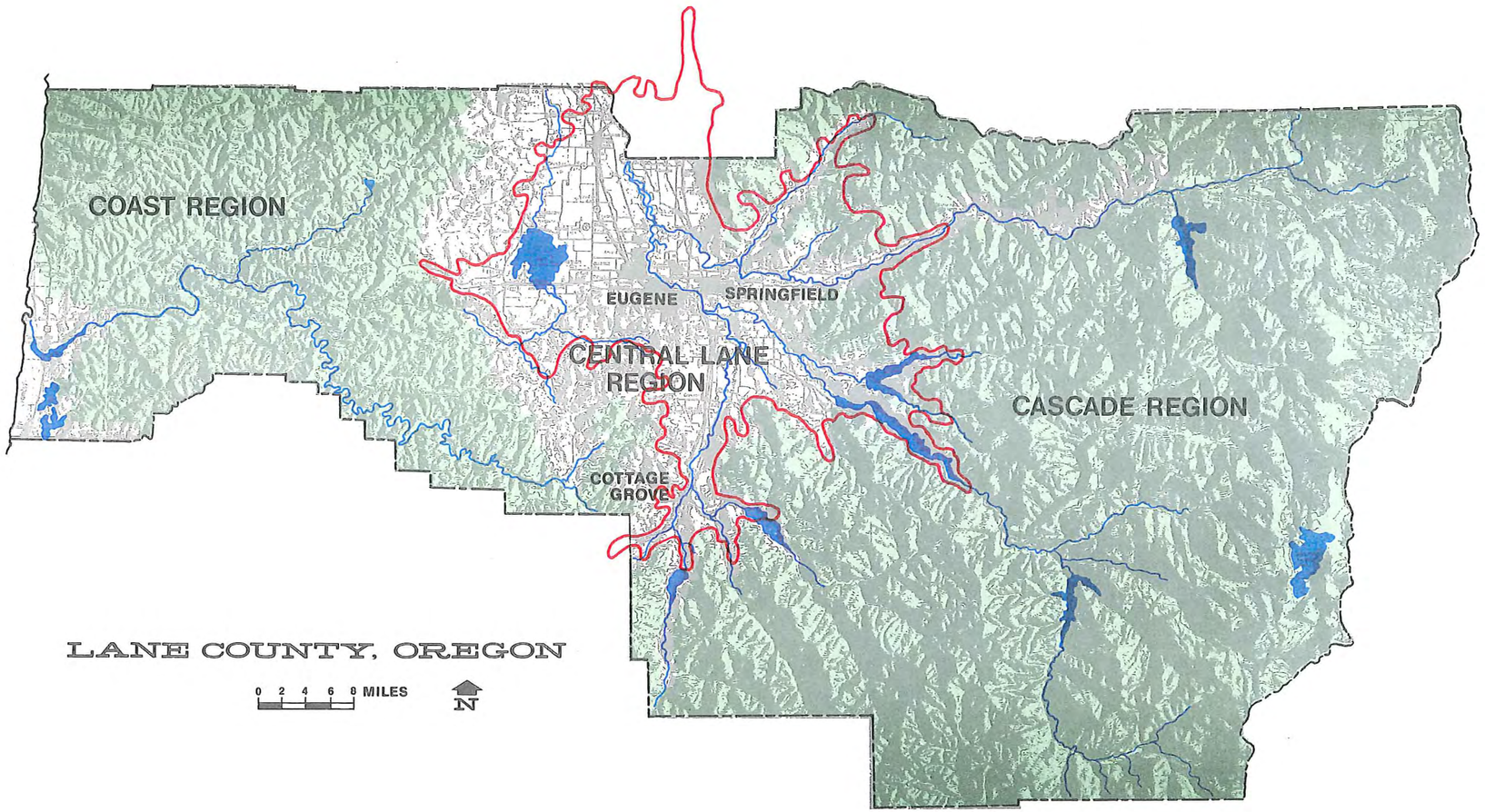
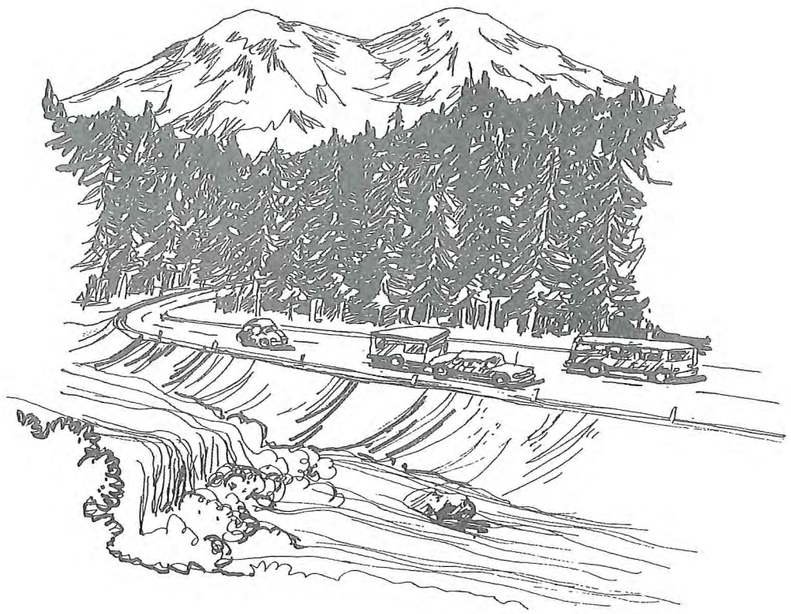
4 THE CENTRAL LANE REGION

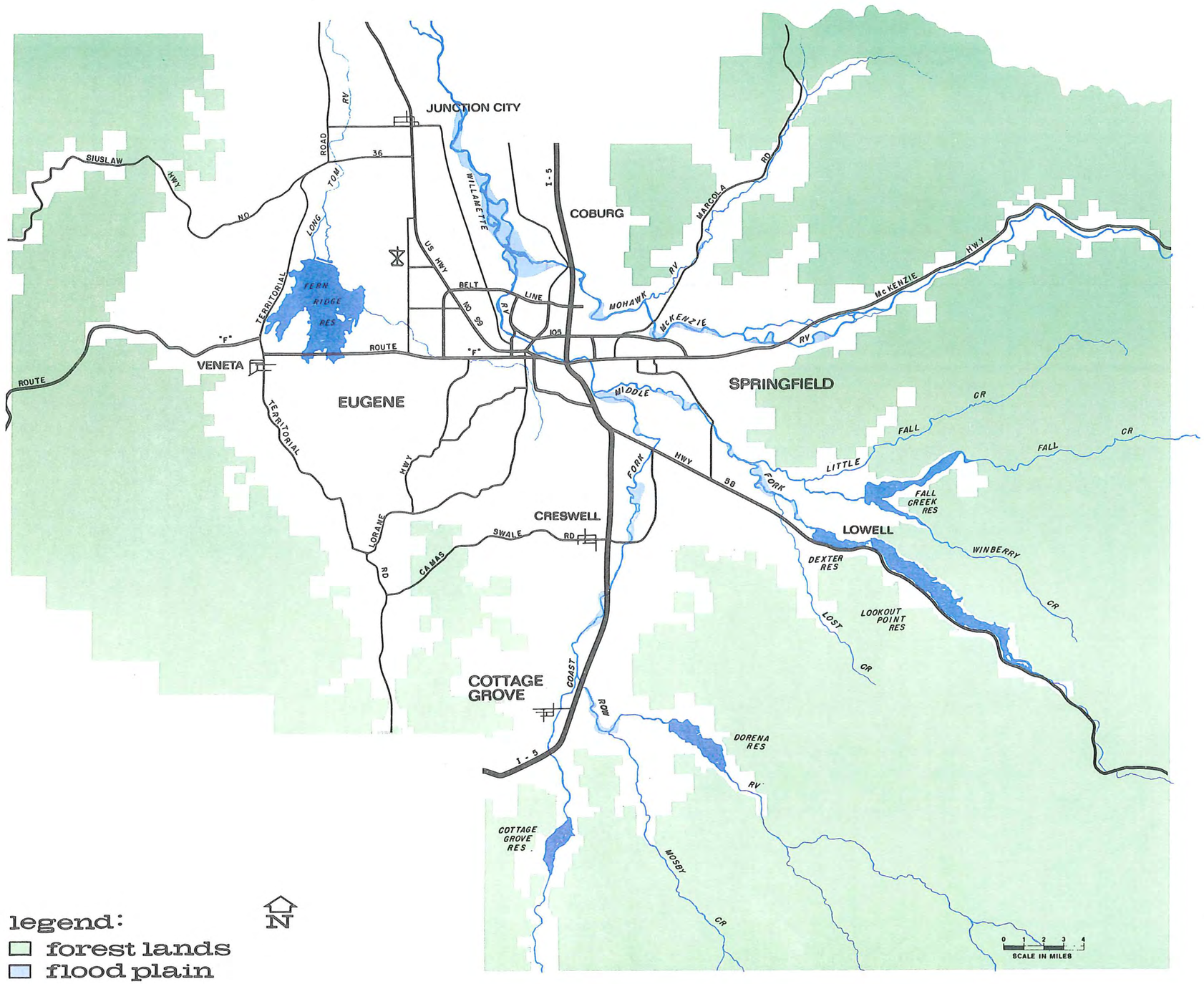
The Central Lane Region, encompassing the Eugene-Springfield Metropolitan Area and other satellite communities, lies in the southernmost part of the Willamette River Valley. It is framed by the Coast and Cascade mountain ranges and extends in a finger-like fashion up the principal rivers and streams to outlying reservoir lakes which surround the region and constitute the outer limits of a one-half-hour drive from the center of the region. The Central Lane Region possesses a unique geographical situation in that there is a wide diversity of recreational resource opportunities within the region uniformly available to all the persons living within it. The large concentrations of people in the urbanized areas of the Central Lane Region commute to the outer limits of the region in search of their day-use regional recreation opportunities just as those persons living in the outlying satellite communities and rural areas are attracted inward to use regional park, recreation and cultural facilities in the region's central core.


COAST REGION
EUGENE
SPRINGFIELD
CENTRAL LANE
REGION
CASCADE REGION
COTTAGE
GROVE
LANE COUNTY, OREGON
0 2 4 6 8 MILES
N

REGIONAL PARK RESOURCES

The Central Lane Region is generously endowed with favorable climate and spectacular natural scenery. Naturally occurring waterways, landforms, vegetation and wildlife provide unsurpassed park, recreation and open space resources. These resources are, however, not indestructible. They must be protected and developed if they are to realize their full outdoor recreation potential.





legend:

- forest lands
- flood plain

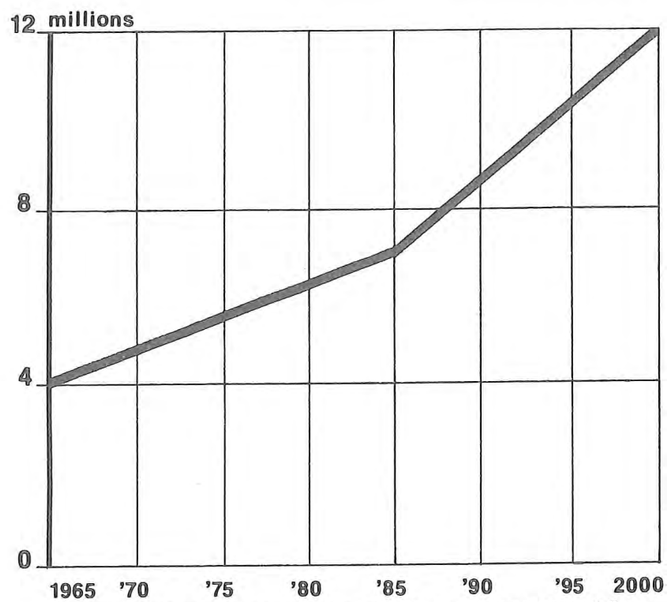
Large tracts of public and private forest lands surround the Central Lane Region and constitute valuable natural outdoor recreation resource areas. Federal resource management agencies are already engaged in preserving and developing the recreation resources of federal forest lands within a multiple-use management concept.

Three major rivers flow through and join together within the heart of the Central Lane Region, and are in turn joined by many smaller rivers and streams. These waterways constitute valuable outdoor recreation resources. Approximately 8,000 acres of flood plain lands exist along the major rivers and streams of the Central Lane Region, their greatest width occurring where major rivers meet. Riverfront flood plain lands in their natural state constitute valuable fishing and wildlife resource areas, and permit easy access to and along major waterways.

Six U. S. Army Corps of Engineers reservoirs exist at the periphery of the Central Lane Region within a one-half-hour driving range from the center of the metropolitan area population, and provide a wide range of water-related outdoor recreation opportunities.

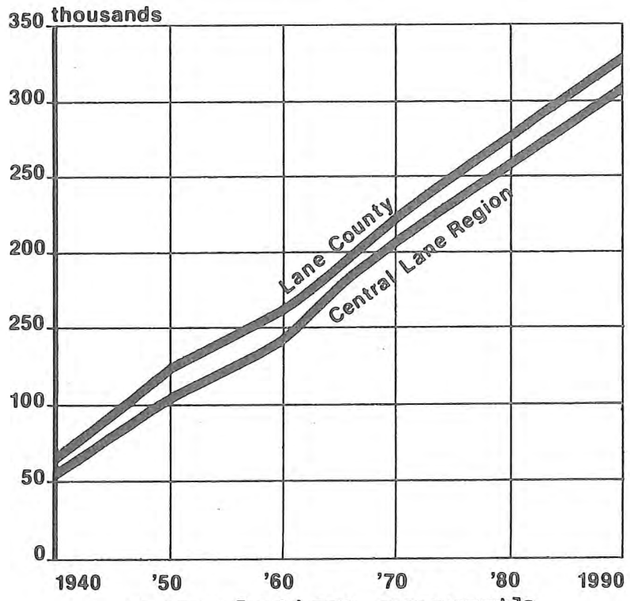
REGIONAL PARK NEEDS

Increased personal income, leisure time and mobility all serve to accelerate the need for regional park, recreation and open space areas. Growth in major summertime outdoor recreation activities in the United States has greatly surpassed earlier growth predictions, increasing more than 50 percent between 1960 and 1965. Participation in major forms of summertime outdoor recreation activities is now expected to be four times greater by the year 2000 than it was in 1960.



outdoor recreation growth

The Central Lane Region has experienced rapid population increases in recent years, which are expected to continue. The Central Lane Region now accounts for 93 percent of the total population of Lane County. It is estimated that by 1990, 315,800 persons—or 97 percent of the Lane County population—will live in the Central Lane Region.



population growth

It is estimated that there were more than four million outdoor recreation participations by the Central Lane Region population in 1965. This is expected to increase to seven million participations by 1985 and to twelve million participations by the year 2000. Recorded park and recreation attendance figures substantiate these estimates.

Outdoor recreation demand in Lane County has increased dramatically since 1960. However, whereas recreation usage in the Coast Region of Lane County has almost doubled during this time, it has almost tripled in the Cascade Region, and more than tripled in the Central Region.

Growth in Recreation Use
Lane County, Oregon
1960 - 1967

Region	Total Recreation Visits		Percent Increase Since 1960
	Approximate 1960	Recorded 1967	
Central	953,886	3,048,687	215
Coast	1,264,123	2,263,458	79
Cascade	298,930	816,400	173
Total	2,516,939	6,128,545	Average: 143

Approximately half of the total regional recreation visits in Lane County in 1967 occurred within the Central Lane Region.

General Geographical Distribution of Recreation Use
Lane County, Oregon
1967

Region	Recreation Visits	Percent of Total
Central	3,048,687	50
Coast	2,263,458	37
Cascade	816,400	13
Total	6,128,545	100

Use of regional parks accounted for more than 70 percent of the total public recreation attendance in the Central Lane Region in 1967, or for more than three million recreation visits.

Total Recreation Attendance
Central Lane Region
1967

Type of Parks	Attendance	Percent
Neighborhood and Community	1,186,557	28
Regional	3,048,687	72
Total	4,235,244	100

Reservoir parks accounted for more than two-thirds of the total regional park use in the Central Lane Region in 1967 and riverfront parks for approximately one-fourth, emphasizing the importance of water-orientated recreation activities. This is further indicated by the 46 percent increase in registered pleasure boats in Lane County between 1962 and 1968.

Regional Park Attendance
Central Lane Region
1967

Regional Parks	Attendance	Percent
Riverfront Parks	782,495	26
Hill Parks	59,646	2
Reservoir Parks	2,087,948	68
Wayside Parks	118,598	4
Total	3,048,687	100

Most of the recreation visitors to regional reservoir recreation areas come from within the Central Lane Region or from within the one-half-hour driving zone.

Reservoir Recreation Areas
Central Lane Region
Summer, 1966

Reservoirs	Percent of Total Visitors Traveling 25 Miles or Less
Fern Ridge	88
Dexter-Lookout Point	68
Cottage Grove	57
Dorena	39

Most reservoir recreation usage occurs at Fern Ridge Reservoir, which had a total of more than $1\frac{1}{4}$ million recreation visits in 1967. With acquisition and intensive development of additional lands at Fern Ridge Reservoir, an annual attendance of approximately $3\frac{1}{2}$ million visits is expected by the year 2000.[1]

Reservoir Recreation Areas
Central Lane Region
Summer, 1966

Reservoirs	Percent of Total Visitors
Fern Ridge	68
Dexter-Lookout Point	13
Cottage Grove	11
Dorena	8
Total	100

The dramatic increase in the demand for close-in water-related regional recreation areas and facilities is expected to continue.

Specialized recreation and cultural facilities, not normally provided in general-purpose outdoor recreation areas, are also needed.

[1]Source: U. S. Army Corps of Engineers

REGIONAL PARK GOALS

Regional park, recreation and open space areas—

1. attract people from throughout the region;
2. provide many and varied recreation opportunities within the region;
3. preserve and develop the unique scenic landscape features of the region.

Planning goals for the Central Lane Region include—[1]

1. the provision of a broad range of regional park and recreation areas to accommodate anticipated outdoor recreation needs;

2. the preservation of significant open space areas such as:
   a) major watercourses and adjacent scenic flood plain lands;
   b) significant land forms, unique scenery, vegetation and wildlife habitats;
   c) productive agricultural lands, surrounding forested hillsides, and other specialized lands;

3. the coordination of acquisition, development and administration of regional park, recreation and open space areas.

[1]Central Lane Planning Council (Plan Advisory Committee) Eugene-Springfield Metropolitan Area Preliminary 1990 General Plan.

REGIONAL PARK PLAN

The Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks envisions a broad range of regional park, recreation and open space areas throughout the region —

1. easily accessible to all persons within the Central Lane Region one-half-hour driving zone;

2. providing a maximum range of outdoor recreation opportunities to accommodate anticipated outdoor recreation needs;

3. preserving and developing the unique scenic resources of the region.

The Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks proposes —

1. continuous Urban Riverfront Park Chains along the Willamette River through Springfield and Eugene to the North Belt Line Bridge and along the Coast Fork of the Willamette River through Cottage Grove;

2. a series of dispersed Riverfront Parks along the major waterways of the Central Lane Region;

3. a series of Hill Parks within and immediately surrounding the Central Lane Region;

4. a series of Reservoir Parks on the six U. S. Army Corps of Engineers reservoirs within the Central Lane Region;

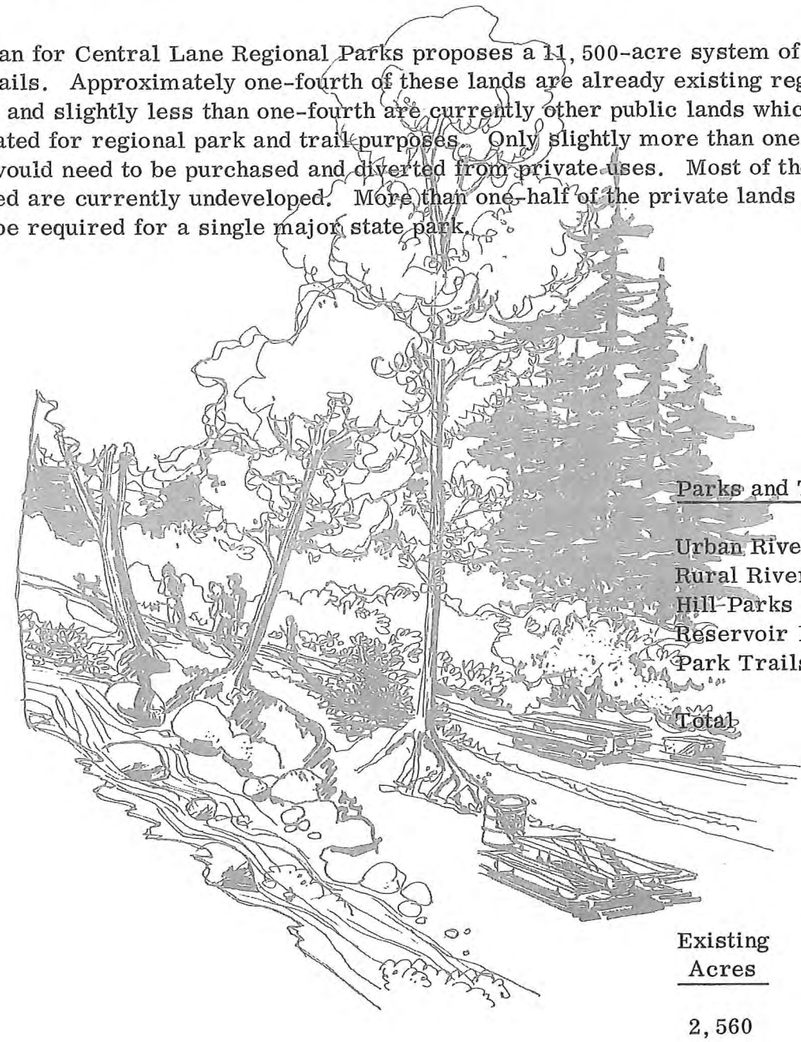
5. a series of Park Trails extending along the major hill crests and waterways and connecting major regional park areas in the Central Lane Region;

6. specialized single-purpose park, recreation and open space areas of regional significance;

7. regional open space patterns designed to preserve natural scenery and to protect productive resource lands within the Central Lane Region.

REGIONAL PARKS & TRAILS

The Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks proposes a 11,500-acre system of Regional Parks and Trails. Approximately one-fourth of these lands are already existing regional parks and trails, and slightly less than one-fourth are currently other public lands which could be designated for regional park and trail purposes. Only slightly more than one-half of the lands would need to be purchased and diverted from private uses. Most of the private lands required are currently undeveloped. More than one-half of the private lands to be purchased would be required for a single major state park.

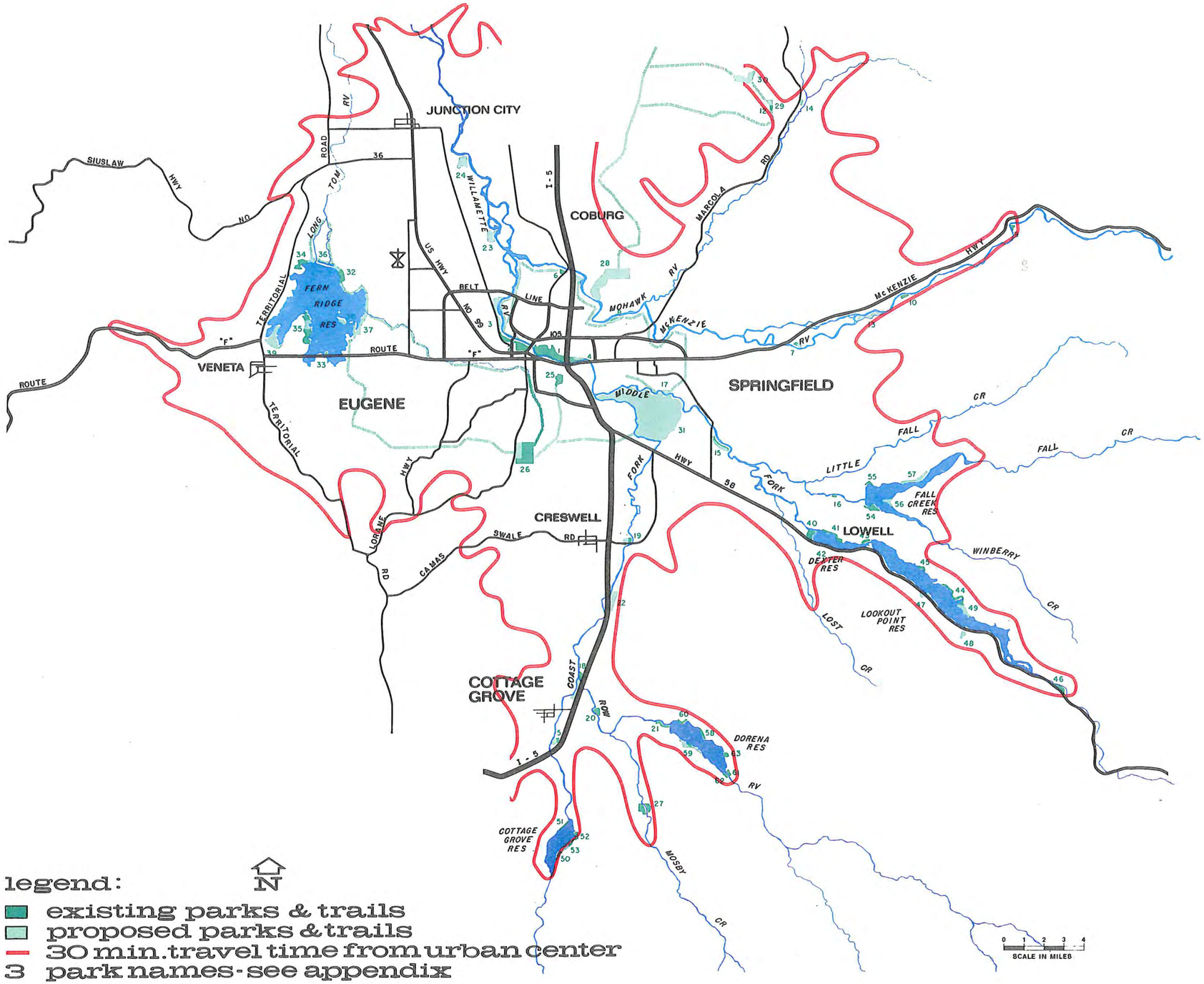


Regional Parks and Trails
Central Lane Region

Parks and Trails	Acres
Urban Riverfront Park Chains	942
Rural Riverfront Parks	1,414
Hill-Parks	4,854
Reservoir Parks	2,499
Park Trails	1,750
Total	11,459

Regional Parks and Trails
Central Lane Region

Existing Acres	Proposed Acres		Total Acres
	Public Lands	Private Lands	
2,560	2,876	6,023	11,459



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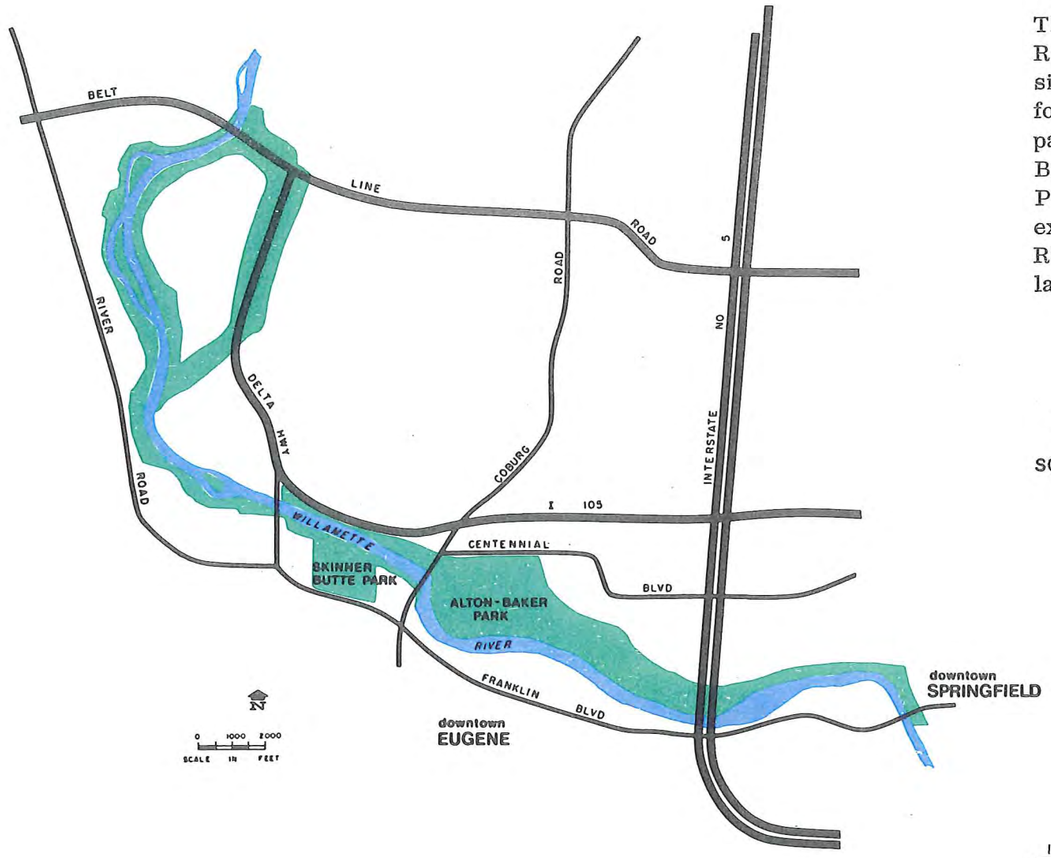
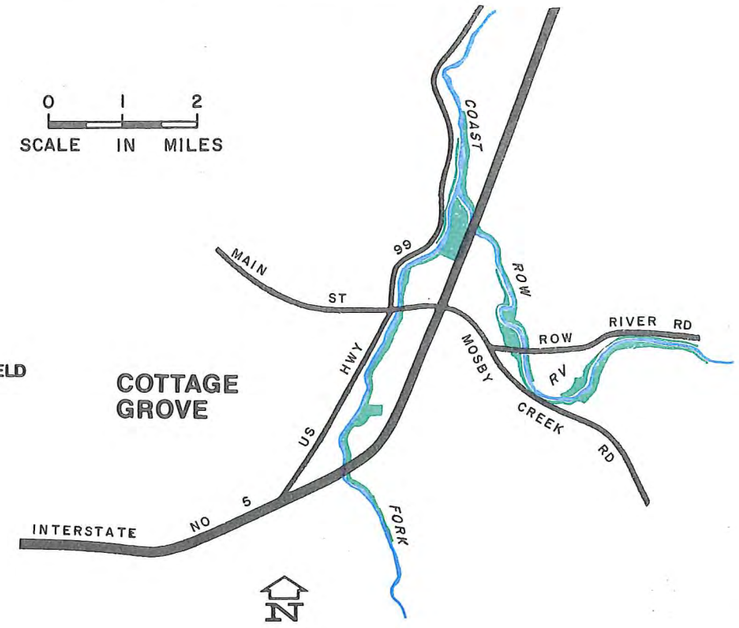
- existing parks & trails
- proposed parks & trails
- 30 min. travel time from urban center
- 3 park names - see appendix

URBAN RIVERFRONT PARK CHAINS

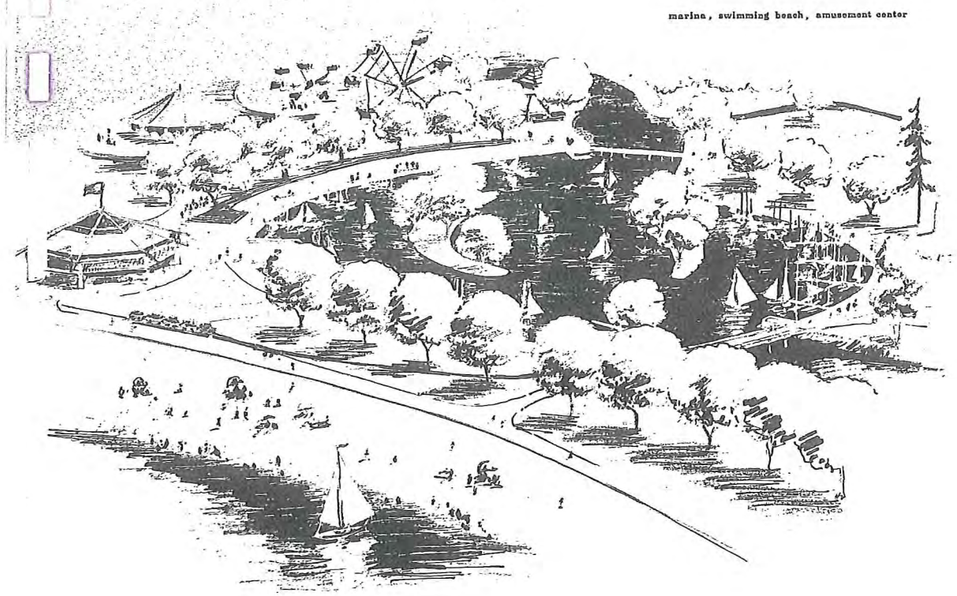


The proposed Eugene-Springfield Metropolitan Area Riverfront Park Chain would extend existing park sites along the main stem of the Willamette River to form a 942-acre highly developed regional riverfront park chain extending from Springfield to the North Belt Line Bridge. The Cottage Grove Riverfront Park Chain would consist of a 22-acre park chain extending along the Coast Fork of the Willamette River through Cottage Grove and connecting to larger rural regional riverfront parks.

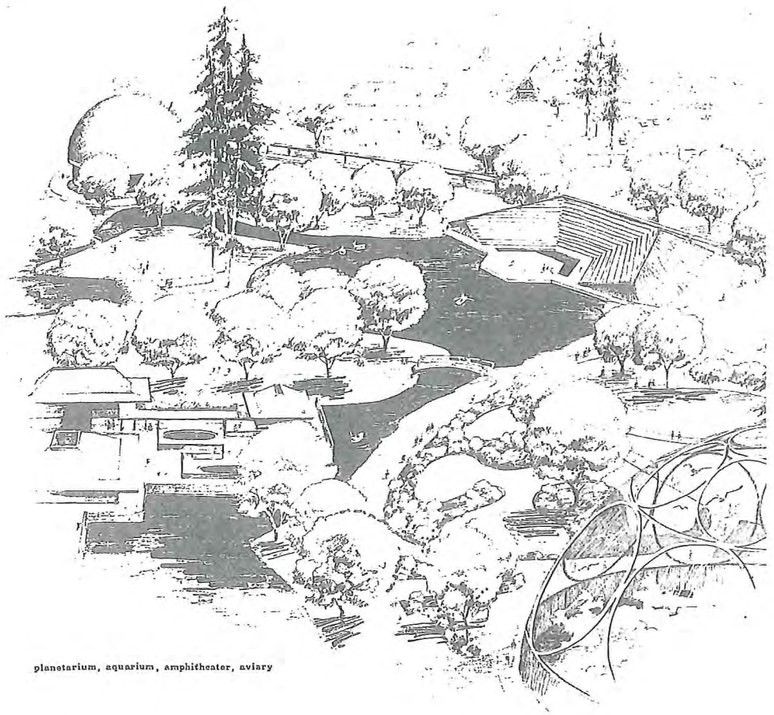


ALTON BAKER PARK

The major park development within the Eugene-Springfield Regional Riverfront Park Chain would be the 450-acre Alton Baker Park. This large open landscaped park would feature large-scale park and recreation facilities with region-wide appeal. It would provide a maximum variety of outdoor recreation opportunities and enjoy maximum day and evening use on a year-round basis.



marina, swimming beach, amusement center



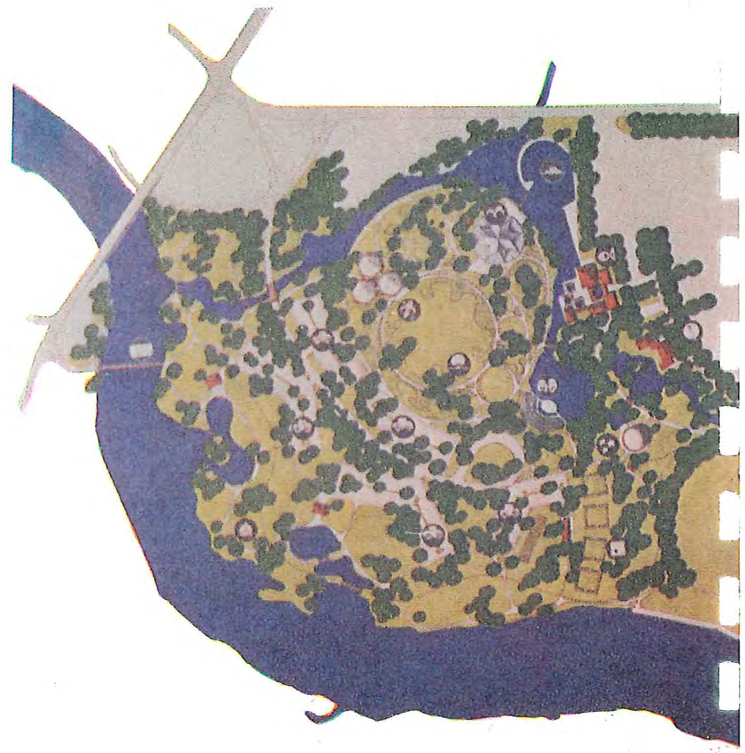
planetarium, aquarium, amphitheater, aviary

Alton Baker Park would feature a botanical garden, horticultural conservatory, museum, aquarium, water theater, planetarium, aviary and zoological garden. It would also contain an amusement center, swimming beach, boat marina, children's playground, and ice skating arena. Picnic areas with accompanying turf sports, horseshoe and shuffleboard facilities would occur at various locations throughout the park.

A unique parkside restaurant and numerous snack centers would also be distributed within the park. A network of pedestrian walkways, roadways and a mini-rail transit system would provide easy access throughout the park. Small parking areas within the park would be supplemented by the large adjoining Autzen Stadium parking facility, which would be visually blended with the park.

Alton Baker Park would be a water-orientated regional park. A canal system would link various recreation areas in the park. A Fabridam[1] on the Willamette River adjoining the park would raise the water level to form a boating lake and to provide gravity flow of water into the park.

[1]Water-inflated rubberized checkdam.



LEGEND

- AUTZEN STADIUM
- ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS
- CONSERVATORY
- PARKING
- TRANSPORTATION TERMINAL
- SWIMMING BEACH
- PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE ON DAM
- PICNIC AREA
- BOTANICAL GARDEN
- MUSEUM AND AQUARIUM
- RESTAURANT
- PLANETARIUM
- PAVILION AND EXHIBIT HALL
- MARINA
- AMPHITHEATER
- AMUSEMENT CENTER
- CHILDREN'S PLAYLAND
- STABLES
- AVIARY
- GREAT MEADOW
- BEER GARDEN
- PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE
- BOWLING GREENS
- MODEL SAILING POOL

RURAL RIVERFRONT PARKS

Rural Riverfront Parks provide facilities for water-related and general outdoor recreation activities on major rivers and streams.

The Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks consists of 19 Rural Riverfront Parks totaling about 1, 500 acres of land along the major waterways of the Central Lane Region. This would require the enlargement of some of the 13 existing rural riverfront parks and park sites, and the establishment of six new riverfront parks.

Existing and Proposed Rural Riverfront Parks
Central Lane Region

River Basin	Number	Total Acres
McKenzie	9	590
Willamette Main Stem	2	153
Willamette Middle Fork	3	228
Willamette Coast Fork	5	443
Total	19	1, 414

HILL PARKS

Hill Parks provide spectacular panoramic views and vistas from the prominent ridges and slopes in the Central Lane Region. They also provide facilities for a wide variety of outdoor recreation activities including hiking, riding, picnicking and in some cases camping and streamside water recreation activities.

The Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks proposes seven Hill Parks totaling 4,854 acres of land. However, approximately 3,500 acres of this would be for a single major proposed state park. Two additional Hill Parks are proposed by the Bureau of Land Management on federal forest lands. Only one new Hill Park and an addition to one existing park would require the purchase of private lands by local park agencies.

Existing and Proposed Hill Parks
Central Lane Region
Acres

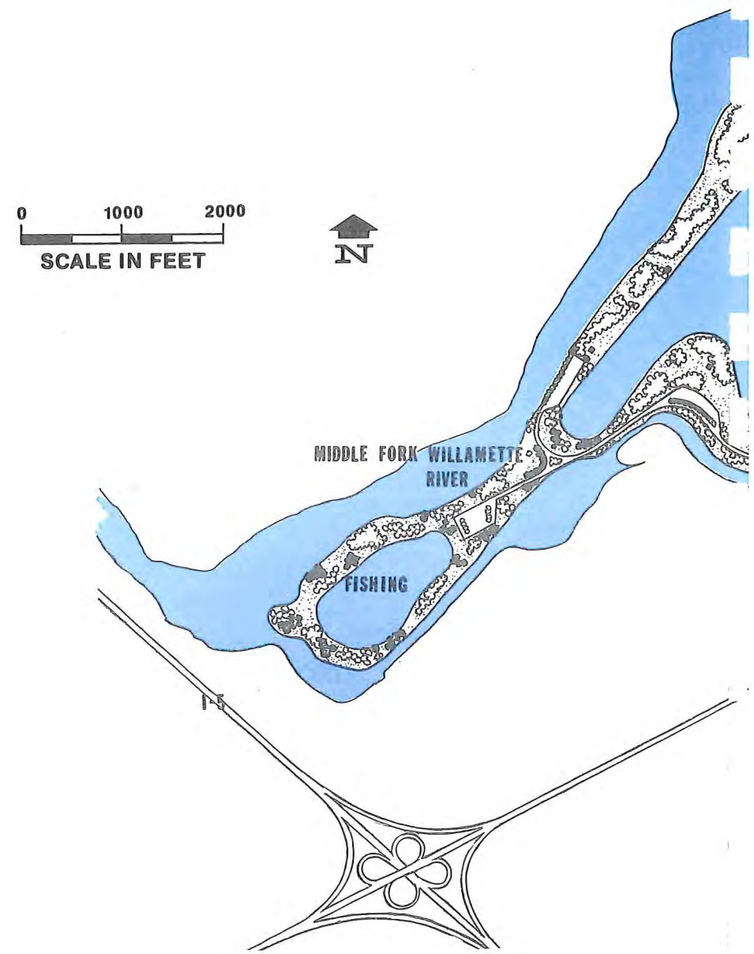
Local	State	Federal	Total
1,034	3,540	280	4,854

MOUNT PISGAH STATE PARK

The largest Hill Park in the Central Lane Region would be the proposed 3, 540-acre Mount Pisgah State Park. Mount Pisgah lies at the confluence of the Coast and Middle forks of the Willamette River. It is a major visual feature in the Upper Willamette Valley, and offers wide panoramic views from its slopes and crest.

The proposed Mount Pisgah State Park site enjoys six miles of riverfront, a varied and interesting range of vegetation, and a variety of landforms.

Mount Pisgah State Park would provide large-scale facilities for a broad range of outdoor recreation activities including swimming, boating, camping, picnicking, hiking and riding, as well as overnight and vacation resort facilities for tourists.



CAMPING AREA
DAY CAMP AREA
BOATING & FISHING
NATURAL AREA
VIEW POINT
RESTAURANT
PICNIC AREA
SWIMMING
RIDING STABLE
ARBORETUM
VIEW POINT
COAST FORK WILLAMETTE RIVER
PROPOSED ROAD
NATURAL AREA
HOTEL &
MOTEL AREA
GOLF COURSE

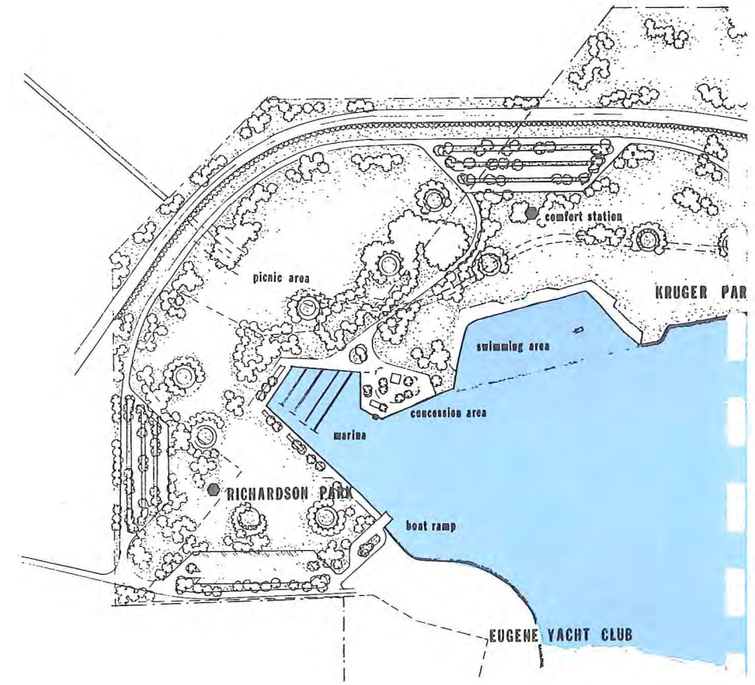
RESERVOIR PARKS

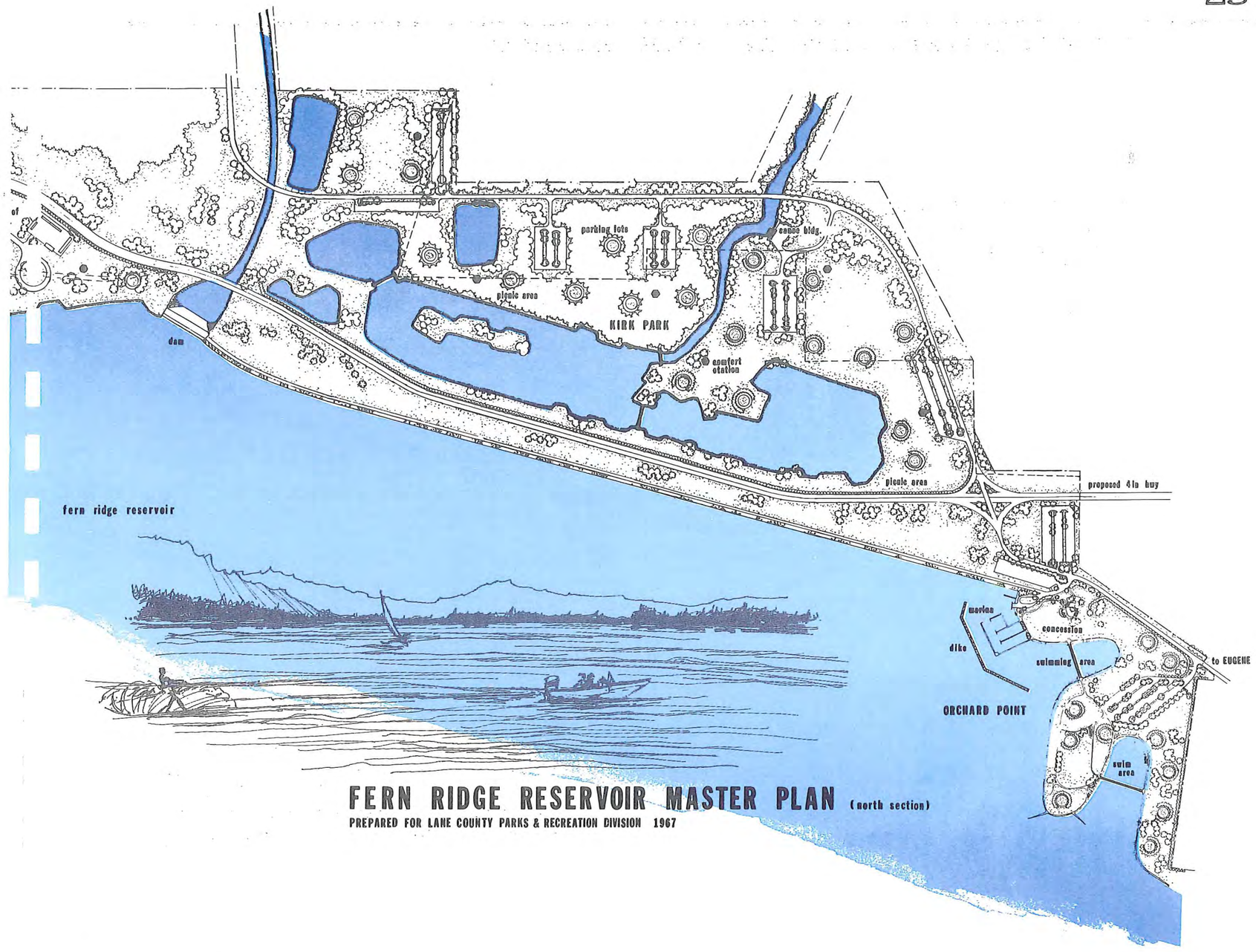
Reservoir Parks provide a wide range of still-water and general outdoor recreation opportunities including swimming, boating, fishing, water skiing, picnicking, hiking and sometimes camping.

The Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks proposes 32 Reservoir Parks totaling more than 2,000 acres on the six U. S. Army Corps of Engineers reservoirs in the region. This would include additions to six of the 24 existing Reservoir Parks and eight new parks. The maintenance of protective multi-purpose public lands around these reservoirs, and their availability for future park use, would probably preclude any required private land purchases by local park agencies.

Existing and Proposed Reservoir Parks
Central Lane Region

Reservoir	No. Park Sites	Total Acres
Fern Ridge	8	1,384
Dexter	4	179
Fall Creek	4	295
Lookout Point	6	216
Cottage Grove	4	79
Dorena	6	346
Subtotal	32	2,499
Protective Reservoir Land		10,606
Total		13,105



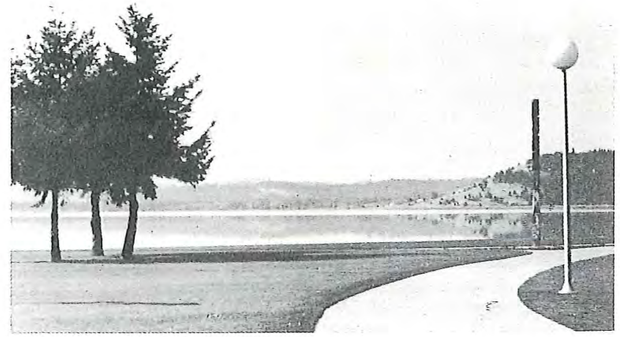


FERN RIDGE RESERVOIR MASTER PLAN (north section)

PREPARED FOR LANE COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION DIVISION 1967

FERN RIDGE RESERVOIR PARKS

The most intensive development of reservoir parks would occur at Fern Ridge and Dexter reservoirs. It is expected that, because of their close proximity to the Eugene-Springfield Metropolitan Area population, these parks will continue to experience the heaviest recreation demand.

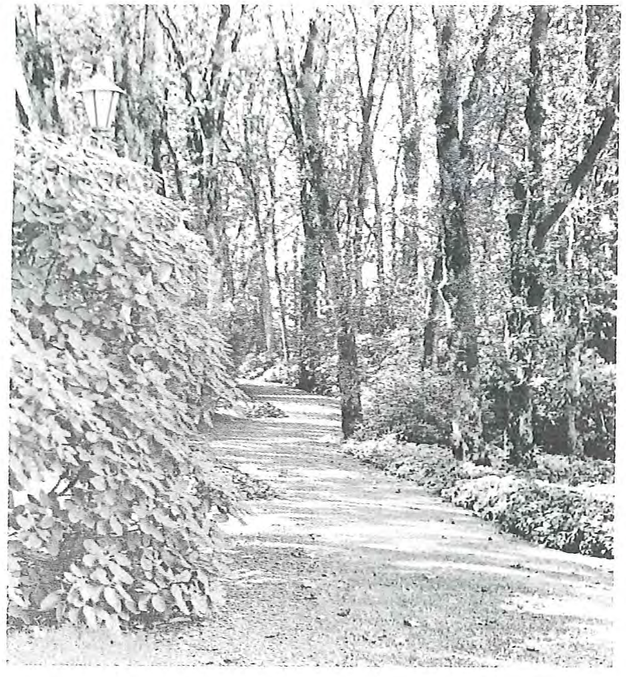


Intensive park development such as has occurred at the Lane County Orchard Point Park on Fern Ridge Reservoir will be the required pattern of development if regional reservoir parks are to meet the intensive water-related day-use recreation demands of the future.

Intensive development of regional parks at Fern Ridge Reservoir, together with connecting park trails and remaining protective fish and wildlife land areas, could transform its entire shoreline into one continuous water-related outdoor recreation area.

PARK TRAILS

Park Trails provide riding, cycling and hiking opportunities within natural scenic landscapes. Park trails could extend along close-in ridges, rivers and streams and connect major regional parks.



The Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks proposes park trails totaling approximately 1,750 acres. Although only one such trail now exists, almost half of the lands required for new trails could be secured by utilizing other single-purpose public easements and existing public lands. The Bureau of Land Management already has plans for park trails across public and private industrial forest lands in the Coburg Hills.

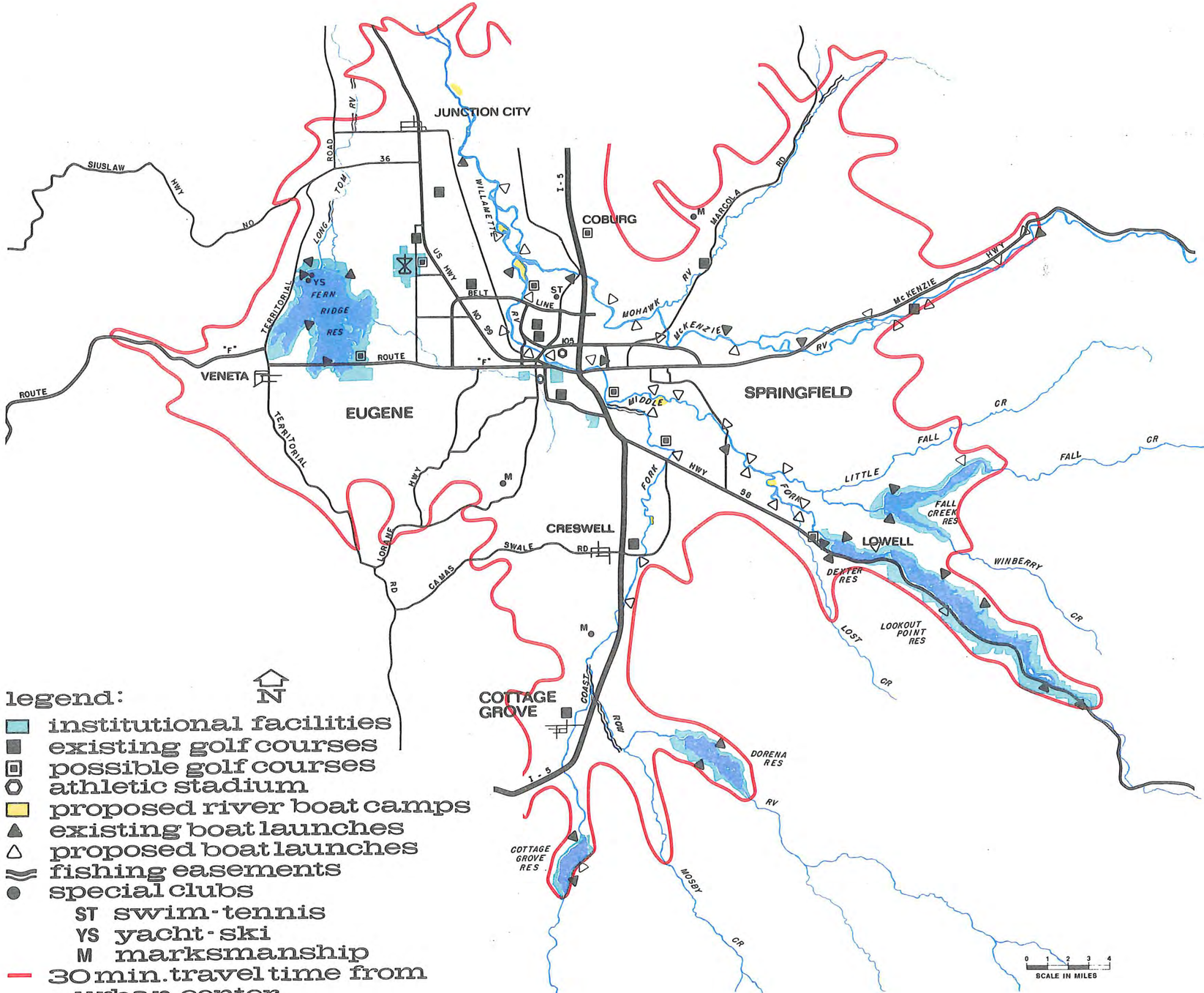
Proposed Park Trails
Central Lane Region

	Existing Trails	Proposed Trails Public Lands	Proposed Trails Private Lands	Total
Miles	3.5	29.5	33.5	66.5
Acres	100	780	870	1,750

Approximately half of the park trails would require private land purchases or easements and implementation by local park agencies. However, the Ribbon Park Association (a private group) is already seeking land easement donations for a ridge park trail linking Hendricks and Spencer Butte Regional Hill Parks.

REGIONAL SPECIAL PURPOSE FACILITIES

Regional Special Purpose Facilities include Highway Wayside Parks, Sports Facilities, Cultural Facilities and Institutional Facilities.



legend:

N

- institutional facilities
- existing golf courses
- possible golf courses
- athletic stadium
- proposed river boat camps
- existing boat launches
- proposed boat launches
- fishing easements
- special clubs
  - ST swim-tennis
  - YS yacht-ski
  - M marksmanship
- 30 min. travel time from urban center

HIGHWAY WAYSIDE PARKS

Picnicking and highway rest stop areas along state highways in Lane County primarily serve tourists, but are also used by local hunters, fishermen and weekend pleasure drivers. They add to the roadside beautification and provide open space that will be increasingly valuable with the passing of years. One major facility is located on Interstate 5 north of Cottage Grove. There are two minor facilities on U. S. 99N north of Eugene, one minor facility on Highway U. S. 99W north of Junction City, and a fifth rest stop is being considered by the City of Creswell in the northeast quadrant of the Creswell interchange on Interstate 5.

Highway Wayside Parks
Central Lane Region

Facility Name	Location	Acres
Gettings Creek State Rest Area	Interstate 5 near Walker	12.5
Eugene Blue Star Memorial State Rest Area	Highway 99N $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of Eugene	25.0
Eugene Lakes State Rest Area	Highway 99N 2 miles north of Eugene	19.0
Washburne State Park Rest Area	Highway 99W 4 miles northwest of Junction City	30.5
Creswell Rest Stop Area	Interstate 5 Creswell Interchange	20.0
Total		107.0

SPORTS FACILITIES

Sports Facilities in the Central Lane Region include Golf Courses, Athletic Stadiums, Marksmanship Ranges, Yacht and Water Skiing Clubs, Boating Launches and a Swim and Tennis Club. A professional Baseball Stadium is currently planned but not yet permanently located.

Existing Sports Facilities
Central Lane Region

Facility	Number	Acres
Swim and Tennis Club	1	10
Yacht and Water Skiing Clubs	2	11
Athletic Stadiums	2	94
Marksmanship Ranges	3	99
Boat Launches	28	56
Golf Courses	10	934
Total		1,204

Additional Proposed Sports Facilities
Central Lane Region

Facility	Number	Acres
Boat Launches	33	66
River Boating Camps	6	595
Golf Courses	4	600
Linear Fishing Easements	8	313
Total		1,574

BOAT LAUNCHES

In addition to the eight single-purpose boat launch sites, there are another 20 boat launch facilities located within existing regional parks. The Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks proposes an additional 33 boat launch sites and eight single-purpose linear fishing easements totaling more than 12 miles of riverfront.

Boat Launch Sites
Central Lane Region

Basin or Reservoir	Existing	Proposed
McKenzie	5	9
Willamette Middle Fork	2	9
Willamette Coast Fork	0	4
Willamette Main Stem	4	7
Fern Ridge Reservoir	5	0
Dexter Reservoir	2	1
Lookout Point Reservoir	4	1
Fall Creek Reservoir	2	1
Dorena Reservoir	2	0
Cottage Grove Reservoir	2	1
Total	28	33

RIVER BOATING CAMPS

Six single-purpose River Boating Camps totaling 595 acres are also proposed in addition to one which would be located within a proposed regional park. River Boating Camps would generally be located on river islands inaccessible by land and used principally by river boaters.

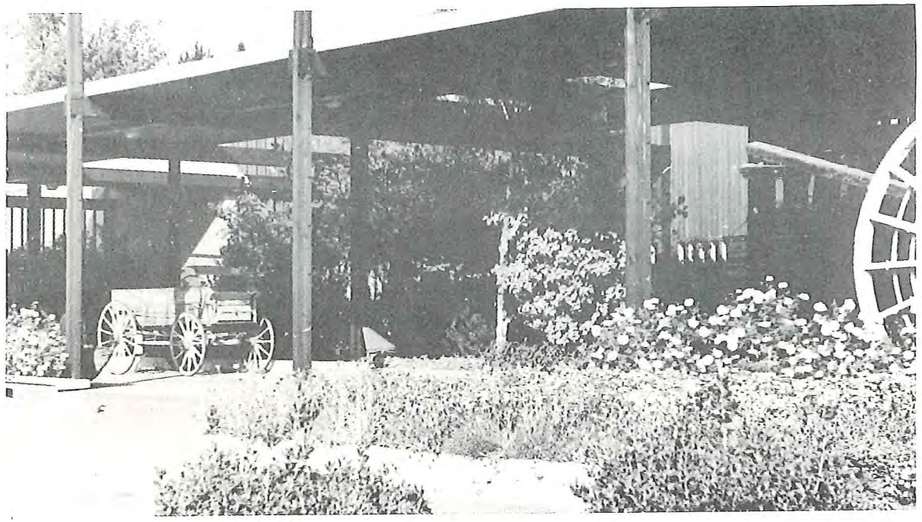
Proposed River Boating Camps[1]
Central Lane Region

Basin	Number	Acres
McKenzie	1	40
Willamette Middle Fork	1	25
Willamette Coast Fork	1	30
Willamette Main Stem	3	500
Total	6	595

[1]Does not include River Boating Camp located within proposed Mt. Pisgah State Park.

CULTURAL FACILITIES

Cultural Facilities complement outdoor recreation areas and often exist together within regional parks. For example, the Alton Baker Regional Park development plan proposes cultural facilities such as a botanical garden, horticultural conservatory, zoological garden, water theater, aquarium, aviary, planetarium and museum.



Cultural Facilities
Central Lane Region

1. The Maude Kerns Art Center in Eugene provides facilities for art classes and workshops and an art gallery.
2. The Very Little Theatre in Eugene provides facilities for family community theater entertainment.
3. The Lane County Fairgrounds in Eugene provides facilities for the annual Lane County Fair, the Lane County Pioneer Museum and a wide variety of community events.
4. The Southwest Region, Oregon Museum of Science and Industry in Eugene provides facilities for public science and industry education. A permanent site is still being sought.
5. The University of Oregon and Lane Community College provide facilities for movies, concerts, lectures, plays and exhibits, as well as athletic events, which attract a regional audience. Specialized regional cultural facilities at the University of Oregon include the Museum of Art, Natural History Museum, Historic Wagons in Miniature Museum, and the University Theatre.
6. The proposed Lane County Regional Auditorium would provide a concert hall, theater, ballroom, and meeting room facilities. The Lane County Auditorium Association currently foresees the location of this regional facility in downtown Eugene, where it will become a part of the revitalized Eugene Central Business District.

GOLF COURSES

There are presently 10 golf courses in the Central Lane Region: four 18-hole, four 9-hole and two par-3 courses.

Existing Golf Courses
Central Lane Region

Golf Course	Availability	Acres
Par-3 Courses		
Greenacres	B	27
Country Place	B	40
9-hole Courses		
McKenzie River	B	60
Hidden Valley	B	69
Laurelwood	A	83
Springfield Country Club	B	85
18-hole Courses		
Oakway	B	130
Shadow Hills Country Club	C	130
Eugene Country Club	C	150
Emerald Valley	B	160
Total		934

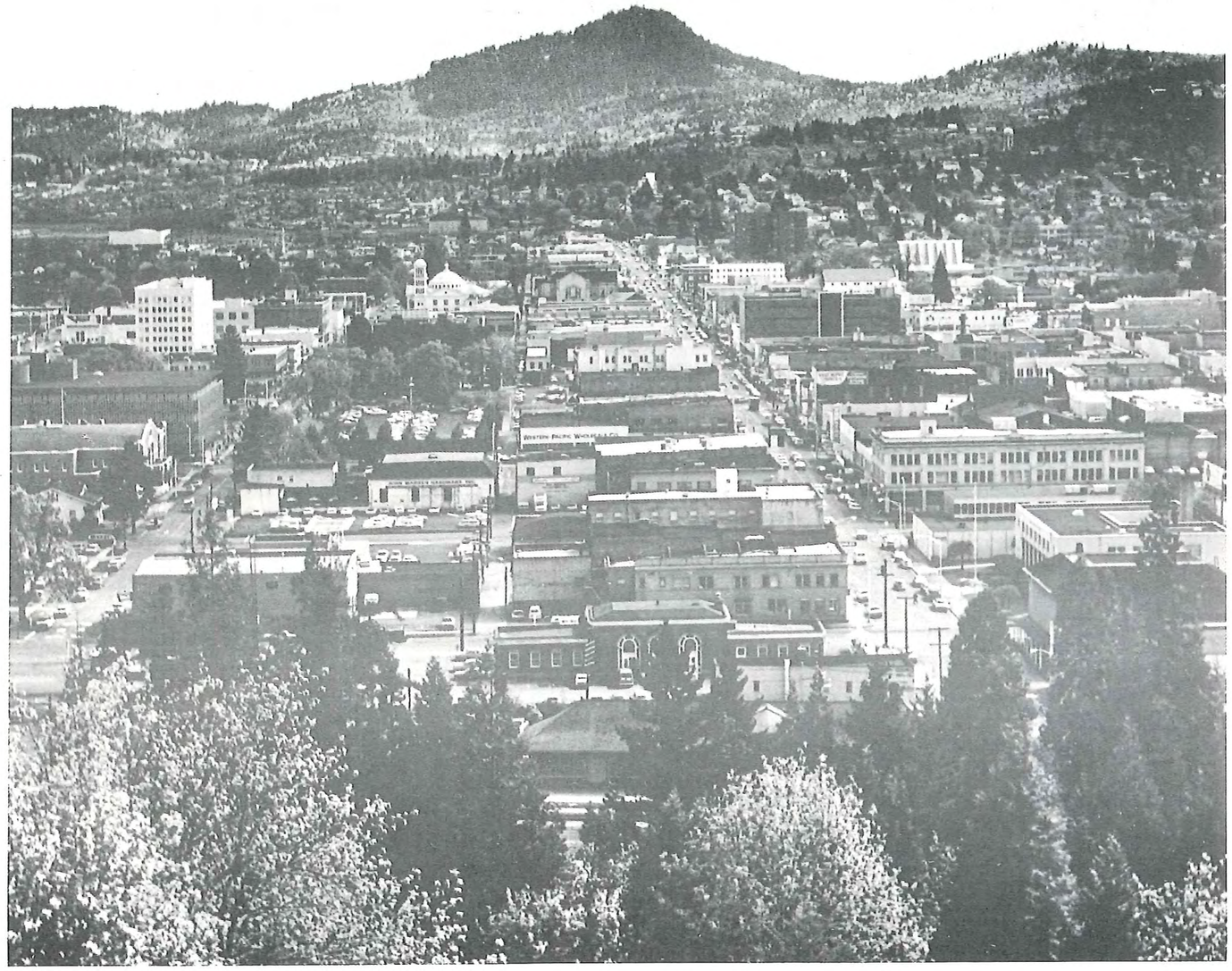
A - Publicly owned and operated for public use.
B - Privately owned and operated for public use.
C - Privately owned and operated for members' use only.

To the extent that centrally located, privately owned golf courses eventually give way to more intensive urban developments, and privately owned golf courses are no longer able to meet the total public golf course need, either publicly owned and operated golf courses or publicly owned sites privately developed and operated may be required to assure permanence in golfing facilities.

The Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks suggests seven suitable locations where golf course construction could occur, and programs the public purchase and private development of four new 18-hole golf courses in the Central Lane Region by 1990.

REGIONAL OPEN SPACE FACILITIES

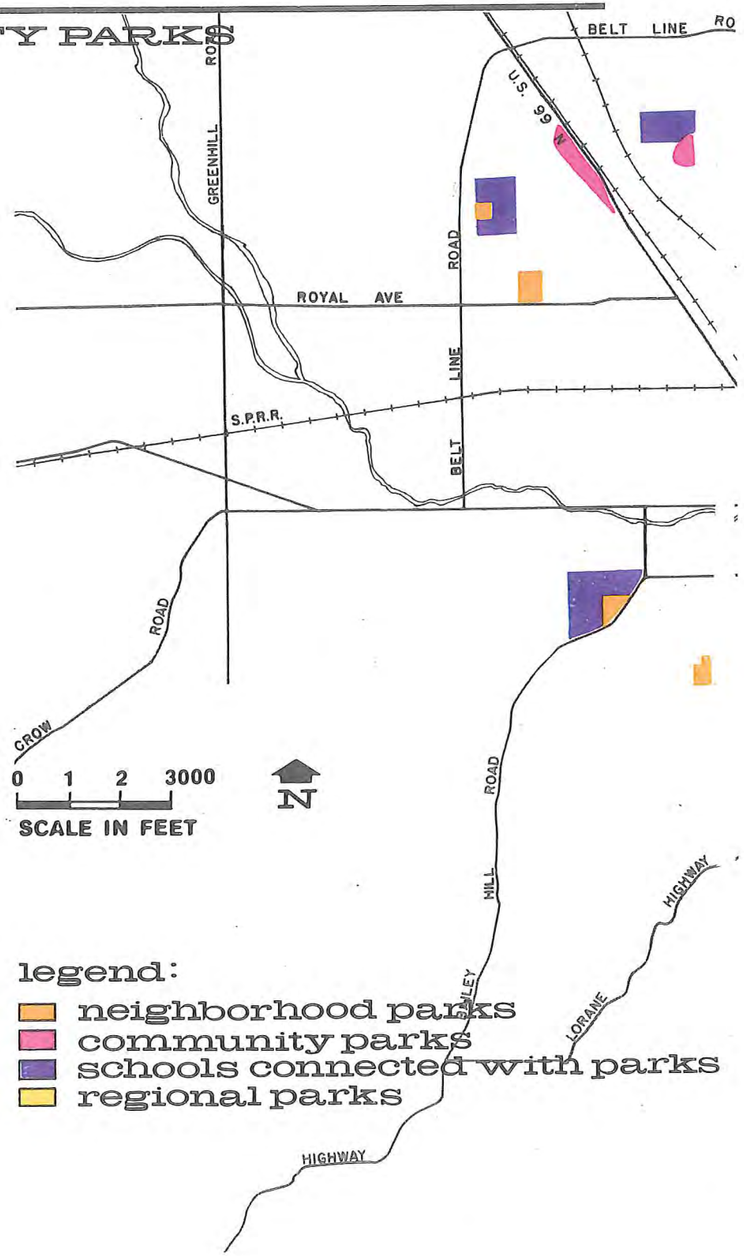
To people from California and the eastern states, the Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area appears to have an abundance of open space. To long-time local residents, the area has become congested. These differing views should forewarn us that although in comparison to other cities we are relatively well off, time to preserve close-in open space is rapidly running out. With increased population there comes a greater need for space to play; space for relaxation; untrammeled distant views where the sky joins meadows and hills; and for undisturbed open space where man can commune with nature. As happens in all growth areas, today's open space — orchard, farm, undisturbed flood plain, grove of virgin timber — will become tomorrow's subdivision, shopping center or gravel pit. Unless we preserve some of this remaining open space, and where possible move toward recapturing openness in our currently congested central city, this valley will become a solidly built, monotonous and commonplace urban complex.

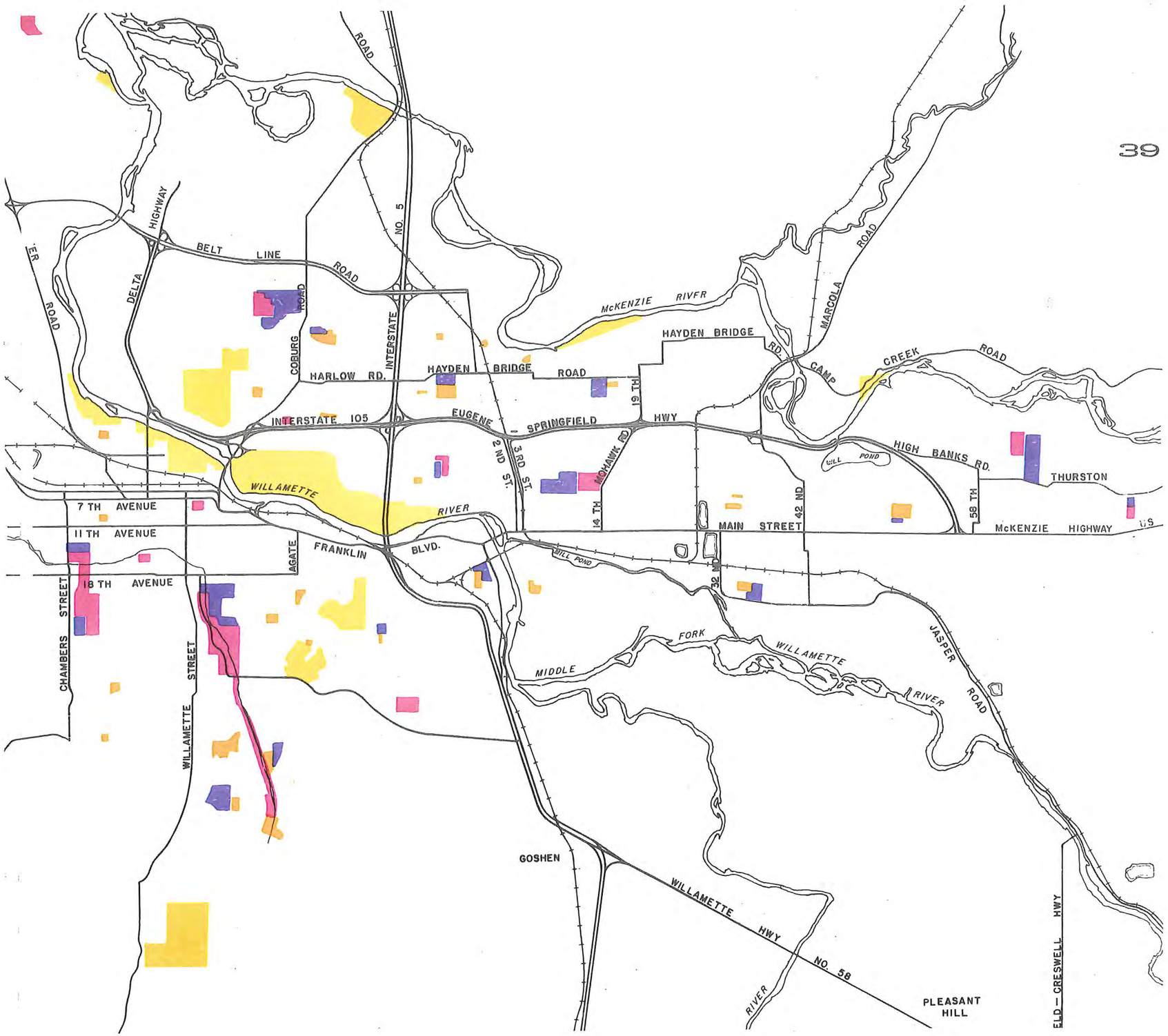


NEIGHBORHOOD & COMMUNITY PARKS

Comprehensively planned systems of neighborhood and community parks in the urban environment collectively constitute a significant regional open space element. Although portions of the Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area enjoy adequate local park service, deficiencies exist— especially in areas of high population density, areas annexed to the cities in recent years, and in most of the unincorporated suburban fringes.

The cities and the special-purpose park districts are pursuing and must continue to aggressively pursue all avenues (financial and regulatory) to acquire and develop open space and recreational facilities in the deficient areas. There still remains, however, the problem of local parks for the unincorporated residential fringes which do not belong to a political entity that can or will assume leadership or responsibility for this service. Possible answers are annexation to cities or park districts, creation of new park districts, county special improvement districts and/or "home owners' associations" created by land developers in conjunction with subdivisions in which open space and park development are mandatory. The least that should be done is revision and application of county subdivision regulations whereby all subdividers must dedicate a percentage of their land as open space or contribute to the acquisition of open space in the vicinity of the land being subdivided, as delineated by an official comprehensive open space plan.




ROAD
HIGHWAY
DELTA
BELT
LINE
ROAD
NO. 5
INTERSTATE
COBURG
ROAD
McKENZIE
RIVER
HAYDEN BRIDGE
RD.
MARCOLA
ROAD
CAMP
CREEK
ROAD
HARLOW RD.
HAYDEN
BRIDGE
ROAD
19 TH
INTERSTATE 105
EUGENE
SPRINGFIELD
HWY
2 ND ST.
3 RD ST.
MOHAWK RD.
14 TH
HIGH BANKS RD.
THURSTON
WILLAMETTE
RIVER
7 TH AVENUE
11 TH AVENUE
18 TH AVENUE
AGATE
FRANKLIN
BLVD.
MAIN
STREET
42 ND
58 TH
McKENZIE
HIGHWAY
32 ND
CHAMBERS
STREET
WILLAMETTE
STREET
MIDDLE
FORK
WILLAMETTE
RIVER
JASPER
ROAD
GOSHEN
WILLAMETTE
HWY
NO. 58
PLEASANT
HILL
ELD — CRESWELL
HWY

BUSINESS & GOVERNMENTAL CENTERS

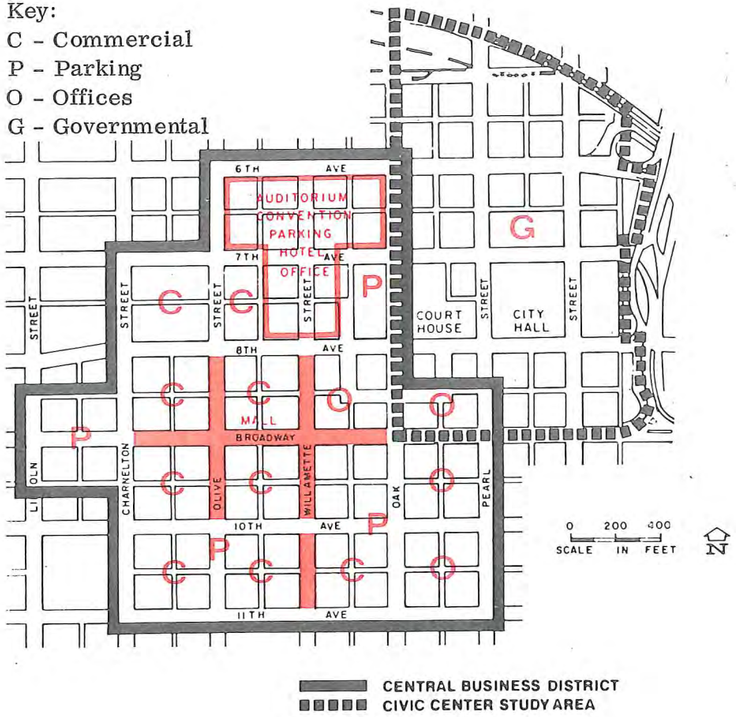
Many central business districts, in whole or in part, have been reduced to a state of liability and blight through obsolescense, congestion, traffic, ugliness and above all, the introduction in outlying areas of better ways to provide commercial services. The central business districts in Lane County's cities are not exceptions. For too many years downtown development was based on maximum intensity of commercial development, removal of all trees and shrubs in order to gain uninterrupted exposure of all buildings and signs, and the insistence that all traffic patterns lead to the central city.

Modern community and regional shopping centers—furnishing meeting rooms, child care centers, convenient parking, and exciting landscaped pedestrian concourses which provide access to all shops without automotive conflict—have wooed shoppers away from "downtown." The resulting hardship to downtown has caused the landlords, the merchants and public leaders to reappraise business areas and explore methods by which the city core can be rejuvenated.

To counteract the exodus of business and commerce from their central business areas, Eugene and Springfield are preparing plans for central business district renewal and beautification. The smaller cities also are turning their attention to tentative plans for the creation or preservation of downtown open space.

Eugene, through an urban renewal program, proposes to convert all or part of eight block-length streets to pedestrian precincts. An additional seven and one-half blocks of alley will be developed as pedestrian ways. Other major facilities will consist of parking structures, covered walkways and an auditorium for performing arts.

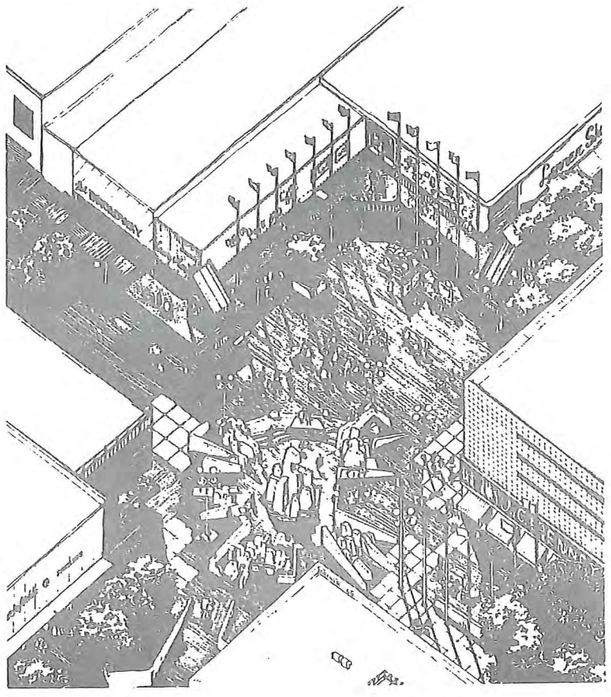
Key:
C - Commercial
P - Parking
O - Offices
G - Governmental



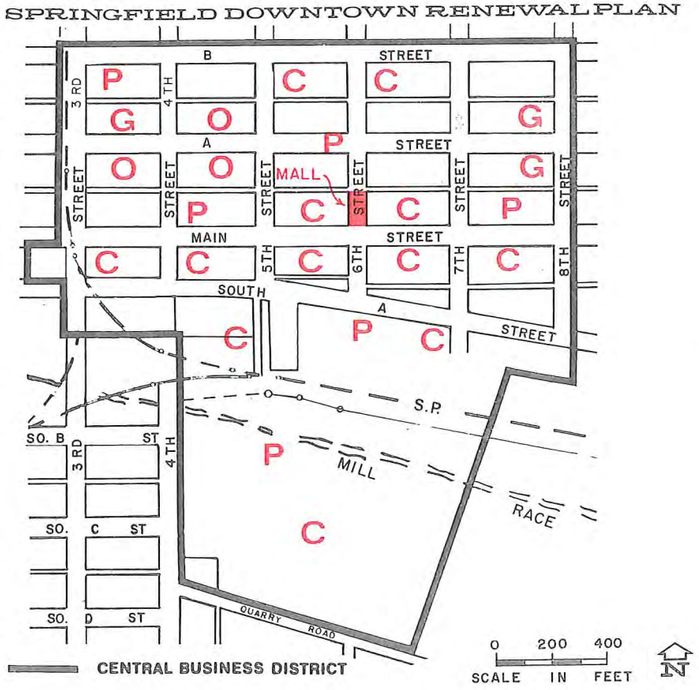
EUGENE DOWNTOWN RENEWAL PLAN

To the east of and adjacent to the Eugene urban renewal project, Lane County is moving toward the acquisition of additional land to the north and east of the Courthouse in the civic center area. The Eugene Water and Electric Board has acquired one-half block south of the city hall. These steps are being taken to provide additional sites for public service buildings with their attendant open spaces, beautification and passive recreation areas.

Central Plaza at Broadway and Willamette.

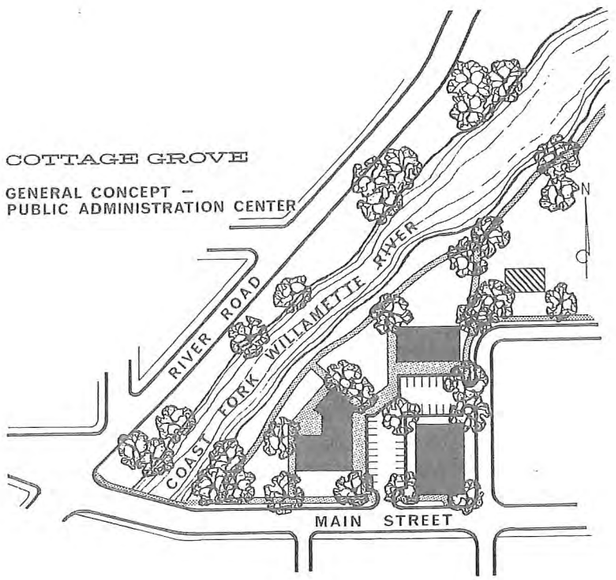


SPRINGFIELD DOWNTOWN RENEWAL PLAN



Springfield's plan for revitalizing downtown consists of concentrating the business core between 3rd, 7th, South A and North B. North A is to be closed between Main and North B. The alleys between Main and North A from 3rd to 7th will be converted to covered walkways, with a similar walkway extending along the vacated 6th Street. The city hall and library will become a part of the core area plan.

Cottage Grove, in addition to its park and Willamette River Greenway project, proposes an open space, beautification and renewal program for its central business area, with a tie to a civic center on a spacious site on the east bank of the Willamette River. The park-like area would house city, school, county, state and local federal offices. The program (included in the city's capital improvements program) is scheduled for early in the 1980s.



Junction City has in mind city beautification and permanent features in the commercial area as an adjunct to its yearly Scandinavian Festival. A series of drainageways through the city are also being viewed as potential parkways.

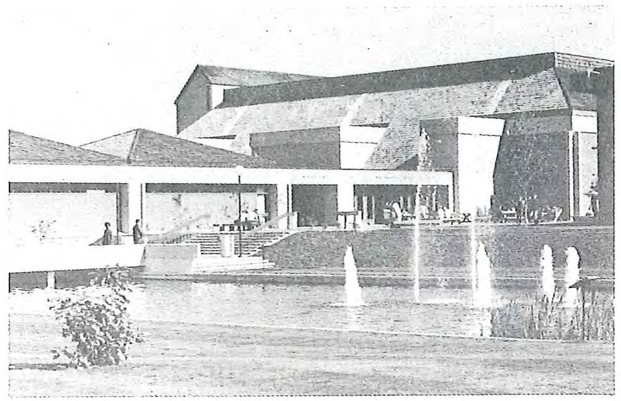
Veneta has adopted a general development plan which proposes a series of greenways along natural drainageways to provide for recreation and for pedestrian movement between residential areas, school-park complexes, the city swimming pool and a proposed central business mall development.

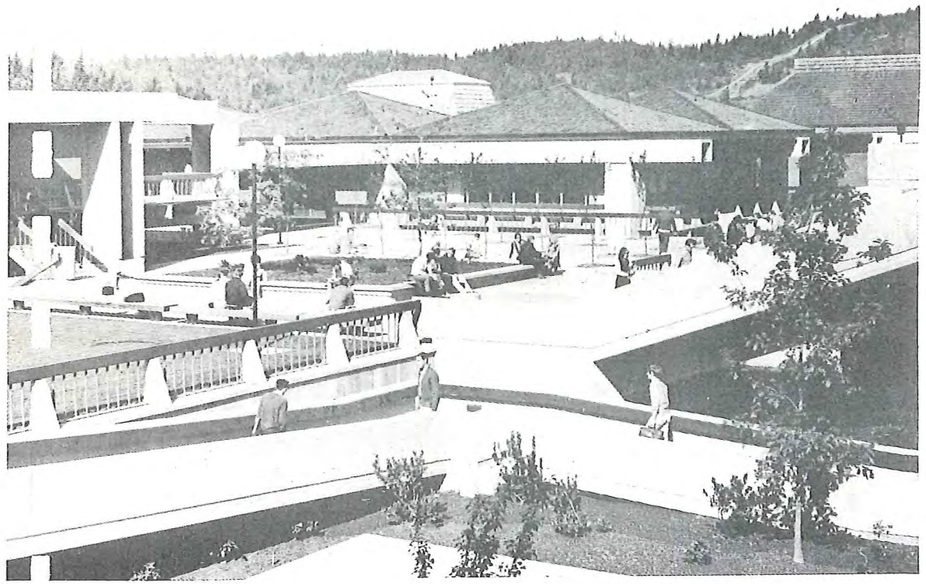
Lowell has secured from Lane County the old railroad bed through the central part of the city which was once used in the construction of Lookout Point Dam. The city plans a greenbelt leading from Lookout Point Reservoir through the business area downstream to Dexter Dam and the Lane County park and boat launching area.

Coburg has secured the services of a local architectural and land planning firm to prepare plans for an expanded residential and industrial development to the north of the present city. The plan also proposes a relocated railroad, redevelopment of a pedestrian-orientated central business area, a community center, a central park, relocated school facilities, and a pedestrian greenbelt connecting the residential areas to schools, shopping centers and employment areas.

INSTITUTIONAL FACILITIES

Institutional Facilities often provide large open areas which, due to their specialized use and public ownership, are protected from intensive urban development pressures. Institutional Facilities in the Central Lane Region total more than 1, 536 acres.



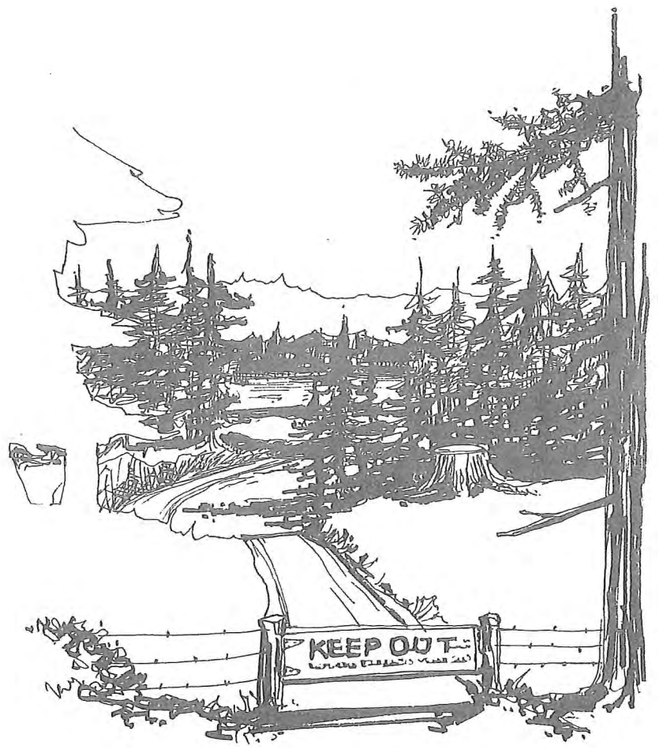


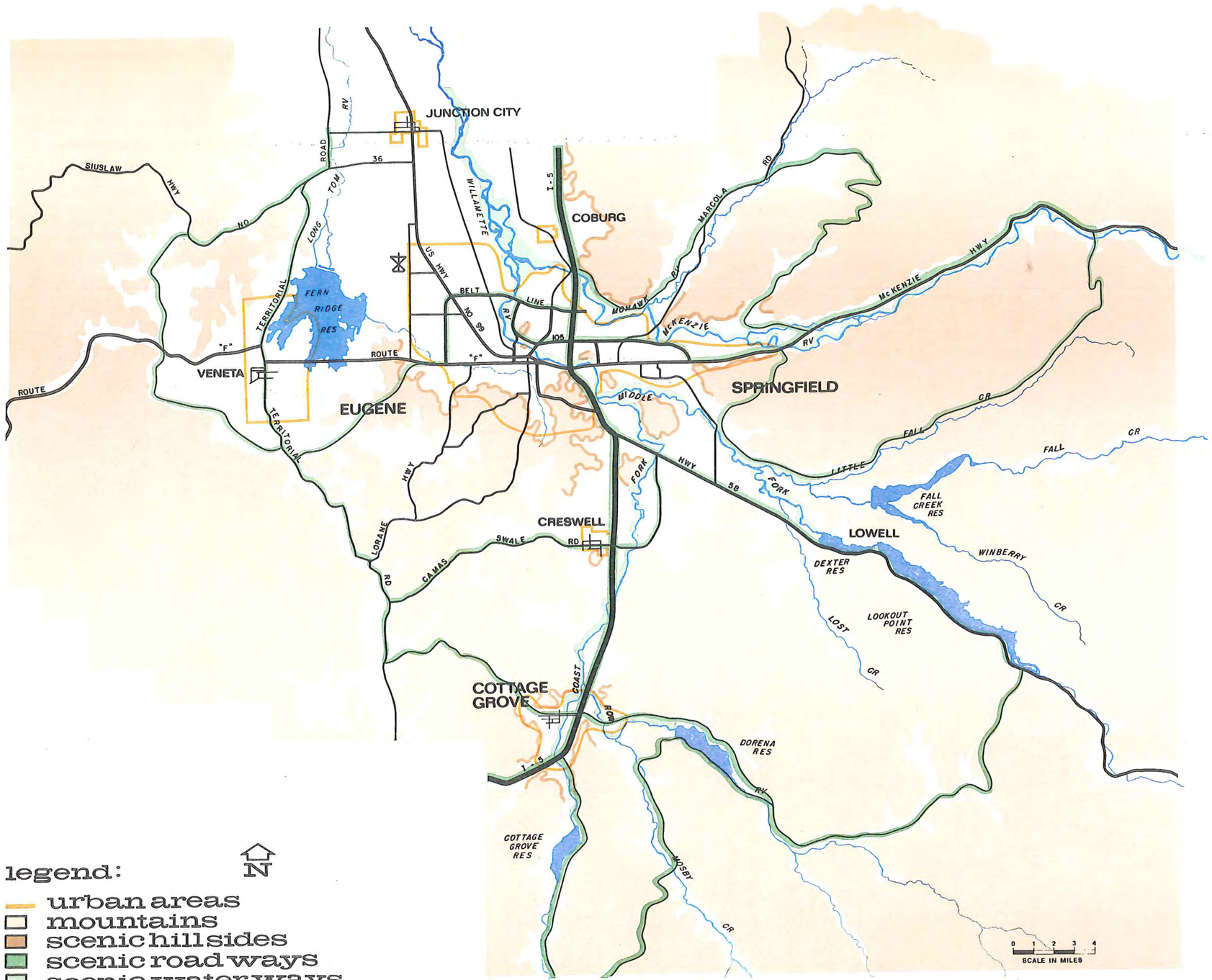
Major Institutional Facilities
Central Lane Region

Facility	Acres
Cemeteries	296
Mahlon Sweet Airport	800
Lane County Fairgrounds	45
University of Oregon Campus	245
Lane Community College	150
Total	1, 536

SCENIC OPEN SPACE

The Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks also proposes the protection of open lands of great natural beauty in the region. Productive agricultural, forest and mining resource lands and marginal flood plain lands can be protected from urbanization through the use of zoning controls. Scenic views along hillsides, waterways and roadways can be accomplished jointly through zoning controls and scenic easements.





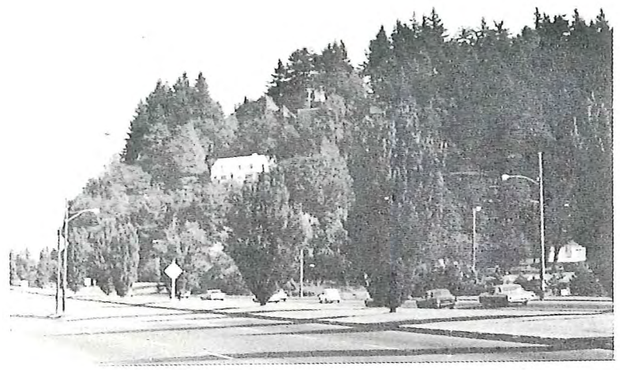
legend:

N

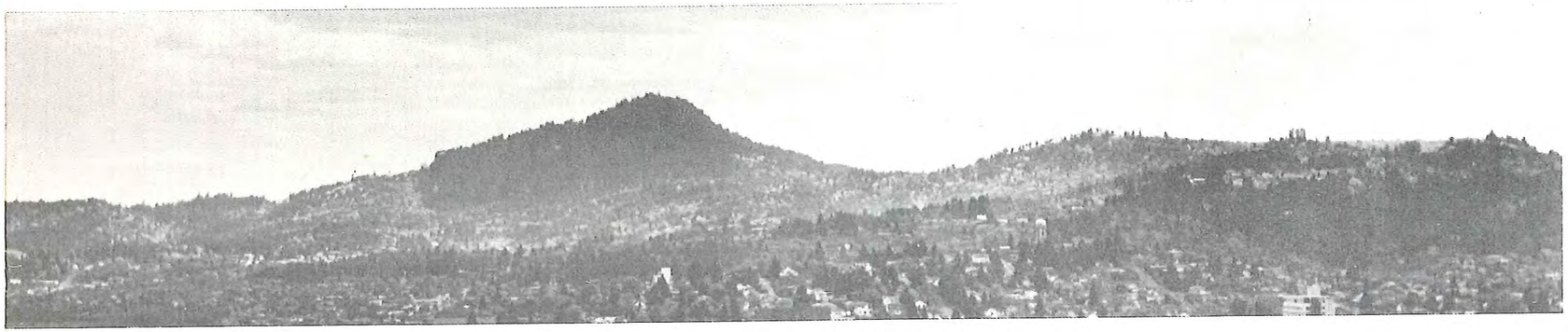
- urban areas
- mountains
- scenic hillsides
- scenic road ways
- scenic water ways

SCENIC HILLSIDES

Scenic Hillsides surrounding the urbanizing areas of the Central Lane Region constitute unique physical amenities, and should be preserved. Protecting natural hillside landforms, trees and other vegetative cover would stabilize steep hillsides, conserve moisture, prevent erosion, and preserve beautiful natural scenery.



Scenic hillside protection could be accomplished through official designation, the use of subdivision and zoning controls, grading and tree removal regulations, and scenic easements.



SCENIC ROADWAYS

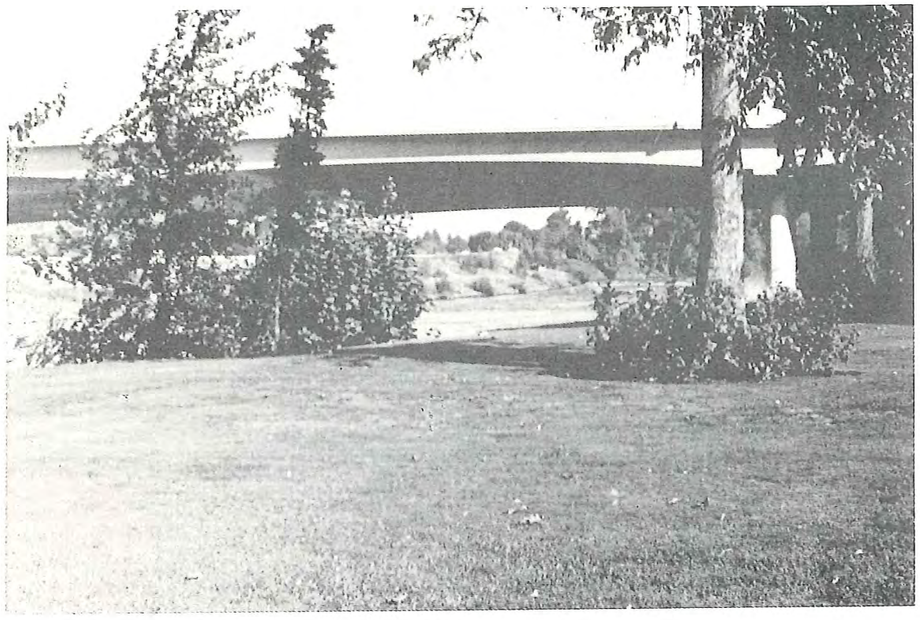
Scenic Roadways provide the opportunity for close-in scenic pleasure drives. They would extend along existing roadways in a loop fashion. More than 40 percent of the scenic roadways proposed in the Plan for Regional Parks are along landscaped freeways or publicly owned and managed lands. Scenic protection of roadways along privately owned lands could be accomplished by official designation, the regulation of land uses, and scenic easements.

Scenic Roadways
Central Lane Region

Roadway	Linear Miles
Landscaped Freeways	65
Roadways along Publicly Managed Lands	85
Roadways along Privately Developed Lands	200
Total	350

SCENIC WATERWAYS

Scenic protection along waterways could best be accomplished through the creation of multi-purpose waterway resource management corridors. These management corridors could guide harmonious land use and development along scenic waterways through official designation, flood plain zoning, controlled gravel mining, scenic easements, and regional parks and trails.



Scenic Waterways
Central Lane Region

Waterway	Linear Miles
McKenzie-Mohawk	45
Willamette Main Stem	10
Willamette Middle Fork - Fall Creek	18
Willamette Coast Fork - Row River	30
Long Tom	22
Total	125

REGIONAL PARK PROGRAM

The Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks is a feasible accomplishment. It would require an estimated $60 million in present-day dollars in total acquisition and development funds. However, state and federal regional park projects would account for more than $27 million—or almost half of the total amount.

Total Estimated Acquisition and Development Costs[R]
Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks

Unit of Government	Cost	Percent
Local Projects	$31,771,140	53
State Projects	20,688,875	35
Federal Projects	6,954,250	12
Total	$59,414,265	100

[R] For additional discussion of selected topics and procedures, as well as more elaborate and detailed data, see the publication Supplemental Materials to the Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks. Bureau of Governmental Research and Service, University of Oregon. January, 1970.

Local Regional Park Projects[R]
Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks

Project	Estimated Costs
Urban Riverfront Park Chains	$20,117,000
Rural Riverfront Parks	5,813,250
Hill Parks	398,180
Reservoir Parks	2,402,250
Park Trails	174,600
Boat Launches	117,000
Golf Courses	2,700,000
River Boating Camps	48,860
Total	$31,771,140

The cost estimates are in terms of current (1969) dollars. Assuming that continuing inflationary trends create a further disparity between land costs and local governmental financing capacity, it would appear desirable for the area to give high priority to critical land purchases at an early date. (Just what relationship will exist between taxing capacity and land costs in 1975, 1980 or 1990, however, is a matter of speculation.)

Local regional park projects total approximately $30 million. Of this amount, more than $3 million in federal and state grant funds would be available. Private contributions for specialized facility developments in Alton Baker Regional Park and the private development of publicly owned golf course sites could account for more than $10 million of local regional park costs. This would require the provision of $17.5 million in local public funds during the next 20 years in order to assure the full realization of the regional park plan.

Local Regional Park Projects[R]
Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks

Item	Local Funds	Grant Funds	Private Funds
Acquisition	$ 1,334,653	$1,063,737	$ ---
Development	16,332,750	2,240,000	10,800,000
Total	$17,667,403	$3,303,737	$10,800,000

Possible Annual Local Funding Schedule
Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks

Item	1970-75	1975-80	1980-85	1985-90	Total
Amount Per Year	$ 500,000	$ 750,000	$1,000,000	$1,250,000	
Total: Five-Year Period	$2,500,000	$3,750,000	$5,000,000	$6,250,000	$17,500,000

Public funding on a progressively increasing scale beginning at $\$\frac{1}{2}$ million per year during the first five years and increasing to $\$1\frac{1}{4}$ million per year during the last five years of the 20-year period would realize approximately this amount.

REGIONAL PARK RESPONSIBILITY

Responsibility for implementation of the local share of the Plan for Regional Parks might be assumed by—

1. intergovernmental cooperation and agreement between all local units of government in the metropolitan region that are involved in park and recreation services (Oregon Revised Statutes 190. 010);
2. Lane County;
3. creation of a metropolitan service district with authority to create, operate and maintain regional parks (an amendment to Metropolitan Service District Act of 1969, Chapter 700);
4. creation of a metropolitan county service district (County Charter and ORS Chapter 451);
5. consolidation of cities and annexation of unincorporated urbanized areas in the Central Lane Region into a metropolitan city;
6. creation of a metropolitan special district with the consent of the cities and existing park districts to form a single park and recreation district encompassing the Central Lane Region.

Whereas most recreation visits occur and the greatest regional park needs in Lane County exist within the Central Lane Region, most state and federal recreation facility use in Lane County occurs outside the Central Lane Region.

Administrative Agency	Percentage of Total Lane County Recreation Visits Occurring Within Central Lane Region	Beyond Central Lane Region	Total
Lane County Parks	77.0	23.0	100.0
Oregon State Parks	38.2	61.8	100.0
Federal Recreation Areas	28.5	71.5	100.0

Since 85 percent of the wealth and 97 percent of the population of Lane County is expected to be within the Central Lane Region in 1990, it would be logical for Lane County to assume the responsibility for non-state and non-federal regional parks. This would follow the stated policy of the National Association of Counties. It would also free local municipal park agencies to concentrate on neighborhood and community park needs.

REGIONAL PARK PRIORITIES

The Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks provides a wide variety of outdoor recreation areas and facilities throughout the Central Lane Region. Although all of these regional park facilities are necessary for a complete and balanced regional park system, they are not all equal in terms of recreation opportunities offered or proximity to recreation users.

Regional parks are basically day-use facilities. Although people move freely within the Central Lane Region seeking regional recreation opportunities, they use most often those facilities closest to them if they offer equal recreation opportunity.

Similarly, not all regional recreation activities are in equal demand. Those regional recreation areas offering water-related recreation opportunities are in greatest demand and are growing at the fastest rates. In the same manner, large regional parks with a broad range of recreation activity opportunities, and which are highly developed and feature spectacular natural scenic landscapes, receive greater use than those which are small single-purpose recreation areas remaining in a relatively undeveloped state and of low scenic value.

Therefore, regional park priorities need to reflect relative service values. A comparison of the relative service values of regional parks according to type and range of recreation activities offered and proximity to recreation user groups indicates the following relative regional park priorities.[R]

Suggested Regional Park Priorities
Plan for Central Lane Regional Parks

Local Priorities 1970-75

1. Adopt the Alton Baker Park plan and the basic elements of the regional plan relating to linear development from Springfield to North Belt Line Road.

2. Create a regional parks board to —

    a) advise on Alton Baker Park development;
    b) proceed immediately to identify and recommend the best means of preserving critical vistas, et cetera referred to in this report;
    c) advise on acquisition of linear elements (by easement or outright purchase) between Springfield and the North Belt Line Road.

3. Develop the basic elements of Alton Baker Park, i.e. grading for waterways and landforms and construction of roads and parking areas, in order that projects with public or private financing can occur without violating the general plan.

State Priorities 1970-75

Urge the state to acquire and develop Mt. Pisgah as a unique combination of mountain and waterfront park offering a wide selection of recreational development and activities.

Federal Priorities 1970-75

Corps of Engineers expansion of Fern Ridge Reservoir facilities.

Priorities After 1975

1. Evaluate the progress accomplished during 1970-75 and reassign the unaccomplished projects.
2. Establish a five-year priority assignment on other riverfront parks.
3. Analyze and evaluate the demand for additional reservoir park facilities.
4. Weigh the need for additional hill parks other than Mt. Pisgah.

SUMMARY - PARKS & TRAILS ACREAGE

FACILITY		Existing Parks Acres	Proposed Parks Public Lands Acres	Proposed Parks Private Lands Acres	Total Acres Existing and Proposed	Area Total	Grand Total
I. URBAN RIVERFRONT PARK CHAINS							
Eugene-Springfield Area							
1.	Alton Baker Park	445		5	450		
2.	Skinner Butte Park	67			67		
3.	Riverfront Park Lands	32		330	362		
4.	Island Park	16		25	41		
		560		360		920	
Cottage Grove Area							
5.	Cottage Grove Riverfront Park	3		19	22		
		3		19		22	
		563		379		942	
II. RURAL RIVERFRONT PARKS							
McKenzie Basin							
6.	Armitage Park	41		65	106		
7.	Hendricks Bridge Park	12		24	36		
8.	North Island Park Site	16		60	76		
9.	Waterboard Park	136		85	221		
10.	Deerhorn Park	7			7		
11.	Myers Tract Park Site	7			7		
12.	Mabel Park	5			5		
13.	Walterville Islands Site		105	21	126		
14.	Mohawk Wayside Site		6		6		
		224	111	255		590	

FACILITY		Existing Parks Acres	Proposed Parks Public Lands Acres	Proposed Parks Private Lands Acres	Total Acres Existing and Proposed	Area Total	Grand Total
Willamette Middle Fork Basin							
15.	Jasper Park	62		71	133		
16.	Unity Park	5			5		
17.	Clearwater Site		90		90		
		67	90	71		228	
Willamette Coast Fork Basin							
18.	Cottage Grove Park Site	47	85	68	200		
19.	Cinderella Park Site	27	31		58		
20.	Row River Park Site	32			32		
21.	Swarz Park	13	20		33		
22.	Coast Fork Site		43	77	120		
		119	179	145		443	
Willamette Main Stem Basin							
23.	Hileman Site		30	32	62		
24.	Marshall Slough Site		42	49	91		
			72	81		153	
		410	452	552			1414
III. HILL PARKS							
25.	Hendricks Park	82			82		
26.	Spencer Butte Park	280		148	428		
27.	Blue Mountain Park	284			284		
28.	Coburg Hills Site			240	240		
29.	Shotgun Site		180		180		
30.	Homestead Site		100		100		
31.	Mount Pisgah Site		140	3400	3540		
		646	420	3788			4854

FACILITY		Existing Parks Acres	Proposed Parks Public Lands Acres	Proposed Parks Private Lands Acres	Total Acres Existing and Proposed	Area Total	Grand Total
IV. RESERVOIR PARKS							
Fern Ridge Reservoir							
32.	Orchard Point Park	40		20	60		
33.	Perkins Peninsula Park	34			34		
34.	Richardson-Krugur Park	28		95	123		
35.	Zumwalt Park	109		24	133		
36.	Kirk Park	10	120	65	195		
37.	Fir Butte Site		320	80	400		
38.	Gibson Island Site		89		89		
39.	Long Tom Site		350		350		
		221	879	284		1384	
Dexter Reservoir							
40.	Dexter Park	50			50		
41.	Lowell Park	25			25		
42.	South Beach Park Site	4			4		
43.	Meridian Park Site	100			100		
		179				179	
Lookout Point Reservoir							
44.	Ivan Oaks Park	60			60		
45.	Landax Park	10			10		
46.	Black Canyon Forest Park	41			41		
47.	Rolling Riffle Forest Park		40		40		
48.	Goodman Creek Forest Park		25		25		
49.	Lakeview Park Site		40		40		
		111	105			216	

FACILITY		Existing Parks Acres	Proposed Parks Public Lands Acres	Proposed Parks Private Lands Acres	Total Acres Existing and Proposed	Area Total	Grand Total
Cottage Grove Reservoir							
50.	Wilson Creek Park	12			12		
51.	Lakeside Park	10			10		
52.	Shortridge Park	12			12		
53.	Pine Meadows Park	15	30		45		
		49	30			79	
Fall Creek Reservoir							
54.	Winberry Creek Park	75			75		
55.	North Shore Park	10			10		
56.	Peninsula Park		100		100		
57.	Fall Creek Park		110		110		
		85	210			295	
Dorena Reservoir							
58.	Harms Park	17			17		
59.	Baker Bay Park	90		150	240		
60.	Row Point Park	9			9		
61.	Bake-Stewart Park Site	20			20		
62.	Vaughn Park Site	20			20		
63.	Teeters Creek Park Site	40			40		
		196		150		346	
		841	1224	434			2499
V.	PARK TRAILS	100	780	870	1750		1750

SUMMARY - PARKS & TRAILS COSTS

FACILITY	Proposed Parks Public Lands Acres	Proposed Parks Private Lands Acres	Total Acquisition	Total Development
I. URBAN RIVERFRONT PARK CHAINS				
Eugene-Springfield Area				
1. Alton Baker Park		5		$16,523,500
2. Skinner Butte Park				2,055,500
3. Riverfront Park Lands		330		
4. Island Park		25		
		360	$1,225,000	$18,579,000
Cottage Grove Area				
5. Cottage Grove Riverfront Park		19	38,000	275,000
		379	$1,263,000	$18,854,000
II. RURAL RIVERFRONT PARKS				
McKenzie Basin				
6. Armitage Park		65	$ 8,775	$ 812,500
7. Hendricks Bridge Park		24	610	300,000
8. North Island Park Site		60	8,100	180,000
9. Waterboard Park		85	3,000	180,000
10. Deerhorn Park				
11. Myers Tract Park Site				
12. Mabel Park				22,500
13. Walterville Islands Site	105	21	80	967,000
14. Mohawk Wayside Site	6			10,000
	111	255	$ 20,565	$ 2,472,000

FACILITY		Proposed Parks Public Lands Acres	Proposed Parks Private Lands Acres	Total Acquisition	Total Development
Willamette Middle Fork Basin					
15.	Jasper Park		71	$ 3,000	$ 725,000
16.	Unity Park				500,000
17.	Clearwater Site	90			
		90	71	$ 3,000	$ 1,225,000
Willamette Coast Fork Basin					
18.	Cottage Grove Park Site	85	68	$ 44,920	$ 1,300,000
19.	Cinderella Park Site	31			337,500
20.	Row River Park Site				250,000
21.	Swarz Park	20			148,500
22.	Coast Fork Site	43	77	12,610	540,000
		179	145	$ 57,530	$ 2,576,000
Willamette Main Stem Basin					
23.	Hileman Site	30	32	$ 3,820	$ 500,000
24.	Marshall Slough Site	42	49	10,720	225,000
		72	81	$ 14,540	$ 725,000
		452	552	$ 95,635	$ 6,998,000
III. HILL PARKS					
25.	Hendricks Park				
26.	Spencer Butte Park		148	$ 28,180	$ 180,000
27.	Blue Mountain Park				90,000
28.	Coburg Hills Site		240	10,000	90,000
29.	Shotgun Site	180			300,000
30.	Homestead Site	100			300,000
31.	Mount Pisgah Site	140	3400	557,600	19,000,000
		420	3788	$ 595,780	$19,960,000

FACILITY		Proposed Parks Public Lands Acres	Proposed Parks Private Lands Acres	Total Acquisition	Total Development
IV. RESERVOIR PARKS					
Fern Ridge Reservoir					
32.	Orchard Point Park		20	$ 60,000	$ 250,000
33.	Perkins Peninsula Park				250,000
34.	Richardson-Krugur Park		95	350,000	1,250,000
35.	Zumwalt Park		24	108,000	937,500
36.	Kirk Park	120	65	65,000	225,000
37.	Fir Butte Site	320	80	80,000	250,000
38.	Gibson Island Site	89			180,000
39.	Long Tom Site	350			90,000
		879	284	$ 663,000	$ 3,432,500
Dexter Reservoir					
40.	Dexter Park				$ 750,000
41.	Lowell Park				312,000
42.	South Beach Park Site				
43.	Meridian Park Site				315,000
					$ 1,377,000
Lookout Point Reservoir					
44.	Ivan Oaks Park	40			
45.	Landax Park				
46.	Black Canyon Forest Park				
47.	Rolling Riffle Forest Park	40			$ 100,000
48.	Goodman Creek Forest Park	25			140,000
49.	Lakeview Forest Park Site	40			200,000
		145			$ 440,000

FACILITY		Proposed Parks Public Lands Acres	Proposed Parks Private Lands Acres	Total Acquisition	Total Development
Cottage Grove Reservoir					
50.	Wilson Creek Park				$ 150,000
51.	Lakeside Park				125,000
52.	Shortridge Park				
53.	Pine Meadows Park	30			375,000
		30			$ 650,000
Fall Creek Reservoir					
54.	Winberry Creek Park				
55.	North Shore Park				$ 450,000
56.	Peninsula Park	100			497,500
57.	Fall Creek Park	110			$ 947,500
		210			
Dorena Reservoir					
58.	Harms Park				$ 22,500
59.	Baker Bay Park				1,025,000
60.	Row Point Park				
61.	Bake-Stewart Park Site				
62.	Vaughn Park Site				
63.	Teeters Creek Park Site				$ 1,047,500
		1264	284	$ 663,000	$ 7,894,500
V.	PARK TRAILS (11)	780	870	$ 26,100	$ 189,000

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Photo Credits
Kenny King: River Boating Camp
Stan Bettis: View from Skinner Butte
Skyview Photos: Aerial View of Autzen Stadium

Illustrative Park Design, Mount Pisgah and North Shore Fern Ridge
Evald Nielsen, L.A., Lane County Parks and Recreation Division
Illustrative Park Design, Alton Baker Park
Walker & Warner, Landscape Architects

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