



600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Council work session agenda

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

2:00 PM

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

2:00 Call to Order and Roll Call

2:05 Chief Operating Officer Communication

2:10 Work Session Topics:

Regional Investment Strategy: Parks and Nature

[18-5039](#)

Presenter(s): Jon Blasher, Metro
Heather Nelson Kent, Metro
Andy Shaw, Metro

Attachments: [Work Session Worksheet](#)

3:40 Metro Attorney Communication

4:00 Councilor Communication

4:05 Adjourn

EXECUTIVE SESSION ORS 192.660(2)(D), TO CONDUCT DELIBERATIONS WITH PERSONS DESIGNATED BY THE GOVERNING BODY TO CARRY ON LABOR NEGOTIATIONS.

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ការគោរពសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ ។ សំរាប់ព័ត៌មានអំពីកម្មវិធីសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ Metro ឬស្នើសុំទទួលបានកាតបណ្តឹងរើសអើងសូមចូលទស្សនាគេហទំព័រ www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights។ បើលោកអ្នកត្រូវការអ្នកបកប្រែភាសានៅពេលអង្គប្រជុំសាធារណៈ សូមទូរស័ព្ទមកលេខ 503-797-1700 (ម៉ោង 8 ព្រឹកដល់ម៉ោង 5 ល្ងាច ថ្ងៃធ្វើការ) ប្រាំពីរថ្ងៃ ថ្ងៃធ្វើការ មុនថ្ងៃប្រជុំស្នើសុំអាចឲ្យគេសម្រួលតាមសំណើរបស់លោកអ្នក ។

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Metro txoj kev ntxub ntxaug daim ntawv ceeb toom

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Regional Investment Strategy: Parks and Nature

Work Session Topics

Metro Council Work Session
Tuesday, June 26, 2018
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

METRO COUNCIL

Work Session Worksheet

PRESENTATION DATE: June 26, 2018 **LENGTH:** 60 min.

PRESENTATION TITLE: Regional Investment Strategy: Parks and Nature update

DEPARTMENTS: Parks and Nature, GAPD

PRESENTER(S): Jon Blasher, jon.blasher@oregonmetro.gov, 503-797-1948
Andy Shaw, andy.shaw@oregonmetro.gov, 503-797-1763
Heather Nelson Kent, heathernelson.kent@oregonmetro.gov, 797-1739

WORK SESSION PURPOSE & DESIRED OUTCOMES

- Purpose: Present engagement plan and framework timeline for potential Parks & Nature bond
- Outcome: Staff answers Councilors' questions and describes next steps

TOPIC BACKGROUND & FRAMING THE WORK SESSION DISCUSSION

A complete quality of life in greater Portland includes a home that fits one's needs, clean air and water, easy access to nearby nature, and the ability to travel reliably and safely throughout the region.

Hundreds of people move to the region every month. As greater Portland grows, the Metro Council has recognized the need to work together as a region on reforms to make this a more livable place for all. The council also seeks to give more people more say about how to do this – particularly those who have faced barriers or discrimination.

The Metro Council has directed staff to coordinate efforts on housing, parks and nature and transportation funding in a single regional investment strategy. Since late 2017, staff have regularly updated the Metro Council on this strategy through biweekly individual briefings and monthly work sessions.

Over much of the last six months, these updates have focused primarily on affordable housing. On June 7, the Metro Council referred to voters a \$652.8 million regional affordable housing bond intended to create affordable housing for 7,500 to 12,000 people, at an average cost of \$60 annually for Portland-area homeowners.

On June 26, staff will present next steps for another major element of the Regional Investment Strategy: A potential next chapter in Metro's story of success applying voter-approved investments to improve water quality, protect wildlife habitat and increase access to nature for people. Staff will return to work session in July, to present next steps for a potential 2020 investment measure to improve roads, speed up transit and make streets safer around the region.

Parks and Nature investments: A history of support, a vital future

The natural environment is a big part of what makes greater Portland a wonderful place to live and do business. Over the past quarter century, the region's voters have passed two bond measures that allowed Metro to create a unique regional park system with nature at its heart – and two levies to care for it. With voters' support, Metro now manages 17,000 acres of parks, trails and natural areas

across greater Portland, including beloved parks like Oxbow and Blue Lake, as well as lesser-known but nonetheless significant natural areas.

Metro has a strong track record of success in delivering on commitments made to voters in past Parks & Nature funding measures. With voters' ongoing support, Metro has protected clean water, restored fish and wildlife habitat, and brought nature closer to hundreds of thousands of people.

Now more than ever, protecting nature is an urgent priority in greater Portland. Our population is growing in both numbers and diversity. Development threatens treasured forests and watersheds, and parks face ever-higher demand. Climate change threatens the natural systems Oregonians have worked so hard to protect. And despite a lot of progress, some communities still need access to high-quality parks and natural areas, where kids can explore and people can gather.

Regional voters last considered a parks and nature bond in 2006. As that bond's investments are successfully completed, it's time to once again explore what we can achieve together and how to respond to changing challenges and opportunities. Among these include

At the Metro Council's direction in late 2017, staff initiated a work plan to engage partners and the community in developing a potential third parks and natural area bond measure that could carry our mission forward into a new decade. Already, the Council has directed staff that any new bond measure must have racial equity at its core and build on lessons learned through previous investments and partnerships with community partners. This means including in decision-making those communities that have been left out in the past as well as looking at how future investments can support communities of color specifically.

Future nature-focused capital investments by Metro would likely continue in three primary areas: acquiring land for the future; making overdue improvements at beloved places like Blue Lake and Oxbow parks and expanding public access to new sites as described in Metro Council-approved master plans; and supporting community nature projects through grants and local allocations.

As in the past, community and partner input will play an important role in shaping future investments in parks, trails and natural areas. Metro has already begun conversations with local governments, parks providers, conservation advocates and culturally-specific organizations about how bond investments can support community needs and how to meaningfully engage people in the process of identifying priorities today and for future generations.

In June, Metro recruits members for a stakeholder table to guide staff's development of a funding framework for the Metro Council to consider. Metro will also work in partnership with a cohort of culturally-based organizations and conservation advocates on engagement. These efforts are modeled on lessons learned from new practices developed in park master planning for Chehalem Ridge, Gabbert Butte and East Council Creek. Moving forward, staff plan tours of past parks and nature investments for the Metro Council and key partners, in addition to broader public engagement.

On June 26, staff will present a draft engagement plan for a potential parks and nature bond measure, and a timeline for discussion and decision-making toward a potential Metro Council referral in late spring 2019.

QUESTIONS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

- Does the Council have any questions or feedback for staff?

PACKET MATERIALS

- Would legislation be required for Council action Yes **X No**
- If yes, is draft legislation attached? Yes **X No**

Materials following this page were distributed at the meeting.



Metro

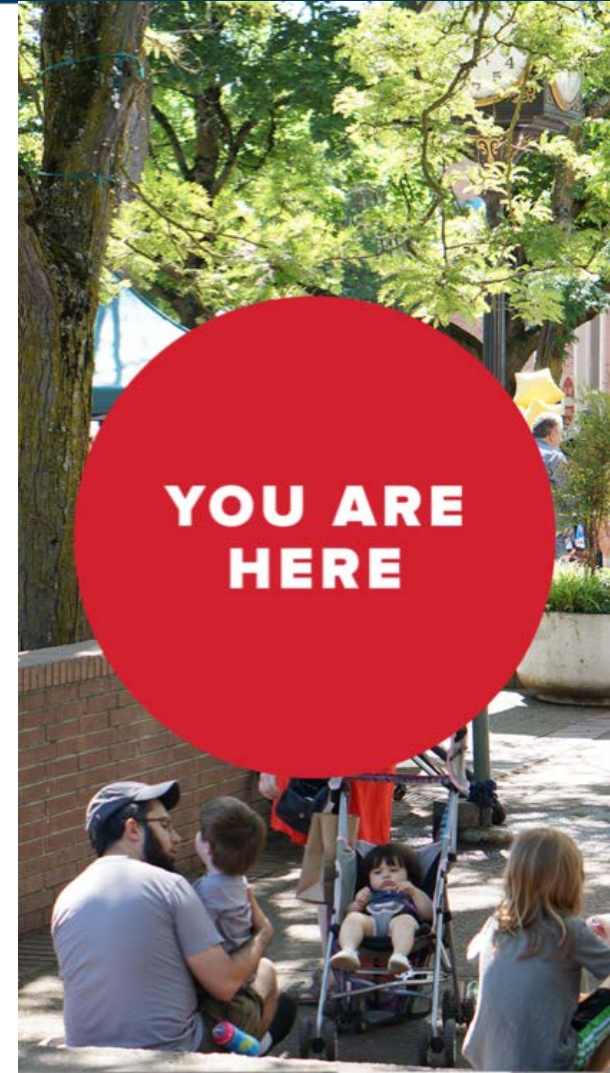
Regional Investment Strategy: Parks and Nature

Council work session
June 26, 2018



Reminder: Where we are now.

- Metro is a good steward of the things that create regional livability
- We connect urban/rural, built/natural in one vision of a highly livable place for all
- We must do more to protect what we value, help public investments keep up – and share benefits equitably



Regional Investment Strategy

- Affordable housing bond
- Clean water, habitat and access to nature
- Safe, reliable ways to get around
- A coalition for livability and equity



Agenda for today

Staff update

Past investments

Where we're going

Schedule for action

Community
engagement plan



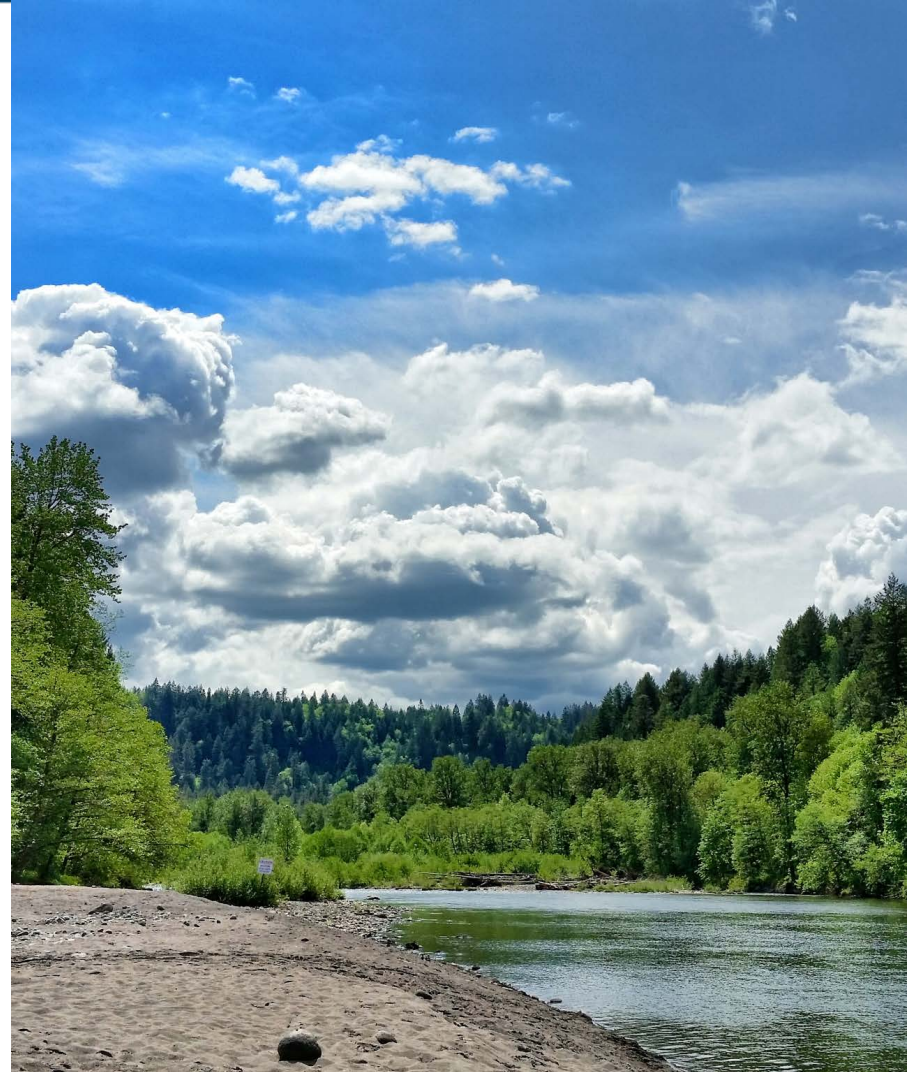
How we've invested: 1995 and 2006 bonds

1995 measure:

- Regional acquisitions
- Local share

2006 measure

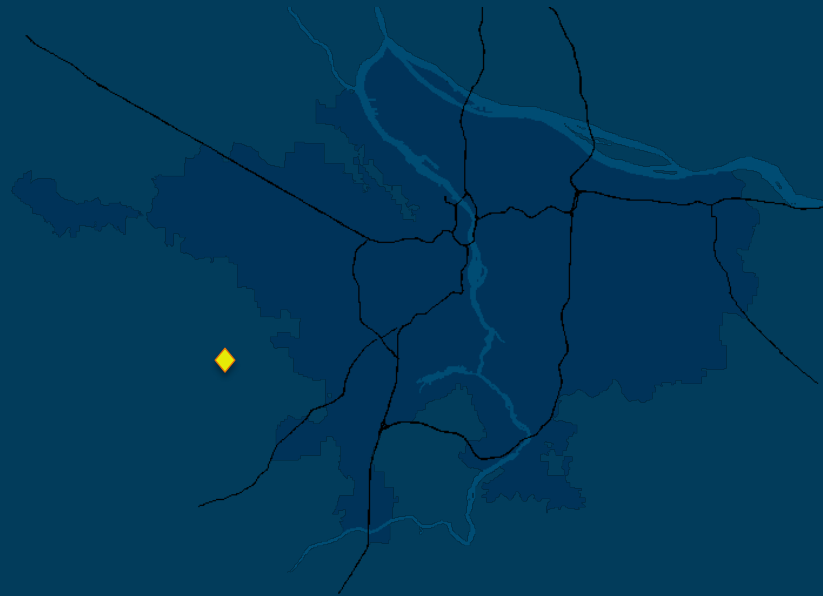
- Regional acquisitions
- Local share
- Large-scale capital projects
- Nature in Neighborhood grants





Acquisition – protecting rare habitat

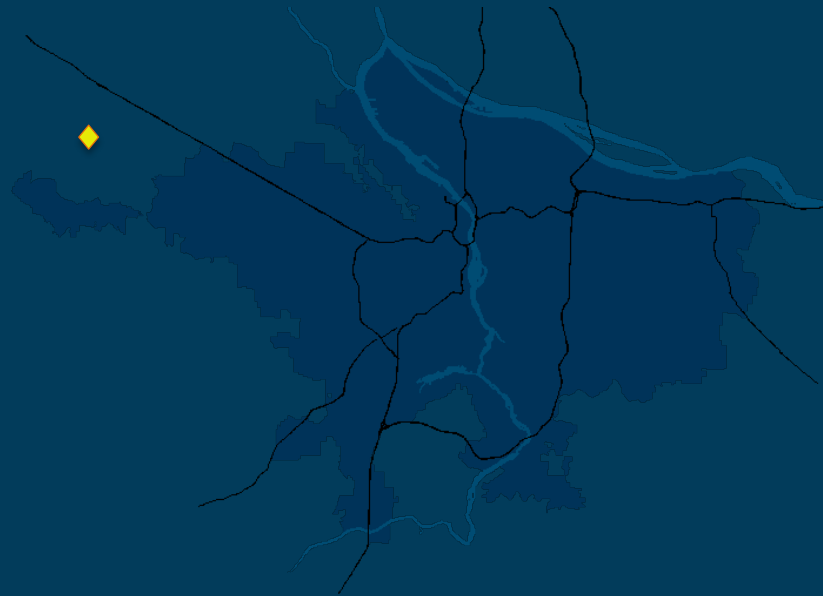
Quamash Prairie Natural Area





Acquisition – securing headwaters

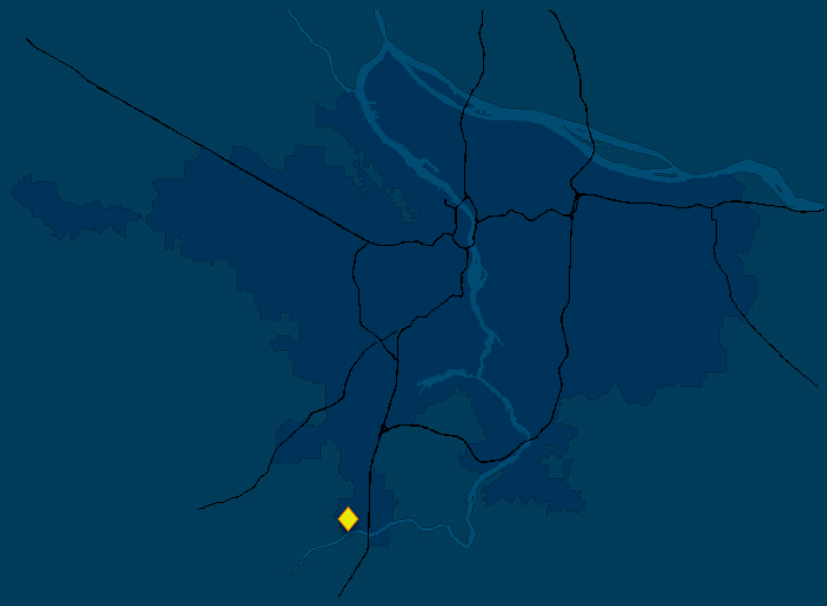
Chehalem Ridge Natural Area





Acquisition – urban streams

Corral Creek Natural Area



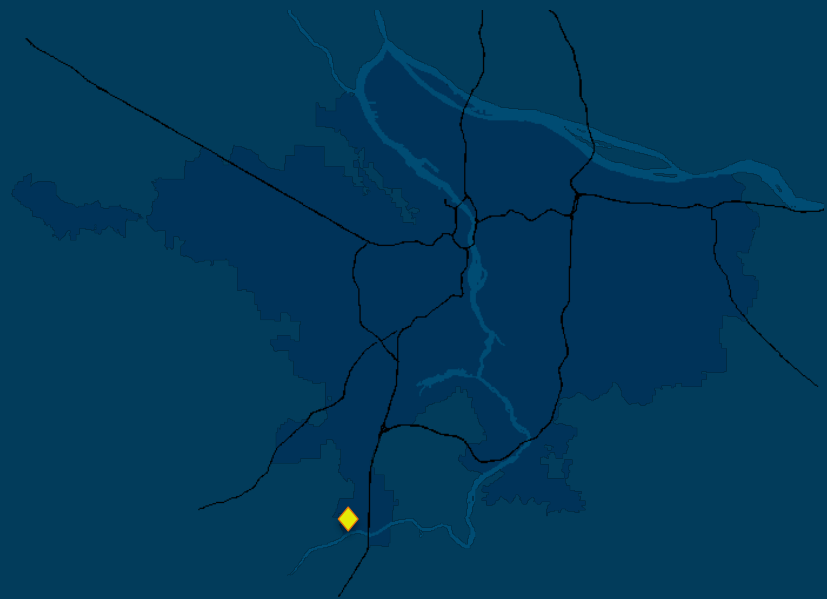
Connecting people to nature





Connecting people to nature

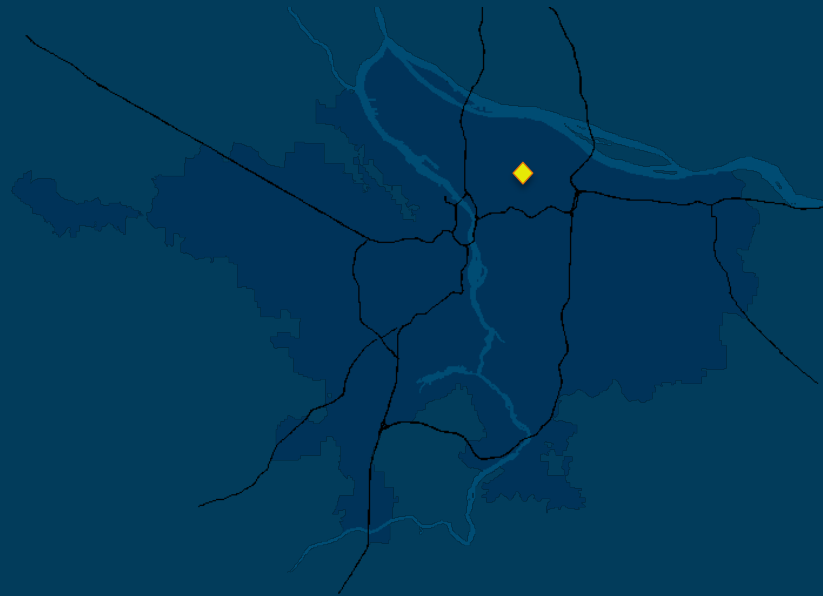
Graham Oaks Natural Area





Local park investments

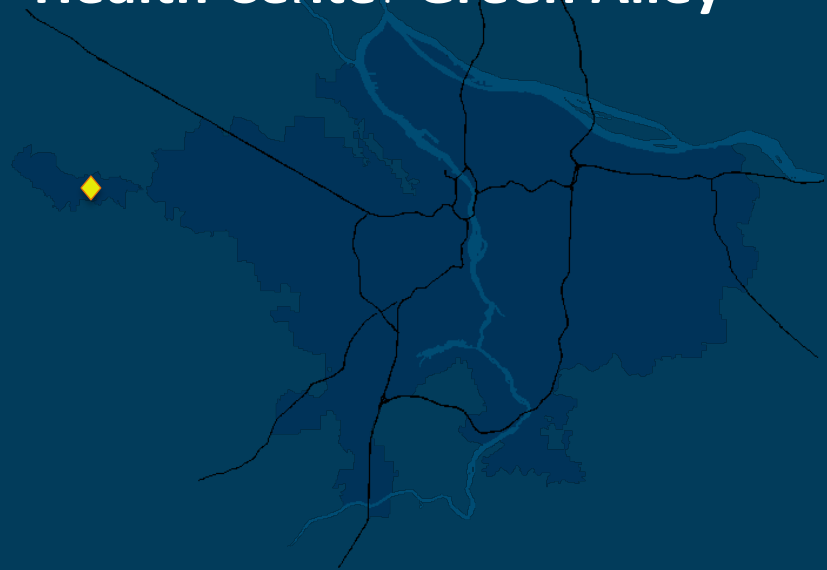
Portland –
Khunamokwst Park





Nature in Neighborhoods grants

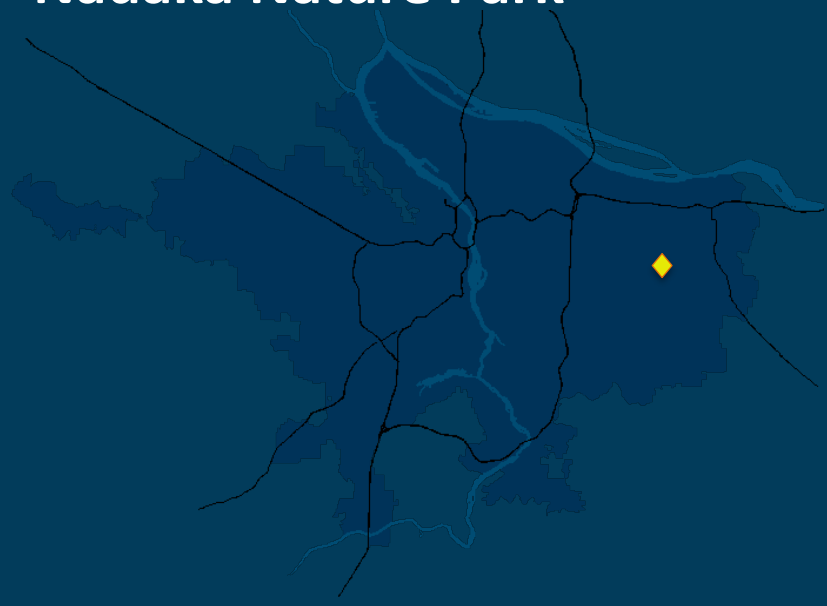
Cornelius –
Virginia Garcia Memorial
Health Center Green Alley





Nature in Neighborhoods grants

Gresham –
Nadaka Nature Park



What is the need? Why now?



Preparing for growth

Population history and range projections

7-county Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro MSA, 1990 - 2038

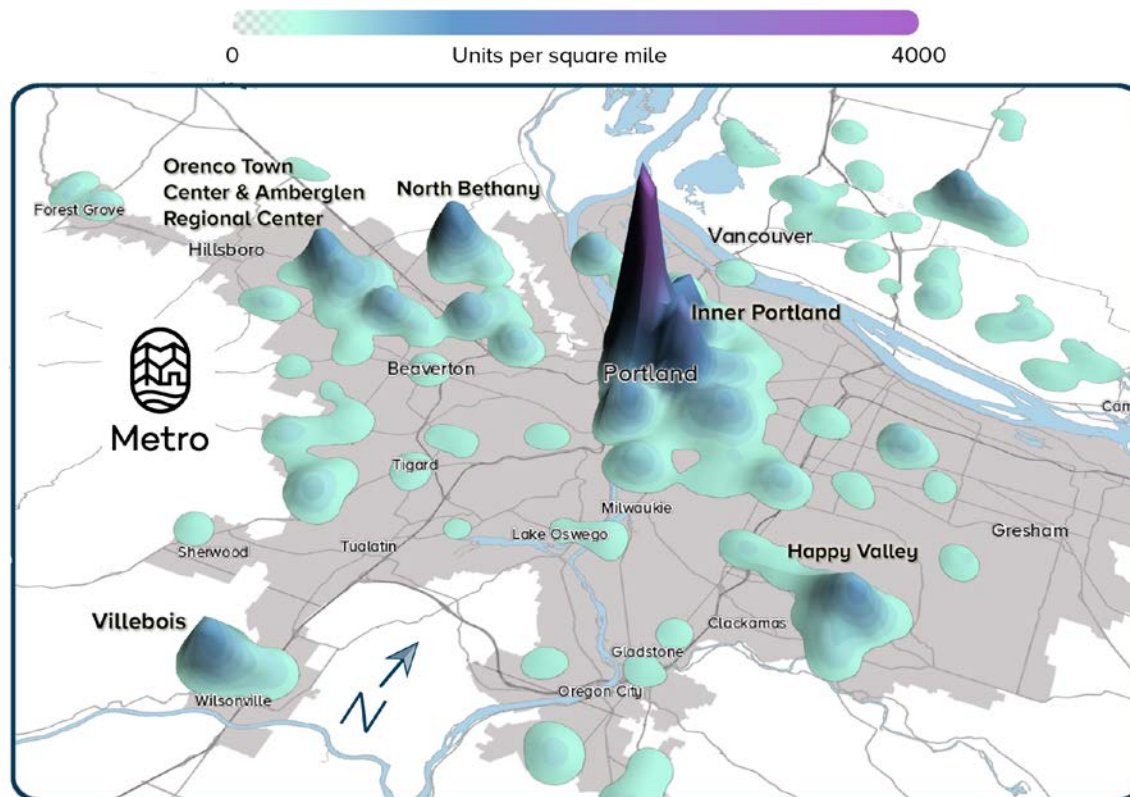
Each line is
500,000 people!



Source: 2018-38 Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA MSA Forecast, Metro Research Center, November 2017

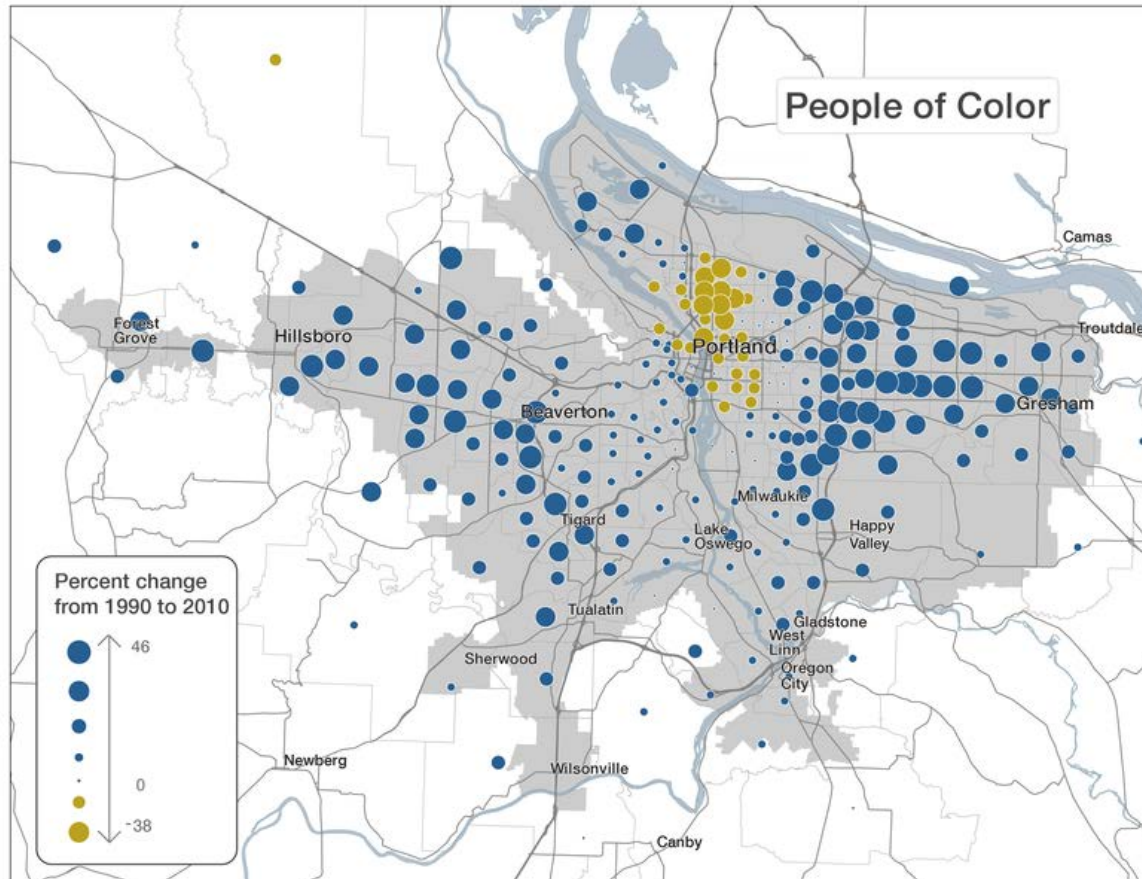
Investing strategically

Housing permits in the Portland Metro area, 2009-2017 - units per square mile

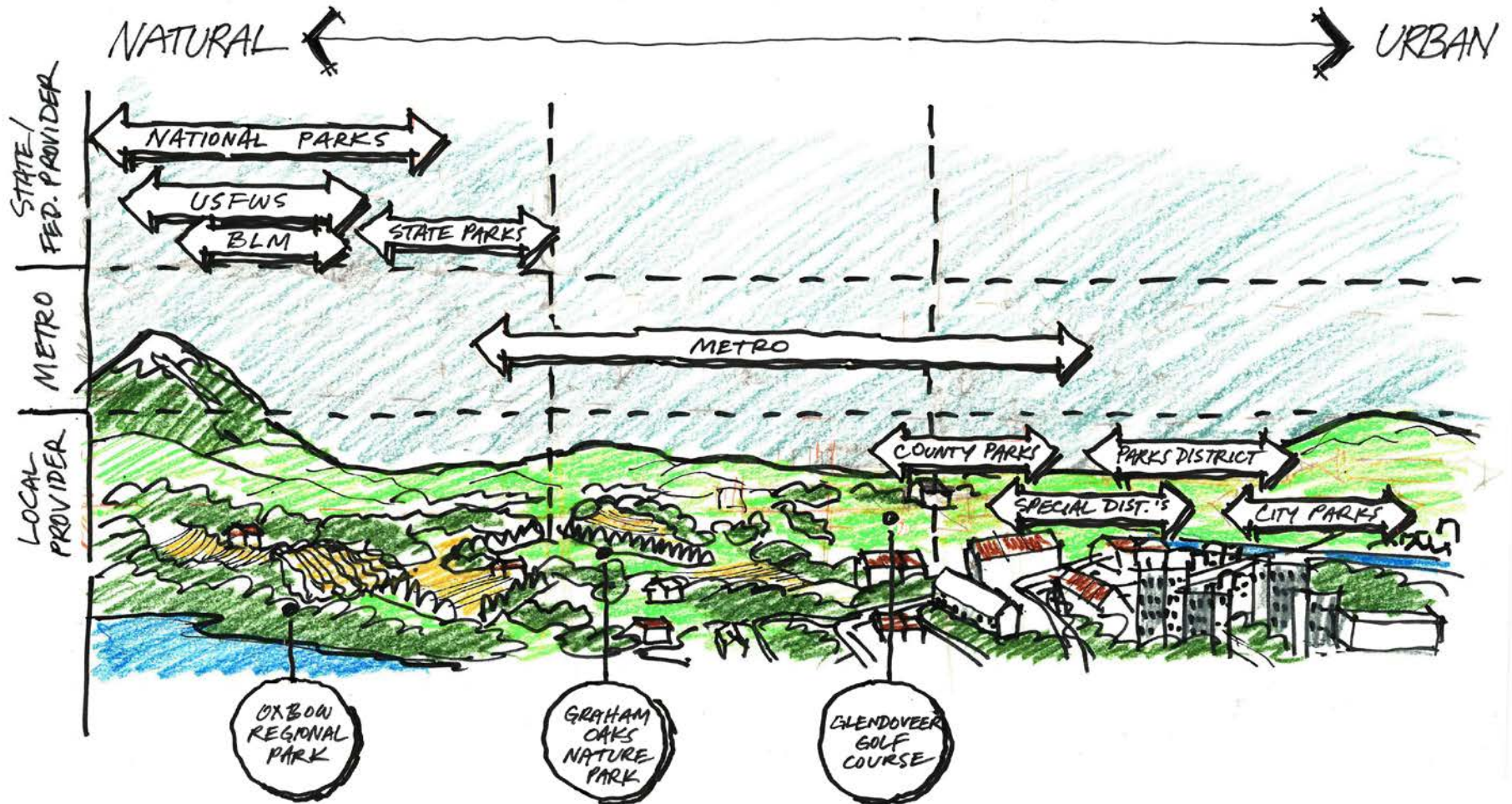


Source: Construction Monitor data report Q1 2009 - Q2 2017. Created October 2017

Serving a changing population



Metro's role in the region



Cost of inaction?

**Extreme weather
and other new
challenges to our
local ecosystem**



Cost of inaction?

And old challenges
that we are still
working to address



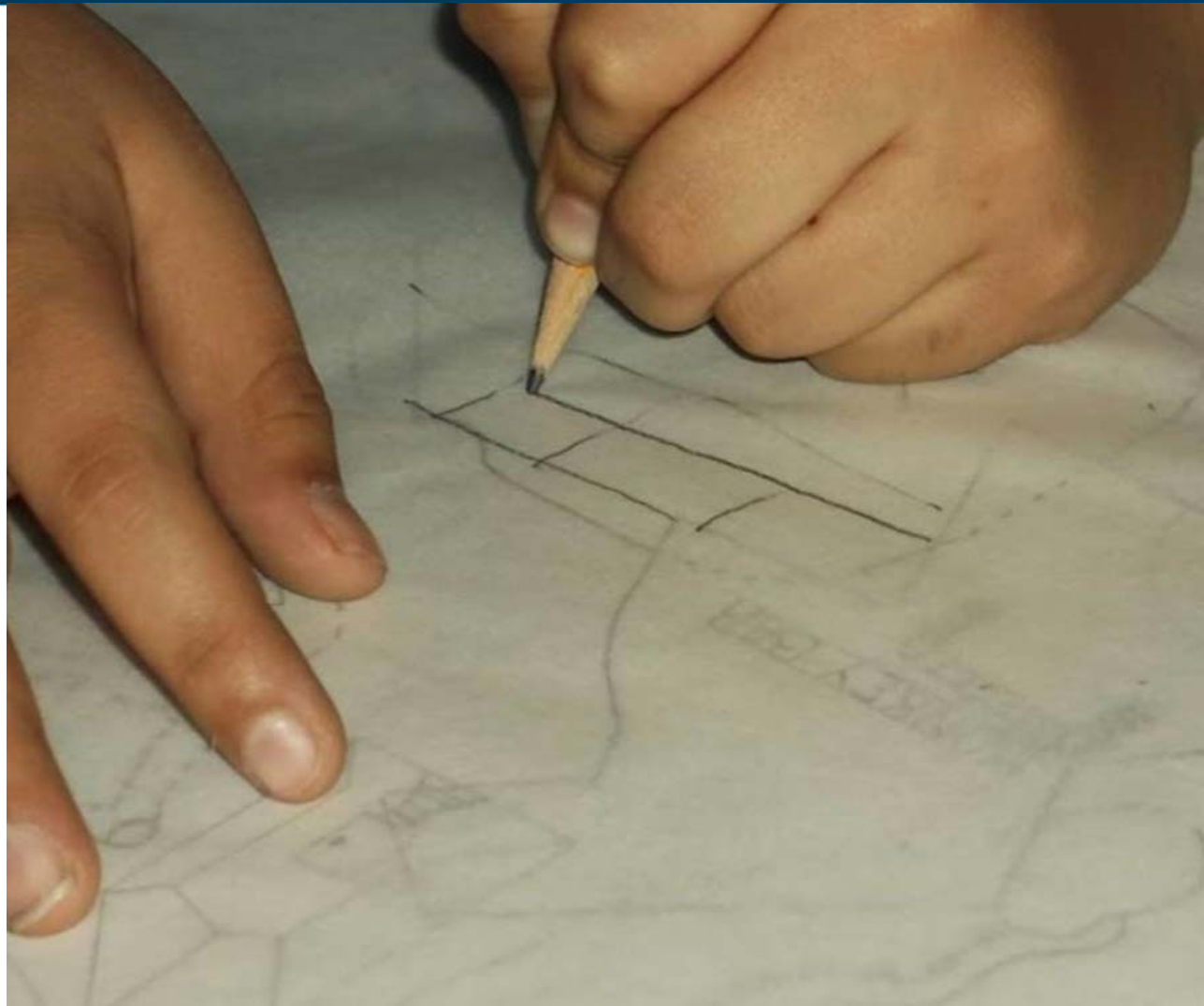
Cost of inaction?

Missing opportunities to secure public access and meet conservation goals

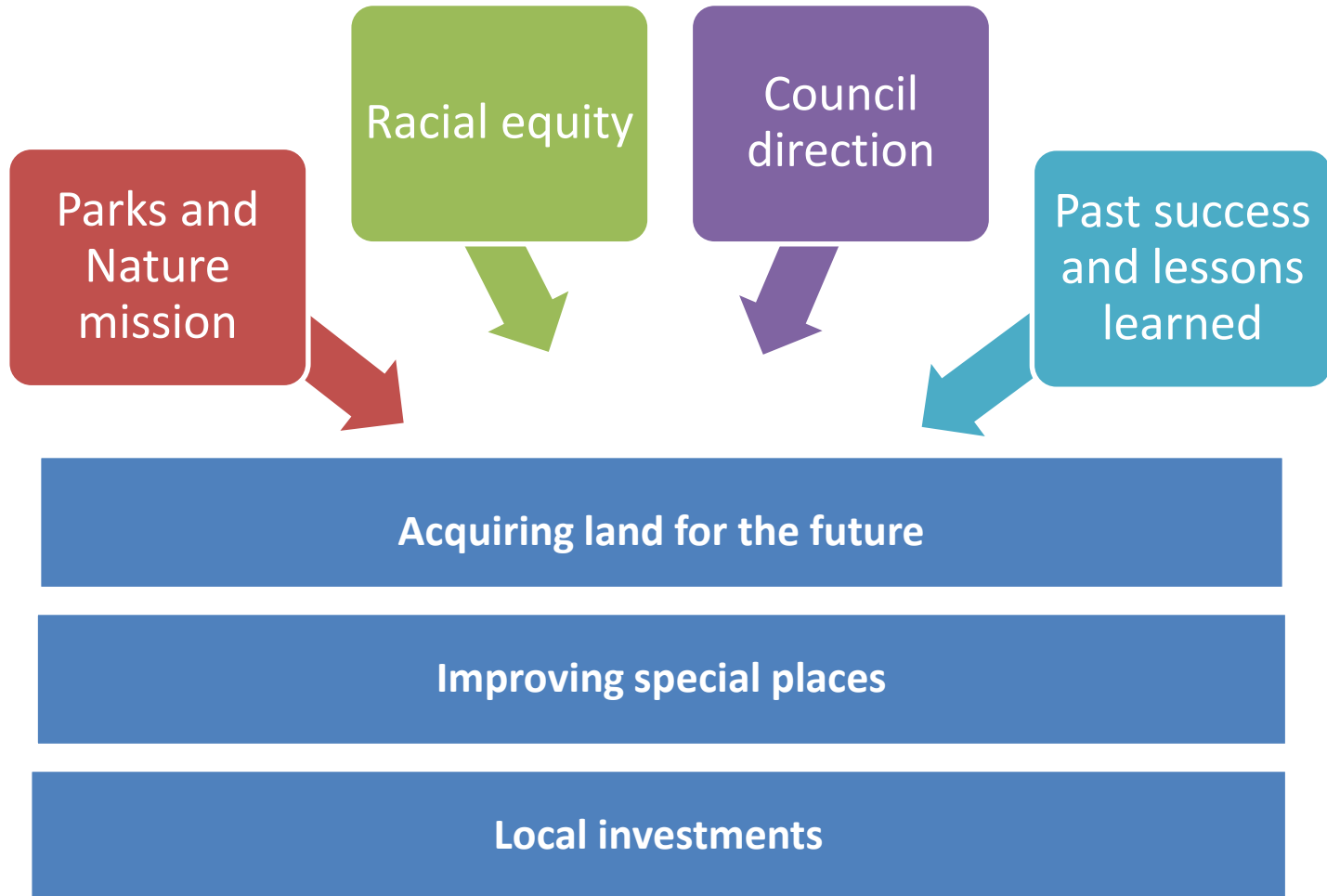


Cost of inaction?

**Losing steam on
our community
engagement and
not responding to
community needs**



Funding framework



Creating a path – work plan

Getting ready

Dec 2017
to June 2018

- Identify key questions and assumptions
- Develop public outreach plan, budget, engagement strategy
- Engage key partners
- **Council direction**
Engagement plan



Engagement and equity analysis

July to Dec 2018

- Convene Stakeholder Table
- Outreach & partnerships
- Draft framework for Council consideration
- Equity analysis and technical assessment
- Engagement report
- **Council direction**
Funding framework and project selection criteria



Project selection and potential referral

Jan to May 2019

- Develop detailed maps, funding proposals
- Local investment strategies
- Review final priorities with stakeholders, public
- Report to Council
- **Council referral decision**

Engagement goals

Respond to community needs

Elevate communities of color and build their capacity

Advance racial equity

Strengthen awareness and trust in Metro

Stronger relationships between organizations

Report back to community



Stakeholder table

Understanding of
Parks & Nature
mission

Understanding of
racial equity

Racial, ethnic,
economic diversity

Many perspectives,
new connections



Summer-fall engagement

Community
partnerships

Community
leaders forum

Online survey

Tours



The opportunity

Align with new
Council policy

Increase benefits
for more people

Respond to
community
feedback



Discussion

Does Council have questions or advice?

What information would be helpful to Councilors going forward?





Arts and events
Garbage and recycling
Land and transportation
Oregon Zoo
Parks and nature

oregonmetro.gov