

CITY OF KIRKLAND

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**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
MEMORANDUM**

To: Interpretation File 90-10
From: Joseph W. Tovar
Date: August 15, 1990
Subject: COMMON RECREATION OPEN SPACE USABLE FOR MANY
ACTIVITIES, KZC 5.150

Definition section KZC 5.150 defines “Common recreation open space usable for many activities” as “Any area available to all of the residents of the subject property that is appropriate for a variety of active and passive recreational activities, if that area:

- a. Is not covered by residential buildings, parking or driving areas; and
- b. Is not covered by any vegetation that impedes access; and
- c. Is not on a slope that is too steep for the recreational activities.”

The question has been asked about the maximum slope allowed for these areas. After consulting with the Kirkland Parks Department on the maximum slope that City parks generally have, a maximum slope of five percent was recommended. This is about the grade that exists at the Houghton Terrace Park in Kirkland where there is play equipment and open space provided for a variety of active and passive recreational activities. Slopes in excess of five percent represent an unacceptable grade which would hinder the use of the area for the uses described above.

Therefore, to provide a consistent standard which will benefit residents of multifamily structures where common recreational open space usable for many activities is required, it is my interpretation that the maximum slope for these areas should be five percent.