

Reed Lane Neighborhood Park Site – Round 1 Outreach Naming Summary

Project Summary and Background Information

The [Reed Lane Neighborhood Park Site](#) is a 3.17-acre property located in southwest Bend. The property is boarded to the north by Reed Lane and to the east by Highway 97.

The district has been actively pursuing neighborhood park properties in underserved areas to meet the 2018 Park and Recreation District Comprehensive Plan goal of providing a park within one-half mile of every resident. The district purchased this 4.3-acre property in 2023 to fulfill Search Area 18. The property is being partitioned into two parcels, parcel 1 has been designated as a future neighborhood park. The 3.17-acre property will provide a neighborhood park for residents in Park Search Area 18.

The existing site condition is undeveloped but disturbed. The property used to have a residence that has been removed. The site is relatively flat with the high point being in the southeast corner. A variety of deciduous and evergreen trees of various sizes and species exist on the property, concentrated primarily in the center of the site.

Possible features to develop the site may include, but are not limited to: open lawn, picnic and gathering space, play area, paved path, and natural soft surface trails in accordance with the district's Development Standards for neighborhood parks.

Project Schedule

The first round of public outreach began August 2025 with the goal of informing residents of the upcoming project and to solicit park name ideas.

The Informal Request for Proposals (I-RFP) RFP for the design consultant was sent to all landscape architecture and civil engineering firms on the district's *list of interested consultants* on August 21, 2025. Both the park name and design consultant contract are anticipated to go to the board for approval at the October 21, 2025 meeting.

The second round of public outreach will occur concurrently with survey and site investigation. The second round of public outreach will involve gathering information about what amenities people would like to see in the park. This information will inform the development of the three conceptual designs which are anticipated to be complete early 2026.

Two additional rounds of public outreach are anticipated to take place in the winter/spring of 2026. The focus will be to solicit input on conceptual design options that will then be refined into a preferred concept design. The preferred concept design is anticipated to go to the board for approval spring 2026.

The preferred concept design will be the basis for construction document development. Construction is anticipated to start spring 2027 and to be complete by the end of year 2027.

Naming Outreach

Public outreach commenced the week of August 18 when approximately 970 postcards were mailed to residences within approximately .75-mile walking distance from the park property. The postcard provided information about the upcoming project, including the project website, contact information and a QR code and website for the naming survey.

The survey was live for three weeks, from August 18 – September 8, 2025. 21 individual survey responses were received in addition to 13 email comments. Many respondents submitted multiple name suggestions, resulting in 30 unique name suggestions.

Only a couple of respondents chose to explain their suggestion, and the explanation was generally related to the Coulter family, who owned the property prior to selling it to the district. The name suggestions came from individuals and were not discussed in a public forum. They leaned very heavily toward three themes; the Coulter family, flora and fauna (trees in particular) and physical geography (street names, canal, etc).

Name Suggestions

The following name suggestions were received as part of the public outreach process, organized roughly by category. Most names were suggested only one time, however, if there is a number in parenthesis it indicates the number of times it was suggested by unique individuals. Explanations, when provided are also included.

Coulter Family

Coulter Park (6): Honor whomever donated or sold the land to park and rec instead of developing for profit - making it possible to become a park. Recognition to whoever made this happen.

Coulter's Corner Park

Coulter Pines Park (also flora and fauna related)

Foster Park: I do think this family deserves recognition for their history in Bend and fostering so many children.

Homestead Park

Flora and Fauna

Deer Xing Park (Deer Crossing Park)

Fawn Park

Maple Park: For all the maples on site

Mourning Dove Park

Owl's Nest Park

Pine Park

Timber Grove Park

Willow Park

Willow Way Park

Physical Geography

Canal Park

Canal View Park

Duncan Heights Park

Flowing Water Park

High Desert Park (note there is already an undeveloped park site with this name)

Merrie Park (2)

Merriewood Park

Parkway Pines Park (also flora and fauna related)

Reed Park

Reed Lane Park

Reedly Park

Southern Crossing Park

Miscellaneous

Grant Park

Hunter Park

Kauis Park (no explanation was provided, but the meaning of the name is “joyful” or “rejoice”)

Nectar Park

The Coulter Family History

For additional context, below is an excerpt from Julia Coulter’s obituary to provide a brief picture of the Coulter family history. Two of her children (Neil and Julie) are still alive and living in Bend.

A native and lifelong resident of Bend, Julia Frances Coulter joined her heavenly father Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2013. She passed away peacefully at her home in the arms of her children.

She celebrated her 88th birthday on Aug. 17, surrounded by friends and family at the home where she lived the past 54 years.

Julia was born in 1925 to Hattie (Brown) Steppe and Frank Henderson. She attended Reid and Kenwood schools and graduated from Bend High School in 1943. During the war years, she joined her mother and brother Gerald at Shumates and Shevlin-Hixon mills making wooden ammunition boxes to support the war effort. She married Army veteran Ted (Theodore) William Coulter on December 21, 1947. Together they had four children – Neil, Mel, Julie and Carol.

After Ted was diagnosed with cancer, Julia chose to care for him at home so he could remain with his family. He passed away May 25, 1968. Those who watched Julia provide round-the-clock care, urged her to consider the nursing profession as a way of sharing her compassion and empathy with others. She enrolled in nursing classes at Central Oregon Community College, earning academic honors and becoming a licensed practical nurse. She began working at St. Charles Hospital while attending college and became a full-time nurse in 1970. Her devotion to patients and their families extended far beyond their physical needs. That commitment earned hospital employee of the year honors in 1972. She retired from St. Charles in 1991.

She enjoyed gardening on the five-acre farm south of Bend, making porcelain dolls and ceramics, hand-tooling leather, sewing, candy-making, cooking and watching Seattle Mariners baseball games. In her early years, she was an accomplished bowler and won many individual and team tournaments. Julia is survived by son Neil and daughter Julie, who live in Bend; son Mel, of Kuna, Idaho; and daughter Carol of Boise, Idaho; granddaughters Charisa and Calli Coulter, of Kuna and Chelsea (John) White of Nashville; and her only great grandson Brendan (Coulter) White. Survivors also include lifelong friends Helen Judy of West Lynn, Oregon; Don Manwiller and Alice McCullough, both of Bend. She was like a mother to many, including Glenda Peters and Debbie (Poole) Breadon and several foster children. Mother Hattie, father Frank, brother Gerald, daughter-in-law Brenda Coulter and lifelong friend Rae Manwiller preceded her in death.