



## **MINUTES:**

**Approved October 16, 2025**

## **Commission Work Session Agenda**

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

July 16, 2025

Washington State Parks HQ, 300 Desmond Dr SE, Lacey, WA 98503

**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 July 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=2025071001>

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.

### **9:01 a.m. CALL TO ORDER – Holly Williams, Commission Vice Chair**

- Call of the Roll
  - Chair Laurie Connelly, Vice Chair Holly Williams, , Michael Latimer, Alfie Alvarado-Ramos, Sophia Danenberg and Scott Merriman
  - Absent: Ali Raad
- 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; Legislative Relations and Public Affairs Division Director Brian Considine; Operations Director Jon Crimmins; Parks Development Director Heather Saunders; Stewardship Director Lisa Lantz; and Communications Director Clare DeLong Tuminez
  - Assistant Attorney General Andy Woo
- Changes to agenda
- Logistics

**9:04 a.m. CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION UPDATE-** Ryan Karlson, Climate and Sustainability Manager and Ryan Layton, Statewide Maintenance Superintendent

- This presentation will update the commission on agency clean energy transformation efforts with a focus on recent internal EV charging and solar energy feasibility assessments.

**10:23 a.m. FORT WORDEN STATE PARK-** Anna Gill, Southwest Region Superintendent

- This presentation will update the commission on the transition and current operations of the upper campus at the park.

**10:48 a.m. BREAK**

**11:05 a.m. COMMISSION DATES AND LOCATIONS –** Becki Ellison, Executive Assistant

- This item is a discussion with the commission on potential dates and locations for the 2026 calendar year.

**11:30 a.m. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE –** Brian Considine, Legislative Relations and Public Affairs Division Director

**11:56 a.m. LUNCH**

**12:47 p.m. EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP UPDATES**

**2:16 p.m. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Vice Chair Williams: *“The Commission will enter executive session at 2:30 pm 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 3:30. No action will be taken during the executive session. The Commission will adjourn after the conclusion of the executive session”.*

**3:20 p.m. ADJOURN**

## **Commission Meeting Agenda**

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

July 17, 2025

Washington State Parks HQ, 300 Desmond Dr SE, Lacey, WA 98503

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 July 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://twv.org/watch/?eventID=2025071001>

**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](mailto:commission@parks.wa.gov) by 5 pm on July 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 July 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 July 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](mailto: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.

- 9:01 a.m. CALL TO ORDER** – Laurie Connelly, Commission Chair
- Flag Salute - Julie Steingrebe, Fiscal Analyst 5 in Financial Services
  - 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; Legislative Relations and Public Affairs Division Director Brian Considine; Operations Director Jon Crimmins; Parks Development Director Heather Saunders; Stewardship Director Lisa Lantz; and Communications Director Clare DeLong Tuminez
    - 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
  - Approval of agenda
    - **Motion** by Scott Merriman to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Sophia Danenberg. Approved unanimously as presented
  - Logistics
  - Approval of minutes of previous meetings
    - April 16, 17, 2025 – Work Session/Commission Meeting, Olympia
    - May 21, 2025 – Work Session – Virtual
      - Motion by Michael Latimer to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Ali Raad. Approved unanimously as presented.
- 9:10 a.m. VIRTUAL PUBLIC COMMENT** – *general public comment and items on the agenda - None*
- 9:10 a.m. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS** – *Items not on the agenda*
- In-person public comments only
    - Tom Baker – comments and suggestion on state parks camping
- 9:13 a.m. COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

**9:47 a.m. COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

**10:01 a.m. DIRECTOR REPORT**

**10:10 a.m. RECOGNITION**

- Gold Stars
  - Camryn Harbert, Derek VanDyke, and Alyssa Smith

**10:15 a.m. BREAK**

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**10:27 a.m. REQUESTED ACTION**

Item E-1: 2025-2027 Commission Priorities

This item asks the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to approve the Commission Priorities for 2025-2027 biennium.

**REQUESTED ACTION FROM COMMISSION:**

That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission:

1. Adopt the 2025-2027 Commission Priorities as presented in Appendix 1

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**Motion** by Scott Merriman to **table** the Requested Action until the August Commission meeting and directs the Director to work with the Ad-Hoc committee to finalize the document for approval at the August 27, 2025, virtual commission meeting. Second by Ali Raad. **Approved unanimously to table the item.**

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**11:13 a.m. REQUESTED ACTION**

Item E-2: Spokane River Centennial State Park Trail – Spokane County Parks, Recreation & Golf – Amended Easement and Land Class Update

This item asks the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) to delegate to the Director the authority to amend an existing easement with Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf (Spokane County Parks) to allow them to improve their adjacent sports complex. This item will also ask the Commission to approve an update to the land classifications for the Spokane River Centennial State Park Trail (Centennial Trail) in this area.

**REQUESTED ACTION FROM COMMISSION:**

*That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission*

1. Adopt revised land classifications for Spokane River Centennial State Park Trail as recommended by staff in Appendix 3.

2. Authorize the Director or designee to negotiate and finalize Amendment # 1 to the existing 40-year easement agreement with Spokane County Parks, Recreation and Golf that is substantially in the form of that in Appendix 5.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Doug Chase and Julia Culp with the City of Spokane

**Motion** by Ali Raad to approve the staff recommendation as proposed in the Requested Action above. Second by Scott Merriman. **Approved unanimously as presented.**

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**11:27 a.m. REQUESTED ACTION**

Item E-3: 2026 Operating Supplemental Budget

This item asks the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to 1) approve the 2026 supplemental operating budget request for submission to the Office of Financial Management (OFM).

**REQUESTED ACTION FROM COMMISSION:**

That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission:

1. Authorize the Director to submit a 2026 supplemental operating budget request to the Office of Financial Management (OFM) for approximately \$7.5 million as recommended by staff in Appendix 2.
2. Authorize the Director to make changes, technical corrections, and adjust dollar amounts in the supplemental operating budget request as needed for submittal.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**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.**

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**11:56 a.m. LUNCH**

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**12:52 p.m. REQUESTED ACTION**

Item E-4: 2026 Capital Supplemental Budget

This item asks the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to approve the 2026 supplemental Capital budget request for submission to the Office of Financial Management (OFM).

**REQUESTED ACTION FROM COMMISSION:**

That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission:

1. Authorize the Director to submit a 2026 supplemental Capital budget request to the Office of Financial Management (OFM) for approximately \$28.4 million.

2. Authorize the Director to make changes, technical corrections, and adjust dollar amounts in the supplemental Capital budget request as needed for submittal.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**Motion** by Holly Williams to approve the staff recommendation as proposed in the Requested Action above. Second by Scott Merriman. **Approved unanimously as presented.**

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**1:05 p.m. REPORT**

Item E-5: Capital Program Update

This item provides the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission with a comprehensive update on the Capital Program. It summarizes key accomplishments for the 2023-25 biennium, progress and strategy for implementing the 2025-27 capital budget, preparation for the 2026 supplemental budget, and planning for the 2027-29 biennium. The report highlights continued advancements in project delivery, technology integration, and budget performance, while also addressing ongoing challenges and priorities.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**ACTION:**

Report only, no action taken.

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**2:13 p.m. REPORT**

Item E-6: 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.

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**2:28 p.m. ADJOURN**

*Submitted by Becki Ellison, Executive Assistant*

*July 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](mailto: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.