

## Leisure Services Plan – Director’s Message

Welcome to the 2016 Leisure Services Plan for the City of Medford. This plan was developed through extensive input from the community and many of the stakeholders that use the parks and facilities provided.

This ten-year guide and strategic plan will be implemented through the dedicated staff, policy makers and volunteers that help achieve the mission of the Parks and Recreation Department:

### ***Creating Healthy Lives, Happy People and a Strong Community***

Through the efforts of the City Council appointed Parks & Recreation Commission, this plan will help prioritize where new parks and trails will be developed. The plan also identifies the need to expand recreation programming for youth as well as our aging demographics. We will look both internally and to our area service partners to help meet the programming needs along with addressing the vision of the Parks and Recreation Department:

***We provide a system of attractive, safe, clean, accessible, interconnected parks throughout the city and coordinate a variety of passive and active recreational activities.***

The Parks and Recreation Department is one of just 144 agencies that are accredited through the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies. This program is administered through the National Recreation and Parks Association and each agency must meet a rigorous review in order to achieve such status. The department will be reviewed for re-accreditation in April 2017 and we’re ready to meet all 151 standards as set through this process. This Leisure Services Plan is the cornerstone in meeting many of these standards and the department will continue to work within the framework of the best practice for the industry.

Finally, the staff within the department is committed to providing outstanding experiences for the community and region. This is accomplished through the implementation of the Leisure Services Plan as well as meeting our core competencies:

- Innovation
- Community Enrichment
- Excellence
- Exceptional Customer Service

We look forward to serving you.

Sincerely,  
Brian Sjothun, CPRP  
Director



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