

Columbia County Roads and Parks Department

Community Profile:

Population 43,560

Location St. Helens

Position Description:

Sponsor Columbia County Roads and Parks Department

Supervisor Dave Hill

Assignment

The RARE participant at Columbia County will be responsible for creating a Parks Master Plan and updating the Transportation System Plan (TSP). The participant will work on updating the County's TSP that was approved by the county in 1998. This work will involve editing, refining, and updating data. The participant will make recommendations to county officials on the changes necessary for future planning based on current policies and conditions.

The RARE participant will also work on a plan outlining the development of a horse station that includes vehicle/trailer parking, camp locations, and related facilities at two County parks: Camp Wilkerson and Scaponia Park. The plan will also identify land required to create a linear trail to connect the two county parks. The goal is to have a plan, incorporating a wish list, of items that would improve the parks and make them more usable on a year-round basis. The Parks Master Plan will also need to address potential sources of funding for the desired improvements.

Required Skills

The ideal RARE participant should have a background or understanding of transportation issues, traffic design, land use issues, and a background in planning or geography. The participant will need good communication skills, and a working knowledge of word processing and data collection.

RARE Member: *Michael Hoffmann - 2003-2004, Year 10 Participant*

Michael Hoffmann graduated with a B.A. in English at Binghamton University in upstate New York. He has worked as a teacher for the Northwest School of Success, as a College Writing Center Assistant Director, and as a Cartographic Technician with the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Michael is currently working on completing his Master in Urban and Regional Planning at Portland State University.