

**APPENDIX B - LONGVIEW MUNICIPAL CODE 19.80.130**

## Park and Recreation Improvements.

(a) The planning commission and city council shall review the need for park and/or trail development when reviewing preliminary subdivision applications and may require the developer to dedicate land for park development as a condition of approval in accordance with this title. For the purposes of this chapter, the term “park” shall also include trails. Applicant-paid park improvements shall be constructed per the plat conditions. As agreed to by the city, a fee-in-lieu of park land dedication proposal may be considered in accordance with RCW 82.02.020 and such fee shall be paid prior to final plat approval, unless otherwise authorized by the city. The location and characteristics of land dedicated for park and recreational purposes shall follow these standards:

(i) The area proposed for park dedication may be located either within or outside the boundaries of the property described in the subdivision, but must either be adjacent to an existing or proposed city park site or within the same park service area in which the subdivision is located. Park service area is considered to be within one-half mile of the subdivision for which it is required;

(ii) The area proposed for park dedication shall have characteristics and location which make it suitable for future inclusion into the city parks system, as determined by the director of parks and recreation;

(iii) With the approval of the director, the area proposed for park dedication or portion thereof may contain valuable or sensitive environmental features, preservation of which is consistent with the city’s comprehensive plan and/or parks and recreation plan;

(iv) All lots within the subdivision for which park dedication is required shall have legal and convenient access to the area proposed for park dedication, at the time of final plat approval; and

(v) The topography, soils, hydrography and other physical characteristics of the area proposed for park dedication shall be of such quality as to allow the development of community or neighborhood parks, or to create a flat, dry, obstacle-free space on at least 90 percent of the total required area in a configuration which allows for active recreation, shall have no known safety hazards, and shall have no known physical problems such as the presence of hazardous waste, pipeline of power easements, drainage, erosion, or flooding that the director of parks and recreation determines would cause inordinate demands upon public resources for maintenance and operation of the property to be dedicated to the city. Park sites should also be located so that persons living within the service area will not have to cross a major arterial street to get to the site.

(b) Minimum Size of Land Dedicated for Park Purposes. Applicants who dedicate open space for park land pursuant to this chapter shall dedicate at least seven acres per 1,000 population generated by the proposed subdivision. This requirement is based on the level of service (LOS) standards adopted per the Longview park and recreation plan for needs of a neighborhood park including but not limited to such amenities as play equipment, athletic areas such as baseball/softball diamonds, soccer/football fields, volleyball courts, hard surface areas such as tennis courts, basketball courts, in-line skating rinks, picnic areas, walk/trail systems,

restrooms, natural areas, open spaces and buffer zones. The formula for determination of the required minimum park dedication shall be:

- (i) Single-family dwelling use districts and subdivisions of land zoned higher density where up to four-plexes are proposed shall provide .0168 acres of park area per permitted dwelling unit within the plat, based on an average of 2.4 persons per household and desired park land ratio of seven acres per 1,000 people for neighborhood parks per the Longview park and recreation plan;
  - (ii) Developments consisting of multifamily dwellings shall provide park areas consistent with the standards set forth in Chapter 19.20 LMC;
  - (iii) Linear trails shall be designed as approved by the director of parks and recreation or their designee. Total trail area improved and/or dedicated may be less than the area standards above, as approved by the city.
- (c) Final Plat Approval Conditioned upon Park Land Dedication. When approval of the final plat of a subdivision is conditioned upon the dedication and/or improvement of land for park/trail purposes, the final plat shall not be approved or recorded until the director of parks and recreation has determined in writing that any land to be dedicated is shown on the face of the final plat, or in a deed conveying the land to the city which has been recorded with the Cowlitz County auditor's office or the instrument conveying the land to the city has been transmitted to the city council for acceptance of the dedication by ordinance.