

2016 Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan

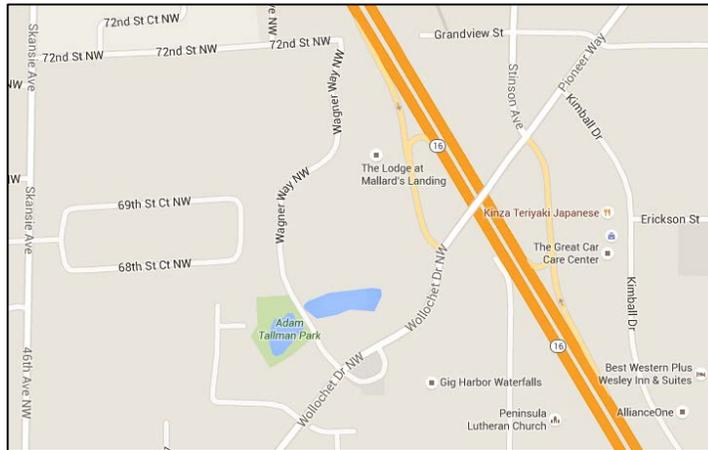
Appendix A

Park Inventory Pages

Adam Tallman Park

6626 Wagner Way

Classification:
Natural Area



Description:

This 11.84 acre natural area park consists of wetland areas with a trail that loops through the park.

Present Amenities:

Amenities include: (1) doggie pot, (1) garbage can, interpretive signs, (4) viewing platforms, a primitive trail, and 8 off-street parking spaces approximately ¼ mile from the trailhead.

Desired Amenities:

Desired Amenities include: bird/bat houses, a boardwalk to replace current asphalt sections, a viewing platform on the west pond, a bike rack, and a drinking fountain.

On-going Volunteer Projects:

Trail trimming and invasive species removal, a recycling program and rhododendron plucking.

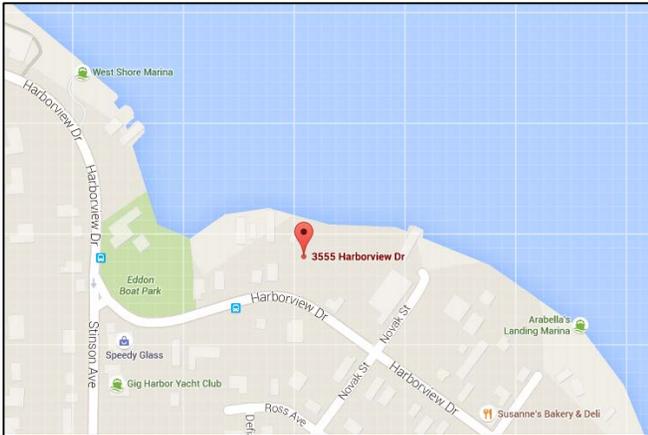
History:

This park was acquired in 2001 as an easement from Jim Tallman who developed the adjacent plat.

Ancich Waterfront Park

3555 Harborview Drive

Classification:
Undeveloped



Description:

This 0.76 acre park is presently undeveloped.

Present Amenities:

None.

Desired Amenities:

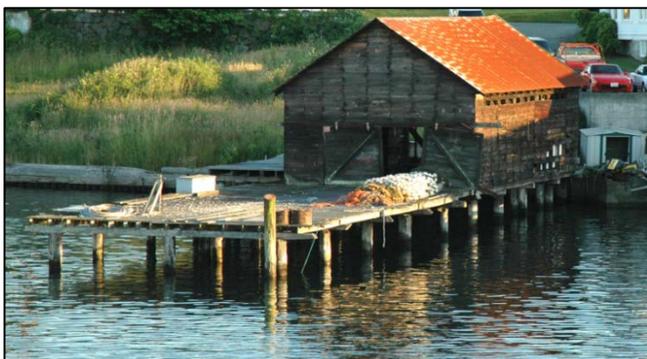
TBD.

On-going Volunteer Projects:

TBD.

History:

On August 6, 2012, the City Council authorized purchase of one of the last undeveloped waterfront properties along the shoreline to become a public park. It includes the original and historic netshed currently listed on the City's Register of Historic Places.

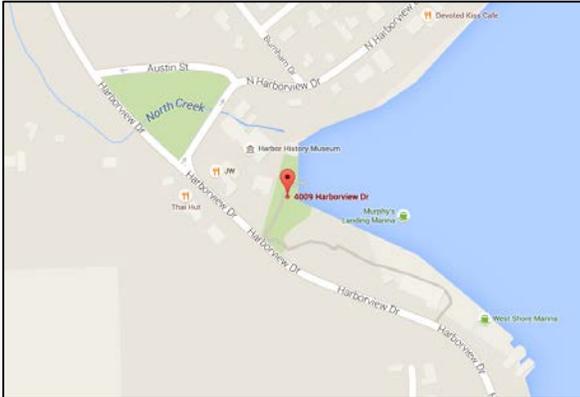


Austin Estuary Park

4009 Harborview Drive

Classification:

Special Use Waterfront



Description:

This special use waterfront park consists of 1.38 acres of developed uplands and 7.07 acres of open space tidelands. This natural area park provides shoreline access to the estuary and is part of the City's greater vision for future day-lighting of Donkey Creek. The site is mostly estuarine tidelands at the confluence of Donkey Creek.

Present Amenities:

Amenities include: (1) doggie pot, (3) garbage cans, a human powered watercraft landing, (2) picnic tables and a gravel trail that extends under the bridge next to the Harbor History Museum and connects to Donkey Creek Park. There is on-street parking along Harborview Drive.

Desired Amenities:

Desired Amenities include: another picnic table, interpretive signage, benches and a drinking fountain.

On-going Volunteer Projects:

Invasive species removal.

History:

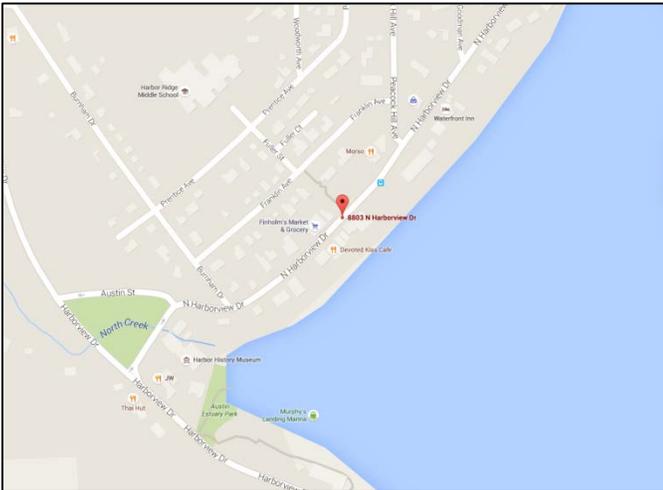
The Austin Mill, once an important economic engine in Gig Harbor, was once located in this area. In 2006 the City acquired the site through Pierce County Conservation funds.



Bogue Viewing Platform

8803 North Harborview Drive

Classification:
Special Use Waterfront



Description:

This 0.15 acre special use waterfront mini-park provides a shoreline view opportunity and urban plaza, which are located over a sewer pump station. This park won the American Public Works Association project of the year award (state level) in 2006 in the environmental category.

Present Amenities:

Amenities include: (1) garbage can, (3) picnic tables, an ADA accessible viewing platform, Connie's Clock and Memory Vessel Art.

Desired Amenities:

None.

On-going Volunteer Projects:

Weeding.

History:

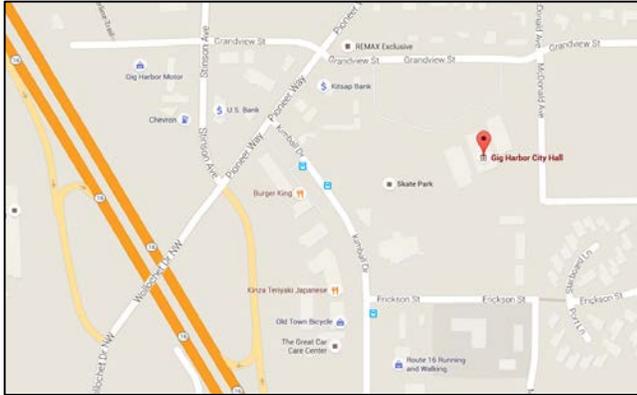
The Bogue Viewing Platform was named in honor of two term Mayor Ruth Bogue (from 1978 to 1985).

Civic Center & Skate Park

3510 Grandview Street

Classification:

Neighborhood Park



Description:

This neighborhood park consists of 6.55 acres of civic green adjacent to City Hall and a nearby skate park and tot lot to the west. The Civic Center Green is a large informal field used both for community gatherings and play. Restrooms are provided during business hours in the Civic Center and are also available in the adjacent Grandview Forest Park. The site was the original location of Harbor Heights Elementary School.

Present Amenities:

Amenities include: Benches (10) around open space lawn, Benches (6) in front of Civic Center, Benches at Skate Park (2), Drinking fountain (1), Picnic Tables (4), Swing Sets (3), Climbing wall (Tots 2-5), Garbage cans (8), Power Outlets, (8) dedicated off-street parking spaces plus overflow Civic Center parking.

Three original pieces of art were installed as part of the Civic Center design and development. A brushed steel sculpture that embodies the city's diverse background of historic industries and landscapes by Gary Jackson is installed over the entrance to the Council Chambers. Glass countertop etchings that run the length of the Community Development counters depicting original early fishing vessel design plans by Doug Filbach. Finally, a bronze compass of salmon by Loraine Hoivick is embedded in the concrete plaza, welcoming visitors due "northwest" as they enter City Hall.

Desired Amenities:

Desired Amenities include: raingarden near Civic Center entrance, storm swale enhancement, replacement of all existing play structures with new structures for tots (2-5) and school aged kids (5-12), install new split rail fencing along wooded paths, add bleachers, and add picnic tables in paver areas.

On-going Volunteer Projects:

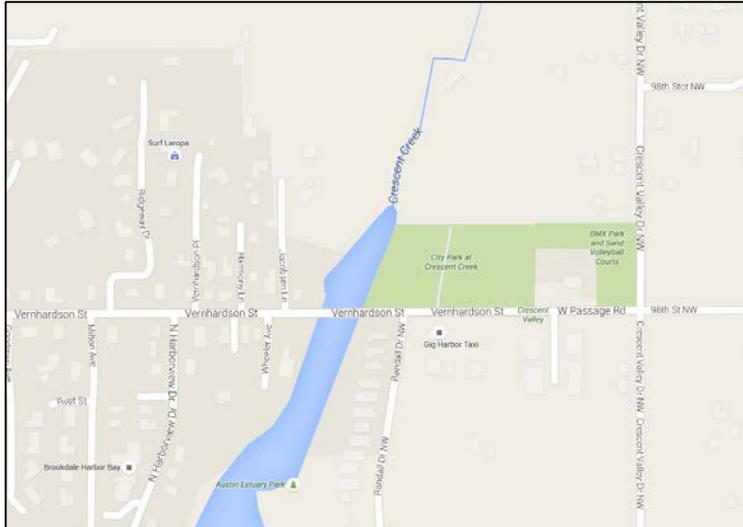
Weeding and invasive species removal, cleanup and sweeping.



City Park at Crescent Creek & BMX Park/Sand Volleyball Courts

9702 Crescent Valley Drive NW
3303 Vernhardson Street

Classification:
Neighborhood Park



Description:

This 9.79 acre neighborhood park is Gig Harbor's oldest park and has the most amenities of any park in the City's parks system. The original parcel was acquired from the Peninsula School District in 1949. The park has been expanded in recent years to include additional land for open space preservation and recreational uses.

Present Amenities:

Amenities include: Tennis court, baseball field, 1/2 basketball court, BMX track, sand volleyball courts, Maritime Playzone play structure (ages 3-12), picnic tables (8), group shelter, viewing platforms (2), restrooms, doggie pot (1), dumpster (1), garbage cans (7), recycling bins (3), BBQs (3), benches (5), bleachers, cooking stoves (2), drinking fountains (4), washing sink (1), power outlets, interpretive signage, and parking (39 spaces plus 8 on-street).



Desired Amenities:

Desired Amenities include: additional picnic tables (4), another restroom, another drinking fountain and replacement of an existing drinking fountain, split rail fencing around significant trees, stabilization of the historic stove in the shelter, a raingarden, replacement of the existing culvert with a swale/raingarden near the creek, and new rain gutters on the shelter.

On-going Volunteer Projects:

Topsoil spreading, weeding, and invasive species removal.

History:

Known to long-time residents as "City Park" this was the first and, for many years, only park within city limits. The picnic structure, natural creek bed and specimen trees represent an important historic landscape that embody Gig Harbor's rural lifestyle.

The site was originally owned by Crescent Valley School (built 1915) and was used as a playground. The large covered picnic shelter's stone pilasters, wood beams, shingled roof, and large concrete and stone cooking oven were constructed by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) as part of the New Deal.



Cushman Trail and Trailheads

14th Avenue NW to Borgen Boulevard

Classification:
Regional Multi-Use Trail



Hollycroft Trailhead



Borgen Trailhead

Description:

This 6.2 mile regional trail was developed in cooperation with Pierce County and Tacoma Power Utility. The trail is paved and ranges from 12-16 feet in width. There are trailheads within the City at Borgen Boulevard, Hollycroft Street and Grandview Street. PenMet has extended the trail south of the City Limits to 14th Avenue NW and maintains a trailhead with parking at this location. Eventually, the trail will connect south to Tacoma via the Scott Pierson Trail and north to Henderson Bay in Purdy.

Present Amenities:

Amenities include: Benches (29), Garbage Cans (10), Mutt Mitts (6) and a Doggie Pit (1), Picnic Tables ((3) along trail, (2) at Hollycroft Trailhead and (1) at Borgen Trailhead), Bike Racks (3), a Deck at Hollycroft Trailhead, Restrooms at each trailhead, Drinking Fountains at each trailhead, Power Outlets at Hollycroft Trailhead, and On-Site Parking. The Borgen Trailhead has 19 off-street parking spaces. The Grandview Trailhead has 10 off-street parking spaces. The Trailhead at Hollycroft has 32 parking spaces near the Harvester Restaurant and four on-street spaces. The plaza paving design at the Hollycroft Trailhead incorporates the sails from the City logo.

Desired Amenities:

Desired Amenities include: additional benches (5) for phases ¾, mileage designation markers, and a spur trail through the wastewater treatment plant/Haven of Rest properties. Additional desired amenities at the Grandview Trailhead are benches, a brick planter and trees around the restroom and a bike rack. The City also desires additional garbage can, a bench and a picnic table at the Borgen Trailhead.

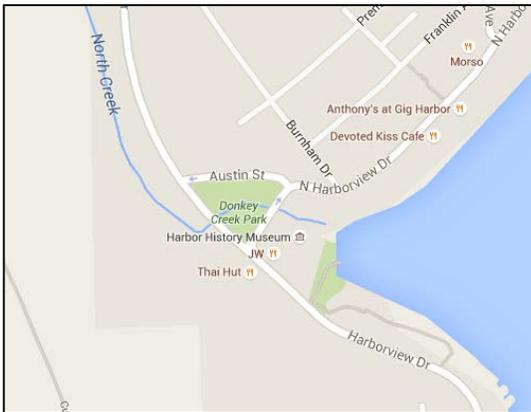
On-going Volunteer Projects:

The Scouts are working on the mileage designation markers. The Rotary is working on the spur trail. The City also hopes to develop a Trail Ambassador Program.

Donkey Creek Park

8714 North Harborview Drive

Classification:
Natural Area



Description:

This park is a 1.3 acre natural area consisting of a mown open area. "Ringing In The Salmon," a work by Tom Torrens and Ben Isitt, was installed in 2009, and celebrates the return of salmon to Donkey Creek each fall during the Donkey Creek Chum Festival. A gravel trail extends under the bridge next to the Harbor History Museum and connects to Donkey Creek Park.

Present Amenities:

Amenities include: an Open Field and creek Viewing Platform, Benches (5), a Doggie Pot (1), a Garbage Can (1), Recycle Bins (1), Historical and Interpretive Signs, Picnic Tables (2), a Power Outlet, and Restrooms. On-street parking is available on North Harborview Drive and Austin Street.

There is also a fish hatchery (remote salmon incubators) maintained by members of the Gig Harbor Commercial Fishermen's Civic Club since 1971.

Desired Amenities:

Desired Amenities include: an ADA accessible path from the sidewalk to the Viewing Platform, a covered picnic shelter, additional benches, a bike rack, a drinking fountain, and additional interpretive signage related to the fish hatchery. This site may also be a good location for additional play structures for tots and school aged kids.

On-going Volunteer Projects:

Invasive species removal and a recycling program.

History:

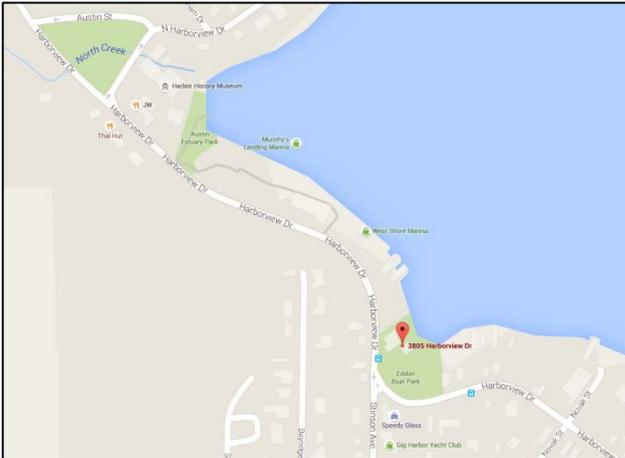
The S'Homamish lived in a winter village known as Twawelkax or tua'wILkel meaning "trout" at the mouth of Donkey Creek within and/or directly adjacent to Donkey Creek Park. The village appears to have disbanded in the early 1900's followed by construction of the Austin Mill (see history of Austin Estuary Park).

At the time, a donkey engine was used by loggers to move timber downstream for transport to the mill. The building was demolished in the 2002 but in honor of the site's history, original logs were salvaged from the building and used to side the Donkey Creek Restroom constructed in 2004.

Eddon Boat Park

3805 North Harborview Drive

Classification:
Special Use Waterfront



Description:

The City acquired this 2.89 acre historic boatyard site in 2004 as the result of a voter approved bond in 2004 to save Eddon Boatyard. Acquisition of the site prevented the demolition of the historic site. The Boatyard building was restored in 2009 and leased to Gig Harbor BoatShop, a non-profit organization that provides traditional shipwright educational classes and programming to the public as part of the City's commitment to preserving the community's maritime heritage.

Present Amenities:

Amenities include: an historic boat building, an historic brick house and deck, shoreline access, a public pier, a public float with 2-hr free moorage, a public kayak launch, a lifejacket loaner station, public art, historical signage, picnic tables (2), restrooms, and garbage cans (2).

Desired Amenities:

Desired Amenities include: benches, additional picnic tables, and restoration of the marine railway.

On-going Volunteer Projects:

Maintenance of plantings on the slopes above the driveway.

History:

The boat yard was constructed early in the 20th century. The brick house was constructed in 1946. In 1950, Ed Hoppen and Don Harter opened Eddon Boat at the location. Eddon Boatyard was the birthplace of the renowned 26-ft Thunderbird sailboat class (1958), a Ben Seaborn/Ed Hoppen design.



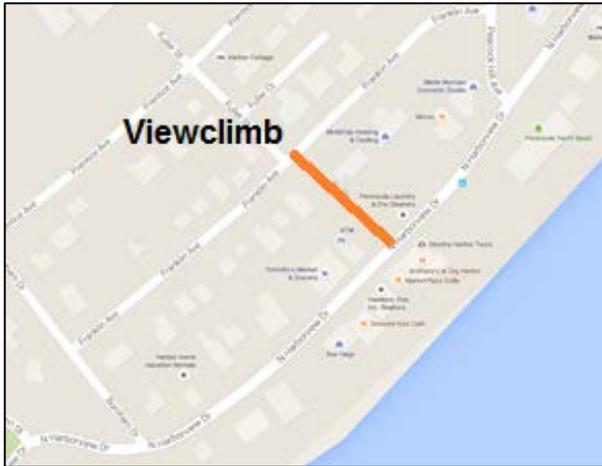
Eddon Boat is a classic example of a family operated boatyard and is the last known facility of its type on the west coast. With two marine railways, a large boat shop of a height to accommodate a boat's superstructure (including some masts and rigs), Eddon Boat is recognizable and unique to Gig Harbor's waterfront. The site is listed on the Gig Harbor Register of Historic Places and may be eligible for listing on the national register.

Finholm View Climb

8826 N. Harborview Drive (bottom)
8917 Franklin Avenue (top)

Classification:

Connector Trail



Description:

The 0.5 mile long Finholm View Climb provides a pedestrian connection from Franklin Avenue to the historic Finholm district located on North Harborview. The view climb provides panoramic views of Mount Rainier with 100 stairs that scale the hillside.

Present Amenities:

Amenities include: benches, a drinking fountain, garbage cans (2), lighting, restrooms, viewing platforms and a time capsule. Off-street parking is available adjacent to Finholm's Market and Grocery.

Desired Amenities:

Desired Amenities include: replacement of existing landscaping and replacement of aging steps.

On-going Volunteer Projects:

Maintenance of plantings.

History:

The view climb was named in honor of Ed and Johnny Finholm, proprietors of Finholm's Market.

Grandview Forest Park & Stanich Trail

3488 Grandview Street

Classification:
Natural Area



Description:

Grandview Forest is an 8.58 acre preserved urban forest which provides open space and wildlife habitat. The park is minimally developed with trails and supporting facilities. Portions of the Stanich Trail are located within this park. The 0.2 mile Stanich trail is located partially within an undeveloped portion of the McDonald Avenue right-of-way and partially within Grandview Forest park. The trail connects the Stanich street end to Erickson Street. Portions of this trail have been designated as the Cushman Trail.

Present Amenities:

Amenities include: (3) doggie pot, (3) garbage can, (4) benches, a drinking fountain, and restrooms.

The primary facility is the 0.38 mile trail which loops under the forest canopy. Additional amenities include benches, water fountain, and restrooms. Parking is provided on the adjacent Civic Center site.

Desired Amenities:

Desired Amenities include: a path map at the entrances.

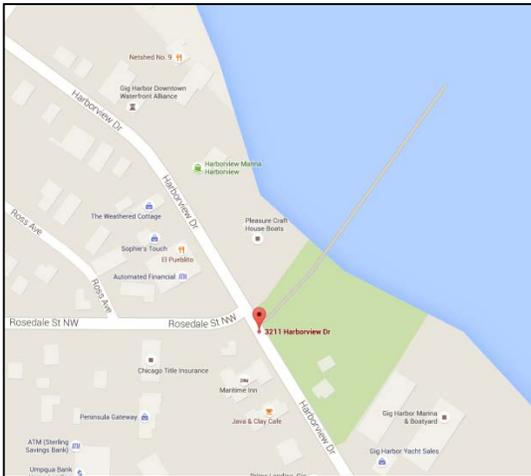
On-going Volunteer Projects:

Trail trimming, spreading of woodchips, and invasive species removal.

Jerisich Dock

3211 Harborview Drive

Classification:
Special Use Park



Description:

Jerisich Dock is a waterfront mini-park (0.56 acres). The dock provides transient moorage for boaters and features a seasonal pump-out station (April 1st thru November 1st) in the heart of downtown. Jerisich Dock is located adjacent to Skansie Brother's Park.

Present Amenities:

Amenities include: (2) doggie pots, (9) garbage cans, (8) recycle bins, (4) benches, (2) drinking fountains, a dumpster, picnic tables (5), power outlets, and restrooms.

The dock is a pier and floating moorage dock, with a seasonal public boat sewage pump out facility. There is a life jacket loaner station kiosk provided in cooperation with Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One, Safe Kids and Harbor Heights Elementary. Public moorage is provided: 48-hour short-stay, no slips, no power, no reservations, no charge.

In recognition of Gig Harbor's maritime history and historic fishing fleet, a bronze sculpture of a fisherman pulling his net from the sea was installed on the dock. The statue was created by Russian Artist, Antonov Safronov. A plaque with the names of local fishermen lost at sea is mounted on the base. Also located at this site is a historic anchor and plaque donated by local fishing families.

Desired Amenities:

Desired Amenities include: a visitor's center, water and power for moored vessels, relocation of the Fisherman's Memorial with a maritime memorial walk, additional trash cans, dock signage and pervious paving of the plaza.



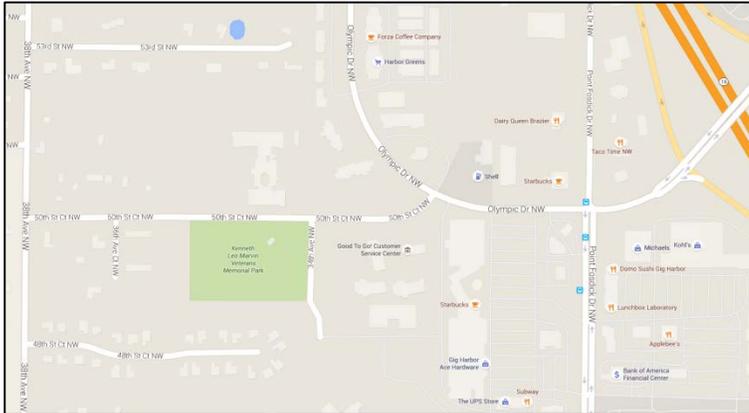
History:

Jerisich Dock is named for Samuel Jerisich, an early settler of Gig Harbor. A County managed "fishermen's wharf" was once located in the footprint of Jerisich Dock. The drive aboard pier was used by local the fishermen for loading and unloading of fishing nets and gear.

Kenneth Leo Marvin Veterans Memorial Park

3580 50th Street Court NW

Classification:
Neighborhood Park



Description:

This 5.57 acre neighborhood park was named in honor of Kenneth Leo Marvin, a local resident who joined the Marine Corp in 1939 and fought in World War II. The park provides a variety of active recreation facilities and open spaces to serve residents in this area of the City.

Present Amenities:

Amenities include: A combined baseball/soccer field, a basketball half court, benches, a bike rack, bleachers, a drinking fountain, a flagpole, (3) garbage cans, a recycle bin, (3) picnic tables, a tot lot play structure (ages 2-5), restrooms, a shelter and a memorial. There are 21 off-street parking spaces and 19 on-street spaces.

In recognition of the dedication to duty and sacrifice made by all veterans, a 1940's granite monument from Union (the town's first high school at the head of the bay) was relocated to Veterans Park. The inscription reads "Inscribed To Those Who Served Their Country In The Global War".

Desired Amenities:

Desired Amenities include: expansion of the trails, an overlook, a new play structure, a climbing wall, landscape improvements, plaza paving, trail signage, a memorial walk, and construction of a trail through the existing utility corridor from the park to 45th Street Court.

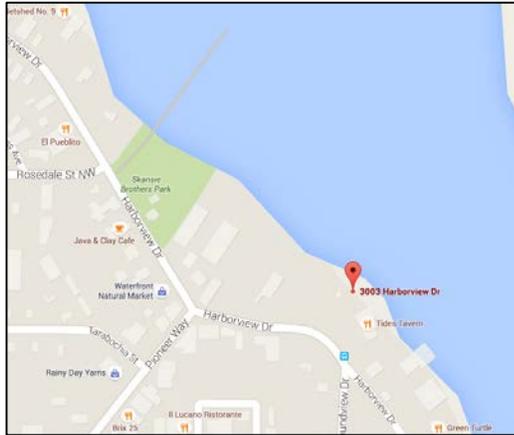
On-going Volunteer Projects:

Weeding and invasive species removal.

Maritime Pier

3003 Harborview Drive

Classification:
Special Use Park



Description:

Maritime Pier is a 0.72 acre waterfront mini-park (0.56 acres).

Present Amenities:

Amenities include: (2) benches, a picnic table, and a year-round public boat sewage pump out station.

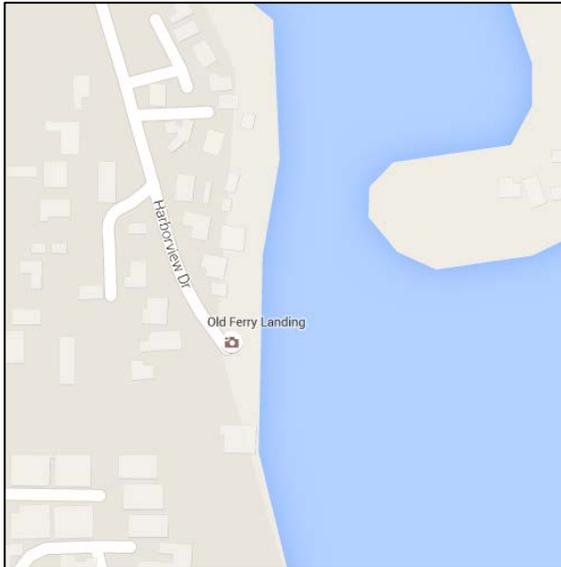
Desired Amenities:

Desired Amenities include: transient moorage, a fuel dock, a restroom and plantings.

Old Ferry Landing Park

2700 Harborview Drive

Classification:
Special Use Park



Description:

Old Ferry Landing Park is a 0.31 acre waterfront mini-park. The site overlooks the entrance of Gig Harbor Bay with a 180 degree view of the sand spit, Colvos Passage and Mount Rainier.

Present Amenities:

Amenities include: a bench, a doggie pot, a drinking fountain, a garbage can, historical signage, (3) picnic tables, a power outlet and a viewing platform.

Desired Amenities:

Desired Amenities include: plantings.

History:

The old ferry landing at the end of Harborview Drive once provided access to Gig Harbor's second ferry landing constructed in the 1920s. The wood dock included a small café that burned in the late 1930s. When the first Narrows Bridge opened in 1940, the landing was closed. Six months later when "Galloping Gertie" fell during a windstorm, ferry service was reopened but not at the Old Ferry Landing (this site). Instead, ferry service was provided at the end of Point Fosdick Road. Remnants of the ferry dock and piling are still visible.

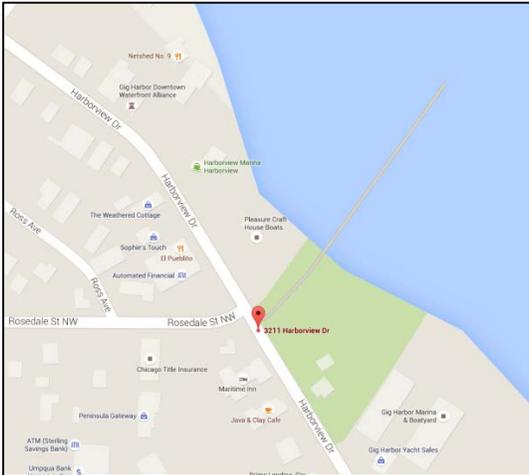
A narrow footpath running along the bluff serves as pedestrian access to a cluster of historic cabins known as the Nesika Beach Community. Located at the entrance to the harbor, this site has been used since the 1900s as the last farewell site for local fishing families as they wave farewell to commercial fishing boats as they round the corner beyond the sand spit on their way to Alaskan waters.

Skansie Brothers Park

3207 Harborview Drive

Classification:

Neighborhood Park



Description:

Located in the downtown area, this 2.59 acre park provides a community gathering place for the City. Acquired in 2002 as an expansion to the Jerisich Dock site, this park is host to the Maritime Festival, tree lighting, summer concert series and other community events throughout the year.

Present Amenities:

Amenities include: a bench, (2) garbage cans, (5) recycle bins, (3) picnic tables, historical signs, power outlets, a pavilion, water hose bibs, the Skansie House and the Skansie Netshed.

Skansie House: Harbor Wildwatch in partnership with the City and the Chamber of Commerce operates the historic Skansie House. The site also acts as a satellite Visitor Information Center.

Skansie Netshed: The Skansie Netshed is Gig Harbor's oldest netshed. Committed to preserving its waterfront heritage, the City registered the netshed on its Historic Structures Inventory and used a Heritage Grant and local funding to stabilize the netshed by repairing/replacing pilings, piling caps and support beams. The renovated netshed is now open to the public and operated by Skansie Netshed, a non-profit organization.

Desired Amenities:

Desired Amenities include: additional picnic tables and benches.

History:

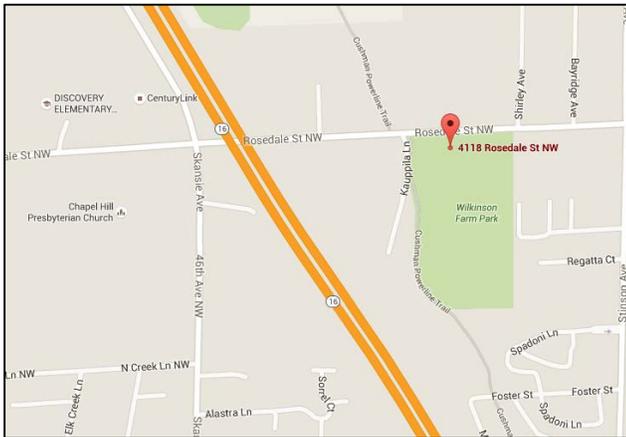
The park is named after the four Croatian Skansie brothers. All were fishermen in Gig Harbor near the turn of the 20th Century. The brothers created Skansie Boat Building Company located adjacent to the Andrew Skansie family home (1908), located at the park site. The Skansie family sold the historic brick house and netshed to the City in 2002.



Wilkinson Farm Park

4118 Rosedale Street NW

Classification:
Natural Area Park



Description:

Wilkinson Farm Park is a 17.74 acre natural area park. Officially named Helen Independence Wilkinson Farm City Park, this park was acquired in 2001. The Wilkinson Farm remains a tangible link to Gig Harbor's agrarian past, and exemplifies the hardy perseverance of one pioneer family. In 2008 the Wilkinson Barn was added to Washington State's list of historic barns.

Present Amenities:

Amenities include: a doggie pot, a drinking fountain, a garbage can and recycle bin, historical signs, 12 unmarked parking spaces, (3) picnic tables, a portable restroom, power outlets, a walking trail, a water hose bib, (2) footbridges, a split rail fence and a community garden.

Desired Amenities:

Desired Amenities include: a pond viewing platform, a covered picnic shelter, a preservation plan for the historic structures, Cushman trailhead improvements including a spur trail, additional parking and a restroom, construction of trails around the pond, maintenance and enhancement of the pond, benches and a bike rack.

History:

The Wilkinson barn, which still stands today, was started in 1914. In October 2001, the City of Gig Harbor purchased the site that includes a 2-story craftsman farmhouse, the well preserved gambrel roof dairy barn, three of the original outbuildings, a holly orchard, meadows and a large wetlands set against a steep wooded hillside.