

# Seattle Parks and Recreation Department Model City Project Records, 1968-1974

## Overview of the Collection

<b>Creator</b>	Seattle (Wash.). Dept. of Parks and Recreation
<b>Title</b>	Seattle Parks and Recreation Department Model City Project Records
<b>Dates</b>	1968-1974 (inclusive) 1968 1974
<b>Quantity</b>	1.4 cubic feet, (4 boxes)
<b>Collection Number</b>	5804-14
<b>Summary</b>	Records of Parks activities funded by Model City contracts.
<b>Repository</b>	<a href="#">Seattle Municipal Archives</a> Seattle Municipal Archives Office of the City Clerk City of Seattle PO Box 94728 98124-4728 Seattle, WA Telephone: 206-233-7807 Fax: 206-386-9025 <a href="mailto:archives@seattle.gov">archives@seattle.gov</a>
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	Records are open to the public.
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Sponsor</b>	Funding for processing this record series was provided through a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

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## Historical Note

The Department of Parks and Recreation maintains the City's parks, shorelines, and boulevards; and administers community centers, public golf courses, and other athletic and cultural facilities. Seattle's first park was established in 1884 after David Denny donated land to the City for that purpose. At that time, a three-member park committee, with limited authority, was created to manage the nascent park system. A Board of Parks Commissioners was established in 1890 with control over all public parks and authority to appoint a Parks Superintendent. In 1896, the City Charter created the position of Superintendent of Streets, Sewers and Parks. The Parks Department became a separate entity in 1904. In 1926, a City Charter amendment abolished the position of Superintendent, distributing its responsibilities between the Head Gardener and the Landscape Architect. A 1948 City Charter amendment required the Board of Park Commissioners to appoint a park superintendent to administer the department. In 1967, another City Charter Amendment reconstituted the Board as an advisory body to the Mayor and City Council, changed the agency name to Department of Parks and Recreation, and placed fiscal and operational administration under the superintendent. In 1902 the City hired the Olmsted Brothers, the country's premier landscape architectural firm, to design a parks and boulevards system. Although not all of the plan was implemented, the Olmsted legacy is evident in many of Seattle's parks and boulevards. The City acquired significant amounts of property for park purposes

following the turn of the 20th Century, but in 1926 further acquisition was limited by a City Charter amendment that stipulated only money in the Park Fund could be used for that purpose. However, in the 1970s the Forward Thrust Bond issue, along with federal grants and the Seattle Model City Program, supported the largest expansion of the Park system in Seattle history. These programs funded more than 70 new parks and park facilities. The Department manages over 6,000 acres of park land, over two dozen community centers, five municipal golf courses, the Aquarium, and many other recreational and athletic facilities.

## Content Description

Records concerning the Parks Department’s Model City-funded projects and programs, including park improvements and youth recreation programs. Records include agreements, memoranda, reports, budget information and subject files.

## Use of the Collection

### Preferred Citation

[Item and date], Seattle Parks and Recreation Department Model City Project Records , Record Series 5804-14. Box [number], Folder [number]. Seattle Municipal Archives.

## Administrative Information

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

### 5804-14: Seattle Parks and Recreation Department Model City Project Records , 1968-1974

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1/1	Seattle Model City Program Correspondence	1972
1/2	Ballard Boys Club (Model Cities Subcontract)	1973
1/3	Gilman Park and Highland Park Shelterhouse Improvements	undated
1/4	Greenwood Boys Club (Model Cities Subcontract)	1972-1973
1/5	Model Cities Meetings	1970-1972

<b>Container(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
1/6	Meeting Minutes	1972
1/7	Pioneer Square Performing Arts Association (Model Cities Subcontract)	1972-1973
1/8	Rainier Boys Club (Model Cities Subcontract)	1972-1973
1/9	Reach, Inc. (Model Cities Subcontract)	1972
1/10	Red Barn (Model Cities Agreement)	1970-1973
1/11	Red Barn	1974
1/12	Recreational Projects Funded by Seattle Model City Program	1972
1/13	Red Shield Youth Club (Model Cities Subcontract)	1972-1973
1/14	Status Reports	1972
1/15	Wallingford Boys Club (Model Cities Subcontract)	1972
1/16	East Branch - 4th Year	undated
1/17	Financial Records - Seattle Model City Program	1972-1973
1/18	Lowell School Playground	1972
1/19	Memoranda, Dave Buchan	1971-1972
2/1	Parks Development Background	1972
2/2	Parks Development	1972
2/3	Program Information, Seattle Model City Program - Parks	1969-1972
2/4	Recreation Programs	1971-1972
2/5	Recreation Programs	1972
2/6	Yesler Neighborhood Center	1969-1970
2/7	Contracts and Awards	1971-1972

<b>Container(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
2/8	Memoranda	1972-1973
2/9	Fire Department Properties	1969
2/10	Ravine Studies	1969-1970
2/11	Section Staff Review	1972
2/12	Budget Summary Log	1972
3/1	Seattle Model City Program Project Work Programs	1972
3/2	Implementation of Model Cities Projects	1972
3/3	Seattle Model City Program Quarterly Reports	1973
3/4	Consultants and Contractors	1972
3/5	Seattle Model City Program Project Planning Sheets	1972
3/6	North Recreation Project Monthly Reports	1972
3/7	North Recreation Project Monthly Reports	1973
3/8	North Recreation Project	1972-1973
3/9	North Recreation Budgets and Reports	1972-1973
3/10	Model Cities, Finance, 3rd Year	1972-1973
3/11	North, Southwest and Southeast Task Force Information	1972-1973
3/12	Seattle Model City Program Clippings	1972
3/13	Physical Projects (CIP)	1972
3/14	Recreation Activity Survey	undated
3/15	Telephone Call Reports	1972
3/16	West Seattle Reservoir Park Termination Audit	1974

Container(s)	Description	Dates
4/1	Seattle Model City Program - Parks Department Interdepartmental Agreements	1971-1973
4/2	Model Cities Coordinating Committee	1968-1969
4/3	Model Cities Coordinating Committee	1969-1970

## Names and Subjects

### Subject Terms :

City planning--Washington (State)--Seattle

Parks--Washington (State)--Seattle

Playgrounds--Washington (State)--Seattle

Recreation--Washington (State)--Seattle

### Corporate Names :

Seattle Model City Program

Seattle (Wash.). Dept. of Parks and Recreation

### Geographical Names :

Seattle (Wash.)

Finding aid prepared by Janet Ness

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