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Municipality:	Portland
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Abstract

Part of Portland's economic development goals include ensuring that parks, trails, natural areas, and a healthy environment continue to protect the city's quality of life and attract businesses and the workforce alike. Accordingly, Portland set forth a policy of allowing park development within industrial zones to guarantee adequate park service within one-half mile of every resident.

This policy will make green infrastructure conveniently accessible to all residents of Portland. Additionally, the added green spaces will aid the city in the capture and storage of stormwater, as well as the reduction of CO₂ in the surrounding atmosphere.

Resource

Portland 2035 Comprehensive Plan

Chapter 6: Economic Development

The goals and policies in this chapter convey the City's intent to:

- Provide land supply to support job growth, and to expand the use of tools, such as brownfield redevelopment, to increase efficient use of land.
- Expand economic opportunity and improve economic equity for Portland's growing population through sustained business growth.
- Provide land use policies to support the growth and vitality of business districts.
- Create an environment that encourages innovation and entrepreneurship, builds on local strengths for business success and growth, and offers businesses a functional and attractive place to locate.
- Ensure parks, trails, natural areas, and a healthy environment continue to protect the city's quality of life that attracts and retains businesses and work force.

Why is this important?

[Type text]

A healthy economy provides opportunities for people to achieve their full potential and is the foundation of a livable city. A healthy economy supports the creation of living wage jobs for our growing and increasingly diverse population. It supports a growing tax base for public services. It also improves health and educational outcomes. People with stable jobs and reliable incomes have resources to meet their basic needs, which contributes to their physical and mental health, and to the educational and economic success of youth.

Portland is an innovative employment center in a region with strong economic and export growth. Economic strengths also include a successful Central City and industrial base, a primarily middle-class distribution of jobs that support a diverse community, and livability advantages that attract population growth and talent. However, these strengths mask trends toward declining prosperity for many Portlanders and highlight that economic development must be a high priority in the coming decades.

Since 2000, job growth in the city has fallen far short of housing growth. Rising costs of living have outpaced average wages. The share of middle-wage jobs and resulting upward-mobility opportunities for low-income people has declined. Income growth has been concentrated among the top-earning 20 percent of the workforce. In addition, deep income disparities persist for under-represented and under-served populations. Research suggests that cities with more equitable economies have stronger economies.

As businesses face an increasingly competitive regional and global marketplace, marketplace, new directions are needed to sustain job growth and improve economic equity. The region's primarily industrial traded sectors that drive regional prosperity will need more investment in workforce education, land supply, freight infrastructure, and innovation. Improving economic equity and affordability will depend on making equity a more central part of City policy and investments.

New land development approaches are needed to improve local competitiveness in regional markets, including more brownfield redevelopment, low-cost office development, and institutional zoning. Land-use programs must address the increasingly blurred lines between commercial, industrial, and creative service sectors. Citywide neighborhood prosperity will depend on new approaches to concentrated commercial growth in centers, neighborhood revitalization, flexibility, affordability, and small business growth. And business climate improvements should be reviewed to keep regulatory burdens and fees competitive in the regional marketplace.

The world economy is a dynamic system. Portland's economy will continue to change in response to technology, social change, and global trends. Zoning and land use must respond to those changes. This kind of local economic innovation will be key to Portland being a significant player in the development of the future economy.

Policy 6.55 Neighborhood park use.

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Allow neighborhood park development within industrial zones where needed to provide adequate park service within one-half mile of every resident.

Portland's full Comprehensive Plan can be found here:
<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/2035-comp-plan.pdf>.