



MINUTES:

Approved January 29, 2026

Commission Work Session Agenda

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

October 15, 2025

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission 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 October 15, 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=2025101001>

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, 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; Communications Director Clare DeLong Tuminez; and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Director Janette Chien.
 - Assistant Attorney General Andy Woo

- Changes to agenda: None
- Logistics

9:04 a.m. OPERATIONS: HOW WE DELIVER THE STATE PARKS MISSION –
Jon Crimmins, Operations Director, and Operations Leadership

- The goal of this presentation is to feature the work we do in Operations and give the Commission a sense of who we are and where our mission comes to life in the parks through our staff, services and the experience we provide.

10:44 a.m. BREAK

11:02 a.m. FOREST HEALTH ANNUAL UPDATE - David Cass, Agency Forester

- This presentation will give the commission an annual update on forest health treatments and timber sales.

11:35 a.m. HISTORIC PRESERVATION UPDATE - Alex McMurry, Historic Preservation Planner

- This presentation will provide the commission with an overview of the agency’s historic properties and their management.

12:27 p.m. LUNCH

1:00 p.m. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice Chair Williams

“The Commission will enter executive session at 1:00 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 2:30 p.m.”

2:03 p.m. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice Chair Williams

“The Commission will continue in executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) to consider the selection of a site or acquisition of real estate. The Commission will be in executive session until 2:30 pm. We will resume the open session at 2:45 p.m.”

2:30 p.m. BREAK

2:45 p.m. COMMISSION DECISION MAKING PROCESS – Commission Ad-Hoc Committee

3:00 p.m. EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP UPDATES

4:35 p.m. ADJOURN

Commission Meeting Agenda

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

October 16, 2025

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission 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 October 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=2025101002>

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 October 10. 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 October 13 with specific instructions around virtual testimony.

Written Public Comment:

Written public comment will be accepted for all agenda items until 5 p.m. on October 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.

- 9:02 a.m. CALL TO ORDER** – Laurie Connelly, Commission Chair
- Flag Salute – Brett Taylor, Contracts Specialist
 - 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; 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
 - Changes to the Agenda
 - Approval of the Agenda
 - Motion by Michael Latimer to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Alfie Alvarado Ramos. Approved unanimously as presented.
 - Logistics
 - Approval of minutes of previous meetings
 - July 16,17, 2025 – Work Session/Commission Meeting, Olympia
 - August 27, 2025 – Work Session – Virtual
 - Motion by Ali Raad to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Scott Merriman. Approved unanimously as presented.

9:06 a.m. VIRTUAL PUBLIC COMMENT – *general public comment and items on the agenda - none*

9:06 a.m. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS – *Items not on the agenda*

- In-person public comments only - *none*

9:06 a.m. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

10:06 a.m. COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Real Estate – Ali Raad
- Legislative – Holly Williams
- Budget – Laurie Connelly
- Ad- Hoc – Scott Merriman
- Executive - Laurie Connelly

10:16 a.m. GREAT SHAKEOUT

10:27 a.m. DIRECTOR REPORT

10:41 a.m. RECOGNITION

- Gold Stars
 - Dylan Harvey
 - Stephen Wood
 - Terry Leber

10:44 a.m. BREAK

11:00 a.m. REQUESTED ACTION

Item E-1: Fort Worden State Park – Centrum Lease

This item asks the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to delegate to the Director authority to enter into a long-term lease agreement with Centrum for their use of several buildings at Fort Worden Historical State Park.

ACTION REQUESTED OF COMMISSION:

That the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

1. Delegate to the Director or designee authority to negotiate and finalize a lease agreement with Centrum that is substantially in the form of that in Appendix 3, for a term of 35 years, with the option of amending for an additional 35 years.
2. Delegate to the Director or designee authority to amend the Centrum lease for the purpose of allowing rent credit for building improvements, consistent with a Director-approved rent credit policy.
3. Delegate to the Director or designee authority to amend the Centrum lease to add or remove buildings.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Rob Birman, Centrum

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

11:33 a.m. REPORT

Item E-2: Financial Update

This item reports to the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission on 1) State Parks' 2023-25 biennium final financial report, the status of 2) the 2025-27 biennium operating and capital budget expenditures, 3) Parks Renewal and Stewardship Account (PRSA) revenue, and 4) the 2025-27 Budget Development.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ACTION:

Report only, no action taken.

11:53 a.m. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS – *Items not on the agenda*

- In-person public comments only
 - Washington Water Trails Association
-

11:57 a.m. LUNCH

1:15 p.m. DISCUSSION

Legislative Update

This discussion will provide the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission with an overview and update of the upcoming legislative session.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ACTION:

Discussion only, no action taken.

1:37 p.m. DISCUSSION

Revenue Update and Business Development Update

This discussion will provide the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission with an update on activities related to tracking and evaluating agency revenue. The team will share efforts underway to balance revenue generation with our core mission of access to recreation and environmental and cultural stewardship.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ACTION:

Discussion only, no action taken.

2:26 p.m. DISCUSSION

Camping Occupancy

This discussion will provide the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission with an update on camping occupancy: what is the data showing, what efforts are underway to increase occupancy, and how are we planning for the future.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ACTION:

Discussion only, no action taken.

3:00 p.m. ADJOURN

Submitted by Becki Ellison, Executive Assistant

October 16, 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.