

## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### **City of Ridgefield Acquires 17-Acre Parcel for Future Community Park**

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**Ridgefield, WA, January 4, 2010** – The City of Ridgefield announced today that it completed on December 31, 2009 the purchase of a 17-acre parcel of land that will serve as a future *community park* for citizens and visitors of Ridgefield. The property (Clark County Parcel No. 215624-000) consists of rolling topography of primarily buildable land that backs up to a stream corridor and forested open space. Current site use is agricultural consisting of cropland for cattle feed. The stream corridor and forested land is currently in private ownership and not a part of this transaction, but is envisioned to hold a segment of the City's future trail network.

The property is in the proximity of Community Park 5 (CP-5) designated in the City's 2008 Parks Capital Facilities Plan. Ridgefield's 2006 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Plan defines *community parks* as:

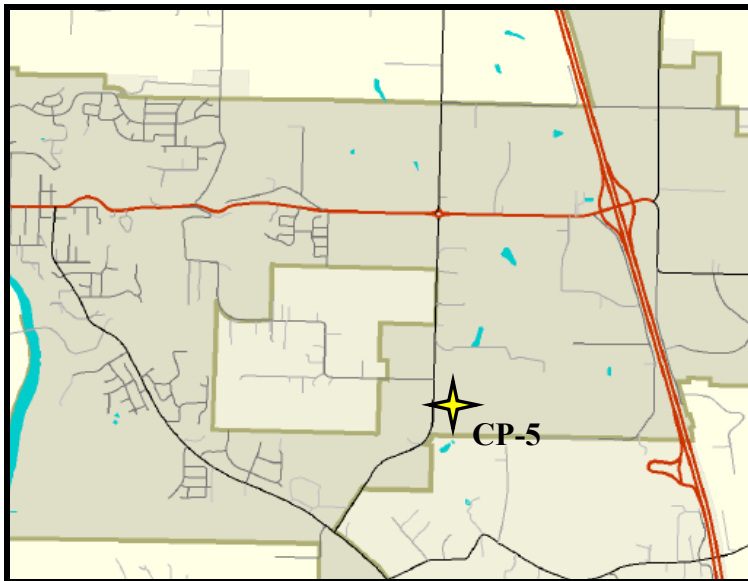
*Parks planned to provide active and structured recreation opportunities, as well as passive and non-organized opportunities for individual and family activities. Their target audience is residents within one mile's driving, walking, or biking distance. These parks often have sports fields or similar facilities as the central focus of the park, and require more support facilities, such as parking and restrooms.*

The property is being acquired from the Federal Deposit Insurance Commission for \$575,000. The City Council has approved the use of Park Impact Fee funds (fees collected from new residential development dedicated towards capital park projects) for financing the purchase. Park design and timelines for construction will be considered by the City in the future.

"Acquisition of CP-5 is extremely exciting for me and the Ridgefield City Council" said Mayor Ron Onslow. "The opportunity to purchase such a significant piece of

developable land at this price and set it aside until growth warrants a new community park could not be passed up. Through this purchase we have been able to secure a community park for Ridgefield's future."

**Clark County Parcel No. 215624-000 – CP-5**



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*The City of Ridgefield, incorporated in 1909, is a rapidly growing community located in northern Clark County, Washington approximately 10 miles north of Vancouver, Washington. Over the next 20 years, the City of Ridgefield expects to grow to a population of over 26,000 persons with an employment base of over 13,000 jobs. The City has adopted a Council-City Manager form of government. The City Manager acts as the chief executive officer of the City overseeing daily operations, annual budget development and implementation, and personnel. The City Manager works with a management team composed of the Director of Finance and Administration, the Community Development Director, the Public Works Director and the Police Chief to insure that community services are provided and that the policy directives of the City Council are carried out in the most efficient manner possible.*