



MINUTES:

Approved July 17, 2025

Commission Work Session Agenda

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

April 16, 2025

Evergreen State College – Evans Event Hall
2700 Evergreen Parkway NW, Olympia, WA 98505

Commissioners: Chair Laurie Connelly, Vice Chair Holly Williams, Secretary Ali Raad, Michael Latimer, Alfie Alvarado-Ramos, Scott Merriman and Sophia Danenberg
Director: Diana Dupuis

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission will be holding their regularly scheduled commission work session on April 16, 2025. Please note that this is a hybrid meeting, you are welcome to attend in-person or online. We ask for patience as we navigate these hybrid meetings and want to remind you that attending in-person will be the most reliable option at this time.

You may participate remotely by listening and/or watching using the following link:

Watch the meeting on TVW:

<https://twv.org/watch/?eventID=2025041019>

You can find the agenda and presentations on our website:

<https://parks.wa.gov/about/strategic-planning-projects-public-input/parks-commission/commission-meetings-agendas>

Public Comment: This is a work session between staff and the Commission. The public is invited to attend, but no public comment will be taken. No decisions will be made by the Commission at the work session.

Time: Opening session will begin as shown; all other times are approximate.

9:00 a.m. CALL TO ORDER – Holly Williams, Commission Vice Chair

- Call of the Roll
 - Chair Laurie Connelly, Vice Chair Holly Williams, Secretary Ali Raad, Michael Latimer, Alfie Alvarado-Ramos, Sophia Danenberg and Scott Merriman
- Introduction of Staff
 - Director Diana Dupuis; Deputy Director Mike Sternback; Executive Assistant Becki Ellison; Business Support Services Division Director Laura Holmes; Workforce, Technology and Equity Division Director Amber Erdahl; Tribal Relations Director Jenna adzalous Bowman; Operations Director Jon Crimmins; Parks Development Director Heather Saunders; Stewardship Director Lisa Lantz; Communications Director Clare DeLong Tuminez; and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Director Janette Chien.
 - Assistant Attorney General Andy Woo

- Changes to agenda
- Logistics

9:06 a.m. STATE LANDS USAGE- Clare DeLong Tuminez, Communications/Public Engagement Director, and Darleen Simkins, Business Insights Analyst

- This presentation shares data the agency collects about our customers and their experience, and we'll share why it is valuable and how it can be used to inform decision-making.

10:04 a.m. EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP UPDATES

10:49 a.m. BREAK

11:02 a.m. PEAR GROUP – Janette Chien, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Director

- This presents to the commission an update on the State Parks PEAR (Pro-Equity Anti-Racism) Team including ongoing projects, collaboration with different staff teams and considerations for future work.

12:00 p.m. FREE DAYS & FREE WAYS - Janette Chien, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Director

- This item presents to the commission an update on Reaching State Parks by Public Transit project.

12:29 p.m. LUNCH

1:03 p.m. EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP UPDATES – *continued*

1:49 p.m. COMMISSION PRIORITIES – Diana Dupuis, Director and Commissioners

2:56 p.m. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice Chair Williams *“The Commission will enter executive session at 3:15 p.m. to discuss potential litigation with the Commission’s assigned legal counsel pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). The Commission will be in executive session until 4:15 pm. No action will be taken during the executive session. The Commission will adjourn after the conclusion of the executive session”.*

4:15 p.m. ADJOURN

April 17, 2025
Evergreen State College – Evans Event Hall
2700 Evergreen Parkway NW, Olympia, WA 98505

Commissioners: Chair Laurie Connelly, Vice Chair Holly Williams, Secretary Ali Raad, Michael Latimer, Alfie Alvarado-Ramos, Scott Merriman and Sophia Danenberg
Director: Diana Dupuis

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission will be holding their regularly scheduled commission meeting in-person on April 17, 2025. Please note that this is a hybrid meeting, you are welcome to attend in-person or online. We ask for patience as we navigate these hybrid meetings and want to remind you that attending in-person will be the most reliable option at this time.

You may participate remotely by listening and/or watching using the following link:

Watch the meeting on TVW:

<https://tvw.org/watch/?eventID=2025041020>

Time: Opening session will begin as shown; all other times are approximate.

Order of Presentation: In general, each agenda item will include a presentation followed by Commission discussion and then public comment. The Commission makes decisions following the public comment portion of the agenda.

In-Person Public Comment:

We will be accepting in-person oral public comment at the meeting. If you wish to comment at a meeting, please fill out a comment card and provide it to staff at the sign in table. The Chair will call you up to the front at the appropriate time.

Virtual Public Comment:

Virtual public comment will be accepted for our public meeting. To provide virtual comment you will need to be able to join the Attendee Web link from your computer (no phone option available). **Pre-registration is required.** To register email commission@parks.wa.gov by 5 pm on April 11. Please provide the name you will be logging in under, contact phone number as well as the agenda item or general topic you will be speaking on. You will receive an email by noon on April 14 with specific instructions around virtual testimony.

Written Public Comment:

Written public comment will be accepted for all agenda items until 5 p.m. on April 11 by email or mail. Any comments received after the cutoff will be given to the commission before its next meeting.

Email: Commission@parks.wa.gov

Mail: WSPRC, Attn: Becki Ellison, PO Box 42650, Olympia, WA 98504.

You can find the agenda, agenda items and presentations on our website.

<https://parks.wa.gov/about/strategic-planning-projects-public-input/parks-commission/commission-meetings-agendas>

The meeting minutes and recording will be loaded within one week after the meeting.

- 9:00 a.m. CALL TO ORDER** – Laurie Connelly, Commission Chair
- Flag Salute – Jon Crimmins, Operations Director
 - Call of the Roll
 - Chair Laurie Connelly, Vice Chair Holly Williams, Secretary Ali Raad, Michael Latimer, Alfie Alvarado-Ramos, Sophia Danenberg and Scott Merriman
 - Introduction of Staff
 - Director Diana Dupuis; Deputy Director Mike Sternback; Executive Assistant Becki Ellison; Business Support Services Division Director Laura Holmes; Legislative Relations and Public Affairs Division Director Brian Considine; Tribal Relations Director Jenna adzalous Bowman; Operations Director Jon Crimmins; Parks Development Director Heather Saunders; Stewardship Director Lisa Lantz; Communications Director Clare DeLong Tuminez; and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Director Janette Chien.
 - Assistant Attorney General Andy Woo
 - Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement
 - We respect and affirm tribal sovereignty and honor indigenous peoples whose traditional lands we occupy. The State Parks and Recreation Commission is committed to working with all Tribes to help preserve and restore a healthy natural environment for future generations.
 - Recognition of State, Tribal and Local Officials
 - Evergreen State College President John Carmichael
 - Changes to the Agenda
 - Approval of the Agenda
 - **Motion** by Michael Latimer to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Sophia Danenberg. Approved unanimously as presented
 - Logistics
 - Approval of minutes of previous meetings
 - January 29, 30, 2025 – Work Session/Commission Meeting, Olympia
 - March 19, 2025 – Work Session – Virtual
 - Motion by Scott Merriman to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Michael Latimer. Approved unanimously as presented.
- 9:10 a.m. VIRTUAL PUBLIC COMMENT** – *general public comment and items on the agenda*
- Stephanie Edens- Westport Golf Links
- 9:13 a.m. PRE-ARRANGED SPEAKERS**
- Ryann Day and Xander Bullock- Westport Golf Links

9:25 a.m. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS – *Items not on the agenda*

- Rhoda Green – Friends of Saltwater State Park
- John Shaw – Dan Evans Library
- Ann Grabler – WFSE Local 1466
- Miklaj Miazio – WFSE Local 1466

9:40 a.m. PRE-ARRANGED SPEAKERS

- Jim VanLobenSels – MS2000

9:53 a.m. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

10:25 a.m. COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Real Estate
- Legislative
- Budget
- Executive
- Ad-Hoc

10:35 a.m. DIRECTOR REPORT

10:40 a.m. BREAK

10:55 a.m. RECOGNITION

- Gold Stars
 - Gary Vierra, Madison Loughheed, and Bob Toretta
- Service Pins
 - Mark Harris, 30 years state and parks service

11:06 a.m. REQUESTED ACTION

Item E-1: Headquarters Lease

This item asks the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to authorize a five-year lease for office, storage, and warehouse space located in the Department of Ecology building for Parks' headquarters relocation.

ACTION REQUESTED OF COMMISSION:

That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

1. Authorize the Director or designee to enter into a lease agreement with the Washington State Department of Ecology that is substantially in the form of that in Appendix 1.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ACTION:

Motion by Scott Merriman to approve the staff recommendation as proposed in the Requested Action above. Second by Alfie Alvarado- Ramos. **Approved unanimously as presented.**

11:30 a.m. REPORT

Item E-2: Financial Update

This item reports to the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission on 1) 2023-25 biennium operating and capital budget expenditures, 2) Parks Renewal and Stewardship Account (PRSA) revenue, 3) Governor's recently proposed Operating and Capital budgets.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ACTION:

Report only, no action taken.

11:47 a.m. REPORT

Item E-3: Legislative Update

This item provides the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission with an overview and update of the 2025 legislative session.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ACTION:

Report only, no action taken.

12:34 p.m. LUNCH

1:14 p.m. DISCUSSION

Current Budget Outlook

This discussion will provide the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission with an update on proposed budgets for the agency.

1:58 p.m. DISCUSSION

Westport Golf Update

This discussion will provide the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission with an update on the City of Westport's draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) regarding the proposal for a golf course at Westport Light State Park.

3:09 p.m. ADJOURN

Submitted by Becki Ellison, Executive Assistant

April 17, 2025

A recording is retained by WSPRC as the formal record of meeting. The recording is accessible on the park's website approximately one week after the meeting - <https://parks.wa.gov/about/strategic-planning-projects-public-input/parks-commission/commission-meetings-agendas>

The services, programs, and activities of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission are covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need special accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact the commission assistant Becki Ellison at (360) 902-8502 or becki.ellison@parks.wa.gov. Accommodation requests should be received at least five business days prior to the meeting to ensure availability. Please provide 7-day notice for requests to receive information in an alternative format and for ASL/ESL interpretation requests.