

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPROVING 2022)	RESOLUTION NO. 22-5287
NATURE IN NEIGHBORHOODS NATURE)	
EDUCATION AND OUTDOOR EXPERIENCES)	Introduced by Chief Operating Officer Marissa
COMMUNITY GRANTS)	Madrigal in concurrence with Council
)	President Lynn Peterson

WHEREAS, in 2005, the Metro Council established an initiative designed to protect and restore our region’s significant fish and wildlife habitat and connect people with nature as provided in Resolution No. 05-3574A, “Establishing a Regional Habitat Protection, Restoration and Greenspaces Initiative called Nature in Neighborhoods,” adopted May 12, 2005;

WHEREAS, to fulfill the goals of this regional initiative, the Metro Council approved Resolution No. 05-3580A to establish the Nature in Neighborhoods grant program for local communities;

WHEREAS, the Metro Council reaffirmed the grant program’s purpose, eligibility and funding criteria via Resolution No. 12-4398 when the council referred a 5-year local option levy for Metro’s parks and natural areas to the voters, and called for the creation of a committee to review grant applications and make award recommendations to the Metro Council;

WHEREAS, in May 2013, voters in the Metro region approved the 5-year local option levy which included new and expanded funding for this grant program, referred to in the levy as Nature in Neighborhoods community grants;

WHEREAS, Metro awarded the first round of Nature in Neighborhood Conservation Education community grants in July 2014 via Resolution 14-4549;

WHEREAS, Metro awarded the second round of Nature in Neighborhood Conservation Education community grants in July 2015 via Resolution 15-4635;

WHEREAS, Metro awarded the third round of Nature in Neighborhood Conservation Education community grants in June 2016 via Resolution 16-4723;

WHEREAS, the Metro Council confirmed the grant program’s purpose and funding via Resolution No. 16-4690, when the council referred the renewal of Metro’s local option levy for Metro’s parks and natural areas to the voters;

WHEREAS, the Metro Council approved Metro’s Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion via Resolution No. 16-4708, which directs the agency to incorporate racial equity into all aspects of its work;

WHEREAS, Metro awarded the fourth round of Nature in Neighborhood Nature Education and Outdoor Experiences community grants in June 2018 via Resolution 18-4896;

WHEREAS, Metro awarded the fifth round of Nature in Neighborhood Nature Education and Outdoor Experiences community grants in June 2020 via Resolution 20-5114;

WHEREAS, Metro has solicited and received applications for 2022 Nature in Neighborhoods Nature Education and Outdoor Experiences grants, and the grant review committee has identified the proposals which best meet the grant criteria and the goals of the Nature in Neighborhoods community grant program; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council hereby approves the award of the 2022 Nature in Neighborhoods Nature Education and Outdoor Experiences community grants to those recipients listed in Exhibit A and for the amounts listed for each individual award.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this twentieth day of October, 2022.



Lynn Peterson, Council President

Approved as to Form:



Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney



Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Memo

Date: October 05, 2022
To: Metro Council
From: Karissa Lowe, Program Manager, Nature in Neighborhoods Community Grants
Mychal Tetteh, Parks + Nature Community Services Program Director
Subject: 2022 Nature in Neighborhood nature education and outdoor experiences grants –
Review Committee Summary and Recommendation for Funding

The purpose of this memo is to summarize the recommendation for funding from the grant review committee for the 2022 Nature in Neighborhood nature education and outdoor experiences grants. The Metro Council makes all final grant decisions and is scheduled to decide final grant awards on Thursday, October 20, 2022.

If desired, we are happy to schedule individual briefings before then. Please contact Susanne Raymond at susanne.raymond@oregonmetro.gov for scheduling.

The 2022 Nature in Neighborhood nature education and outdoor experiences grants review committee met June 14, 2022, and again on September 13, 2022. They reviewed 41 pre-applications, totaling \$2.45 million in funding requests, and 19 full applications, totaling \$1.24 million in funding requests. The review committee selected **10 of the most compelling programs** to recommend for funding a total of **\$700,000** to the Metro Council.

Background

Metro Council provided the framework for the Nature in Neighborhood community grants in the legislation for the parks and natural areas levy and its renewal and the adoption of the Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, which directs the agency to incorporate racial equity into all aspects of its work. Staff used the Metro Council direction to develop an outreach plan, application materials, review committee and evaluation criteria for these community grants, referred to as Nature in Neighborhoods nature education and outdoor experiences grants. Staff aligned Metro's grant criteria with state, regional and community initiatives in order to achieve multiple benefits.

Grant evaluation criteria

The following are the purpose and three goal categories for funding:

Purpose: Nature education grants support and create partnerships in local communities that improve water quality, fish and wildlife habitat and connect people with nature.

Goal 1: Cultural equity.

People of all cultures, races and traditions connect with nature and with one another in the region's parks and natural areas.

Goal 2: Environmental equity.

Communities of color in greater Portland enjoy the benefits of conserving land, air and water and equitable access to safe and welcoming parks, trails and natural areas; communities enjoy learning about, helping restore, experiencing and connecting with nature and the region's natural areas.

These grants help address inequities in the conservation movement by providing access to nature and the positive impacts of clean land, air and water to Black communities, Indigenous communities, communities of color and other historically and continually marginalized groups in greater Portland.

Goal 3: Economic equity.

Communities of color prosper economically from the business of Parks and Nature in greater Portland.

Review committee

Jonathan Blasher, Parks and Nature Director, selected this year's review committee from a pool of applicants. Participation on the grant review committee is by application, open and advertised to all community members. The review committee included local experts in environmental education, mentorship and job skill development, diversity equity and inclusion, community partnership development, philanthropy, and grant management.

The members of the 2022 Nature in Neighborhoods nature education and outdoor experiences review committee are:

- Gwen Amsbury, *Records Management Analyst*, Oregon State Archives
- Faith Cathcart, *On Call Grants Coordinator*, Zenger Farm
- Ridhi D'Cruz, *Member*, Atabey BIPOC Medicine Council; *Program Instructor*, Your Street Your Voice, Camp ELSO; *Core Artist Resident*, Stelo Arts
- Kolini Fusitua, *Program Coordinator*, Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization
- Isaiah Jackman, *Housing Specialist*, Urban League of Portland
- Aisha McCoy, *Project Developer*, Homes for Good
- Lucy Ohlsen, *Associate Attorney*, Buchanan Angeli Altschul & Sullivan

- Jen Shih, *Grants and Enrollment Specialist*, Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District
- Wilson Yee, *Project Manager (CERCLA and Navajo Nation sites, Stafford Act)*, Weston Solutions, Inc. and Board Member, Friends of Tryon Creek

Committee members declared any direct conflict of interest in the proposals and did not score or participate directly in the discussion or ranking of an application where there was a conflict.

2022 Nature in Neighborhoods nature education and outdoor experiences review discussion

This funding opportunity was extremely competitive, as Metro received many very strong grant proposals. The review committee determined which proposals were the closest match to the grant program's purpose and goals based on the information submitted, the stated evaluation criteria, and the review committee's professional and collective judgment. The review committee included local experts in environmental education, habitat restoration, natural area land management, conservation planning, mentorship and job skill development, diversity equity and inclusion, community partnership development, philanthropy, and grant management.

In the sixth round of the renewed natural areas levy grants, the review committee valued the range of organizations, project types and project scales represented in the pre-applications submitted. There is solid geographic diversity in this slate of proposals, with five projects focused on Multnomah County, two projects focused on Clackamas County, two projects focused on Washington County, and one with a Metro-wide focus. Proposals came from a mix of culturally specific organizations and conservation focused organizations and included both organizations familiar to this program and many first-time applicants.

Proposals recommended for funding show strong evidence of involvement from BIPOC groups in proposal planning and development. This review committee was especially compelled by proposals from more grassroots and community led organizations, and several proposals recommended for funding are from smaller organizations that are earlier in their development, many of which are new to this funding opportunity. Overall, half of the organizations recommended for funding are larger organizations and half are small or medium-sized organizations.

The review committee members were happy to see strong evidence of BIPOC leadership's influence in proposals focused on work done by and with BIPOC communities, rather than for them.

The review committee was pleased that many of the proposals acknowledge the connection between nature and mental health, and the need to decolonize our relationship with nature. They appreciated proposals that centered the voices and perspectives of young people, and which aim to help youth build leadership skills and learn about STEM careers. Several proposals recommended for funding feature strong economic equity components, whether by paying stipends for participants, creating career pathways, or explicitly naming other steps that the organization will take to remove economic barriers to participation.

The review committee valued projects which aligned with the Nature in Neighborhood grant goals, individual organizations' plans or priorities, and state, regional or local conservation strategies. They found proposals stronger when they demonstrated longstanding and holistic partnerships with communities and community-specific organizations. Proposals which showed newer, less established relationships with community-specific organizations were less competitive.

The review committee felt that nearly all applicants had strong and thorough answers about their diversity, equity and inclusion experience, and this was especially true for organizations that advanced to the full application phase. The review committee was glad to see the applicant organizations being thoughtful and clear about where's they're currently at with their equity work and about their next steps.

The review committee was impressed by how well applicant organizations were able to pivot and evolve their programs in response to safety concerns around the pandemic. Applicants' resilience and determination in the face of these challenges has led to new ways of delivering programs and connecting with community, and the review committee was interested to see how the work will continue to evolve.

The review committee was compelled by proposals that projects that acknowledge that communities' relationship with and access to nature is complicated, and projects that incorporated innovative strategies to build program participants' connection with nature and their sense of safety and personal empowerment in outdoor spaces. They appreciated organizations that are building meaningful, holistic, transformative cross-community partnerships and using participants' feedback to guide their program development and implementation.

Recommended for funding

The 2022 Nature in Neighborhood nature education and outdoor experiences grants review committee recommends the following 10 proposals for funding to the Metro Council. The Metro Council makes all final grant decisions and is scheduled to decide final grant awards on October 20, 2022.

Atabey BIPOC Medicine

Recipient: Atabey Medicine

Grant amount: \$50,000

Project Partners: Atabey Medicine, POCA Tech, Alder Commons, Brown Girl Rise, Metro Stewardship Lead Jessica Rojas

Program summary: Atabey BIPOC Medicine program is a local apprenticeship rooted in investing in Black, Indigenous, and folks of color building meaningful relationships with plants, land, and their ancestral healing practices as a pathway to community healing and liberation.

Brown Girl Rise

Recipient: Brown Girl Rise

Grant amount: \$70,000

Project Partners: Brown Girl Rise, Feed'em Freedom Foundation, Atabey Medicine, Alder Commons

Program summary: Brown Girl Rise's mission is to cultivate a sisterhood of girls and non-binary femmes of color engaged in reclaiming their connection to body, community, land, health, and creativity; enabling them to create a just future where we can rise together.

Aves Compartidas Portland Expansion

Recipient: Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation & Development Area

Grant amount: \$70,000

Project Partners: Oregon partners: Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation & Development Area, East Metro STEAM Partnership, North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District, Friends of Trees, Candy Lane Elem, El Puente Elem, Davis Elem, OSU, UO, PSU – LSAMP. Mexico partners: University of Guanajuato, Salvemos al Rio Laja, Audubon de Mexico

Program summary: The Willamette River-Rio Laja, Mexico Twinning Partnership, which connects bi-national watershed communities using a platform of shared migratory bird species, intends to continue and expand its youth migratory bird education program into Portland-Metro.

STEM in Nature

Recipient: Center for African Immigrants and Refugees Organization (CAIRO)

Grant amount: \$50,000

Project Partners: CAIRO, Portland Metro STEM Partnership, Clean Water Services, Beaverton School District, Tualatin Hills Parks & Recreation District, Begona, Reynolds: Multilingual Department

Program summary: Students will learn and practice environmental science focused on water. High school students will also learn about related career paths and act as near-peer leaders for younger student outings.

Nature-Based Bike Camps For Low Income Youth Of Color

Recipient: Community Cycling Center

Grant amount: \$100,00

Project Partners: CCC, Latino Network, César Chávez School; IRCO; Menlo Park Elementary; Parkrose Middle; Hacienda CDC; Rose CDC; Self Enhancement Inc; KairosPDX; Urban Nature Partners PDX; Verde; Club Aves; Friends of Trees Village Gardens; Portland Fruit Tree Project

Program summary: CCC's annual Bike Camp teaches youth how to use a bicycle as a safe, healthy, and empowering transportation tool. Our Bike Camps, which include a special nature education focus, center low-income youth of color including immigrant and refugee populations.

Confluence Outdoors

Recipient: Confluence

Grant amount: \$30,000

Project Partners: Confluence, Sandy River Watershed Council, Beaverton School District’s Title IV Indian Education Program, Hillsboro School District’s Title IV Indian Education Program, Native American Youth and Families Center (NAYA), and the Cottonwood School for Civics and Science

Program summary: Confluence Outdoors will connect at least 200 students (a majority of whom identify as Native American) from Hillsboro, Beaverton and Portland with Indigenous educators at the Sandy River Delta to learn lessons in history, culture, ecology and art.

ELSO Culturally Relevant Programming

Recipient: ELSO

Grant amount: \$100,000

Project Partners: ELSO, The Blueprint Foundation, BEAM Village, Friends of Tryon Creek, Wild Diversity, Metro, US Fish and Wildlife, Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership, Tualatin Riverkeepers, Prescott Elementary School.

Program summary: Expanding and improving year-round, culturally relevant STEM education programs for BIPOC youth which are designed by and for BIPOC communities in collaboration with schools and community organizations, with a focus on expanding STEAM career pathways.

Cultural Ecology and Trauma Healing Project

Recipient: Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center Inc.

Recipient: Parrott Creek Child & Family Services

Grant amount: \$100,000

Project Partners: Parrott Creek Child & Family Services, Friends of Tryon Creek; Greater Oregon City Watershed Council; Red Lodge Transition Services; Oregon Food Bank; Ash Creek Forest Management; 16+ member organizations of the Safe Kids Coalition for Clackamas County

Program summary: The goal of the Cultural Ecology and Trauma Healing Project is to return our 80 acres of land to an ecologically and culturally functioning site through restoration practices, community stewardship, and meaningful long-term Indigenous partnerships.

East County Nature Education

Recipient: Play Grow Learn

Grant amount: \$30,000

Project Partners: Play Grow Learn, City of Gresham, Afro Village, East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District, Friends of Trees, Oasis Wellness Gardens

Program summary: Play, Grow, Learn will incorporate nature education into their existing young workforce development and farmer's market programming.

Wisdom Workforce Development Program

Recipient: Wisdom of the Elders, Inc.

Grant amount: \$100,000

Project Partners: Wisdom of the Elders, Inc., Confluence, Wombyn's Wellness Garden, Johnson Creek Watershed Council, PP&R Community Gardens, Zenger Farm, Friends of Trees, Oswego Lake Watershed Council, East/West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation and Leach Botanical Garden

Program summary: The Wisdom Workforce Development (WWD) Program educates and trains Native American adults in urban environmental restoration and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) through paid part-time opportunities and hands-on restoration techniques in the field.

Attachment A: List of all applicants and their status throughout the review committee recommendation process

2022 Nature in Neighborhoods nature education and outdoor experiences grant applications and review committee funding recommendations

Full Proposals recommended for funding by the review committee

Organization Name	Program Title	Amount Recommended	Program Partners	Potential Partners	Program Summary	Location	Match Funds
Atabey Medicine	Atabey BIPOC Medicine	\$50,000	POCA Tech, Alder Commons, Brown Girl Rise, Metro Stewardship Lead Jessica Rojas	Native Gathering Garden at Cully Park, Come Thru farmers' market, wellness businesses like Open Hand Health and Clary Sage.	Atabey BIPOC Medicine program is a local apprenticeship rooted in investing in Black, Indigenous, and folks of color building meaningful relationships with plants, land, and their ancestral healing practices as a pathway to community healing and liberation.	Multnomah County	\$50,000
Brown Girl Rise	Brown Girl Rise	\$70,000	Feed'em Freedom Foundation, Atabey Medicine, Alder Commons,	SOLVE, NAYA, Wild Diversity, Create More/Fear Less, Teen Force, Team Indigenous Rollerderby	Brown Girl Rise's mission is to cultivate a sisterhood of girls and non-binary femmes of color engaged in reclaiming their connection to body, community, land, health, and creativity; enabling them to create a just future where we can rise together.	Multnomah County	\$80,000
Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation & Development Area	Aves Compartidas Portland Expansion	\$70,000	<u>Oregon Partners:</u> East Metro STEAM Partnership, North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District, Friends of Trees, Candy Lane Elementary, El Puente Elementary, Davis Elementary, OSU, UO, PSU - LSAMP <u>Mexico Partners:</u> University of Guanajuato, Salvemos al Rio Laja, Audubon de Mexico	Riverside Elementary, PSU Institute for Sustainable Solutions, Worksystems, Clackamas and East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Local Watershed Councils, Unite Oregon, Private Industry (additional native plant nurseries), World Oregon	Aves Compartidas Portland Expansion	Clackamas County	\$70,000

Full Proposals recommended for funding by the review committee, continued							
Organization Name	Program Title	Amount Recommended	Program Partners	Potential Partners	Program Summary	Location	Match Funds
Center for African Immigrants and Refugees Organization (CAIRO)	STEM in Nature	\$50,000	Portland Metro Stem Partnership, Clean Water Services, Beaverton School District, Tualatin Hills Parks & Recreation District, Begona, Reynolds: Multilingual Department	We will identify potential partner organizations as needed, but at this time we feel we have who we need to carry this out already in place	Students will learn and practice environmental science focused on water. High school students will also learn about related career paths and act as near-peer leaders for younger student outings.	Washington County	\$50,000
Community Cycling Center	Nature-based Bike Camps for Low-Income Youth of Color	\$100,000	Latino Network, César Chávez School; IRCO; Menlo Park Elementary; Parkrose Middle; Hacienda CDC; Rose CDC; Self Enhancement Inc; KairosPDX; Urban Nature Partners PDX; Verde; Club Aves; Friends of Trees Village Gardens; Portland Fruit Tree Project	None identified	CCC's annual Bike Camp teaches youth how to use a bicycle as a safe, healthy, and empowering transportation tool. Our Bike Camps, which include a special nature education focus, center low-income youth of color including immigrant and refugee populations.	Multnomah County	\$100,000
Confluence	Confluence Outdoors	\$30,000	Sandy River Watershed Council, Beaverton School District's Title IV Indian Education Program, Hillsboro School District's Title IV Indian Education Program, Native American Youth and Families Center (NAYA), and the Cottonwood School for Civics and Science	None identified	Confluence Outdoors will connect at least 200 students (a majority of whom identify as Native American) from Hillsboro, Beaverton and Portland with Indigenous educators at the Sandy River Delta to learn lessons in history, culture, ecology and art.	Washington County	\$30,000

Full Proposals recommended for funding by the review committee, continued

Organization Name	Program Title	Amount Recommended	Program Partners	Potential Partners	Program Summary	Location	Match Funds
ELSO	ELSO Culturally Relevant Programming	\$100,000	The Blueprint Foundation, BEAM Village, Friends of Tryon Creek, Wild Diversity, Metro, US Fish and Wildlife, Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership, Tualatin Riverkeepers, Prescott Elementary School.	Mudbone Grown, Black Food Sovereignty, Open Signal Media	Expanding and improving year-round, culturally relevant STEM education programs for BIPOC youth which are designed by and for BIPOC communities in collaboration with schools and community organizations, with a focus on expanding STEAM career pathways.	Metro-wide	\$100,000
Parrott Creek Child & Family Services	Cultural Ecology and Trauma Healing Project	\$100,000	Friends of Tryon Creek; Greater Oregon City Watershed Council; Red Lodge Transition Services; Oregon Food Bank; Ash Creek Forest Management; 16+ member organizations of the Safe Kids Coalition for Clackamas County	Clackamas Soil & Water Conservation District, Native American Youth and Family Center, Native American Rehabilitation Association, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians and the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon.	The goal of the Cultural Ecology and Trauma Healing Project is to return our 80 acres of land to an ecologically and culturally functioning site through restoration practices, community stewardship, and meaningful long-term Indigenous partnerships.	Clackamas County	\$100,000
Play, Grow, Learn	East County Nature Education	\$30,000	City of Gresham, Afro Village, East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District, Friends of Trees, Oasis Wellness Gardens	None identified	Play, Grow, Learn will incorporate nature education into their existing young workforce development and farmer's market programming.	Multnomah County	\$30,000

Full Proposals recommended for funding by the review committee, continued

Organization Name	Program Title	Amount Recommended	Program Partners	Potential Partners	Program Summary	Location	Match Funds
Wisdom of the Elders, Inc.	Wisdom Workforce Development Program	\$100,000	The Confluence Project and Wombyn's Wellness Garden. Johnson Creek Watershed Council, PP&R Community Gardens, Zenger Farm, Friends of Trees, Oswego Lake Watershed Council, East/West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation and Leach Botanical Garden	Green Workforce Academy (a Collaborative of Ecotrust), Great Spirit United Methodist Church, Blueprint Foundation, PSU Native American Student Community Center, Columbia Slough Watershed Council and Forest Park Conservancy	The Wisdom Workforce Development (WWD) Program educates and trains Native American adults in urban environmental restoration and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) through paid part-time opportunities and hands-on restoration techniques in the field.	Multnomah County	\$280,000

Full Proposals not recommended for funding by the review committee

Organization Name	Program Title	Amount Requested	Program Partners	Potential Partners	Program Summary	Location	Match Funds
Adventures Without Limits	Disability-led, Water Access Coalition and Programming	\$49,980	Oregon Spinal Cord Injury Connection, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Empowering Access, Tualatin Riverkeepers	Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, Portland All Nations Canoe Family, and BIPOC-led organizations with whom USFWS has existing cooperative agreements	This disability led program is focused on water access in Portland by and for the intersectional disabled community. This program consists of four parts: relationship building, on-water community events, coalition efforts, and resource development.	Metro-wide	\$104,690.80

Full Proposals not recommended for funding by the review committee, continued

Organization Name	Program Title	Amount Requested	Program Partners	Potential Partners	Program Summary	Location	Match Funds
The Blueprint Foundation	Grounding Waters and Constructing Careers	\$80,000	Columbia Slough Watershed Council, Forest Park Conservancy, Leach Botanical Garden, Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership, Mudbone Grown, Wisdom of the Elders, AYCO, Johnson Creek Watershed Council, Dharma Rain Zen Center, Friends of Trees, Portland Fruit Tree Project, Portland Parks and Recreation, I'm Hooked, Phi Beta Sigma, NSBE, USFWS, Tryo	Black Futures Farm	The Blueprint Foundation engages Black youth and adults in culturally responsive, project-based training and mentoring that prepares them for family-sustaining careers in the green sector while contributing to environmental justice initiatives.	Multnomah County	\$100,000
Columbia Slough Watershed Council	Free Environmental Education in the Columbia Slough Watershed	\$40,000	Rigler Elementary, Sitton Elementary, Glenfair Elementary, Davis Elementary, Fairview Elementary, Woodland Elementary, POIC/RAHS, Alliance HS at Meek, Helensview High School, Reynolds Learning Academy, NAYA Many Nations Academy, St Andrew Nativity Middle School	Portland Parks & Recreation, Bureau of Environmental Services, Multnomah County Drainage District, City of Gresham, City of Fairview, Portland Water Bureau, East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District	Slough School is the free education program of the Columbia Slough Watershed Council, which provides K-12 school-based environmental education to Title I schools in N and NE Portland, Parkrose, Reynolds, and Gresham-Barlow School Districts.	Multnomah County	\$40,000
Earthontheedge inc.	ivy infestation education and projects	\$10,000	Oregon Episcopal School, Mollalla Academy, Solve Oregon	Milwaukie, David Douglas, and Mollalla High Schools	Giving high school students an opportunity to learn about invasive species' harmful effects on the environment and providing projects to help meet their community service hours required to graduate.	Multnomah County	10,003.30

Full Proposals not recommended for funding by the review committee, continued

Organization Name	Program Title	Amount Requested	Program Partners	Potential Partners	Program Summary	Location	Match Funds
Ecotrust	Green Workforce Academy	\$100,000	The Blueprint Foundation, Native American Youth and Family Center, Self Enhancement, Inc., Wisdom of the Elders, ReBuilding Center, Mudbone Grown, Treecology, Forest Park Conservancy	Urban Greenspace Institute, City of Portland, Leaders Become Legends	Green Workforce Academy supports the next generation of Black and Native environmental leaders in Portland. GWA offers environmental education, career mentorship, and pathways to higher education, internships, and careers in the growing green economy.	Metro-wide	\$125,000
Friends of Zenger Farm	Friends of Zenger Farm	\$92,000	David Douglas School District (DDSD), The Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO) Schools Uniting Neighborhoods (SUN) schools in DDSD, Black Parent Initiative (BPI), Wisdom of the Elders	Hands of Wonder, African Youth Community Organization	Zenger Farm's educational programs connect communities with nature and healthy food systems through various entry points – all prioritizing Black and Indigenous, and people of color, and/or low-income people, who are neighborhood youth and their families.	Multnomah County	\$92,000
Grow Portland	Deepening Environmental Educational partnership with David Douglas Schools	\$60,000	Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO); Geoff Gailey, Science and Health Coordinator, David Douglas School District; Letty Martinez, Flying Dogheart Farm; DDSD Elementary Schools: Menlo Park Mill Park Lincoln Park Ventura Park Gilbert Park	East Portland Resiliency Coalition	We'll expand garden programming at 5 David Douglas elementary schools, adding family events and out of school programming as well as expanding gardens with native plants and signs, to facilitate deeper connections with nature and food for school families	Multnomah County	\$400,000

Full Proposals not recommended for funding by the review committee, continued							
Organization Name	Program Title	Amount Requested	Program Partners	Potential Partners	Program Summary	Location	Match Funds
St. Johns Center for Opportunity	St. Johns Outdoor Community Space	\$15,262	St. Johns Church, St. Johns Center for Opportunity, Microenterprise Services of Oregon, SummerWorks (Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization), Farmers Market Fund, UO, Prosper Portland, St. Johns Sustainability Coalition, Friends of Baltimore Woods	None identified	The parking lot at the corner of N Charleston and N Central in North Portland is home to the St. Johns Farmers Market and St. Johns Sustainability Coalition's annual cleanup. Let's make the space as sustainable as the programs that call it home.	Multnomah County	\$26,360.16
Verde	Club Aves Multicultural Birding and Nature Club	\$100,000	Portland Audubon, Hacienda CDC, Living Cully Coalition	Community Cycling Center	Club Aves builds new generations of environmental stewards through culturally responsive field trip based environmental education for BIPOC and low-income youth and families. Metro funds will help expand the program to reach more youth and families.	Multnomah County	\$217,500
Pre-Applications not invited to submit a Full Proposal by the review committee							
Organization Name	Program Title	Amount Requested	Program Partners	Potential Partners	Program Summary	Location	Match Funds
Restore Arbor Creek	Restore Arbor Creek	\$7,000	Portland Community College	Portland Community College, Metro, Sisters of the Holy Names/Marylhurst Campus	Restore nearly an acre of property full of invasives and has two branches of a creek that merges with another creek and empties one block away into the Willamette River.	Clackamas County	\$7,000
BIPOC Sanctuary (informally Kapwa Sanctuary)	Kapwa Sanctuary Tiny House Retreat Project	\$30,000	Dancing Tree Sanctuary, The Wiancko Foundation, KCC Tibetan Buddhist Center	Various individual small business owners, volunteers, donors, contractors	Kapwa Sanctuary connects low-income BIPOC in the Portland Metro area with tiny forest retreats to take respite out in nature at no cost, in order to remove the financial barrier that keeps many BIPOC out of more traditional retreat spaces.	Multnomah County	\$30,000

Pre-Applications not invited to submit a Full Proposal by the review committee, continued

Organization Name	Program Title	Amount Requested	Program Partners	Potential Partners	Program Summary	Location	Match Funds
Cool Islam	Engaging BIPOC, immigrant and refugee youths in reducing wildfire risk	\$48,000	Forest Park Conservatory, Forest Park South Firewise Community	Forest Park North Firewise Community	To train BIPOC, immigrant and refugee youths in mitigating wildfire risk. They will share information with their own communities and with people who live in and around the WUI lands. They will also encourage their communities to use the parks and trails.	Multnomah County	\$48,000
Dance United	Music in Nature: Unity in Diversity: Community Outdoor Dance Project	\$85,000	Vibe of Portland, Waste Free Advocates, City of Portland - Summer Free for All, Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization	Vive Northwest, Wild Diversity	We will produce multicultural and educational dance events located in parks and outdoors spaces that will serve as a catalyst to enjoy nature while creating a welcoming space for immigrants, communities of color and other historically marginalized groups.	Metro-wide	\$85,000
Forest Park Conservancy	Nature for All	\$75,000	Forest Park Conservancy, Vive NW, Cool Islam	Love is King, Elevate Oregon	This program seeks to increase access to outdoor recreation, environmental education, and stewardship activities for youth and families from Latinx, Islamic and Indigenous communities and break down many of the physical, cultural and economic barriers to participation	Multnomah County	\$85,000
Friends of Trees	School Trees Program	\$100,000	Multnomah County Office of Sustainability, City of Gresham, Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center	David Douglas High School (Centennial), Rigler Elementary (Cully), Davis Elementary (Gresham), Portland State University	Friends of Trees is excited to step back into more formal education and engagement with regional schools on the topics of inequities in our urban tree canopy, healthy urban green spaces, urban heat island effect, tree planting and identification and more.	Multnomah County	\$100,000
Friends of Tryon Creek	Elevating Equity in Environmental Leadership	\$90,000	Oregon State Parks, Blueprint Foundation, Beaverton School District Indian Education Program, Cultural Lifeways Community "Greg Archuleta	Native American Youth and Family Services, HAKI East African Immigrant Community, Camp ELSO, Parrot Creek Child and Family Services, B.E.A.M Village	Elevating Equity in Environmental Leadership (EEEL) Program	Multnomah and Clackamas Counties	\$100,000

Pre-Applications not invited to submit a Full Proposal by the review committee, continued

Organization Name	Program Title	Amount Requested	Program Partners	Potential Partners	Program Summary	Location	Match Funds
Gentrification is WEIRD!	George Park Improvement plan (The Kidz Outside program)	\$70,000	Portland State University's Center for Sustainable Solutions, Sitton Elementary	Roosevelt High School, George Middle School, St Johns Center for Opportunity, North Portland Parks Group,	Building capacity to create Black-led vision for accessible park in North Portland's George Park.	Multnomah County	\$0
Green Lents	Lents Youth Leaderships and Pollinator Habitat Restoration	\$34,202	Rose CDC, Leach Botanical Garden	PPS Lent Elementary School	This collaborative project will build Lents neighborhood resilience to climate change through restoration of urban pollinator habitats, community action, education and paid summer internships for our low-income and BIPOC youth leaders.	Multnomah County	\$34,202
Growing Gardens	Spanish Immersion Nature and Culture Lessons	\$90,000	Our partners for this program are Portland Public Schools (Lent and Scott), Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO) and Latino Network.	We would like to start a partnership with Rigler school (PPS) and their after school SUN program, which is administered by Latino Network.	Youth Grow teaches garden-based environmental education to low-income and BIPOC students to encourage healthy eating and establish a connection to nature. This proposal expands culturally-specific Spanish programming at 3 dual-language immersion schools.	Multnomah County	\$90,000
In this Together Care Farm	In this Together Care Farm	\$5,000	Working Theory Farm, Hillsboro (https://workingtheoryfarm.org/)	Sequoia Mental Health Services, Trees to Soil LLC, Lifeworks NW, Central City Concern, Cartwheel Community Farm	In this Together Care Farm will be a mobile program where adults with mental health diagnoses living in poverty can gain experience in regenerative farming and habitat restoration while receiving food and stipends.	Washington County	\$5,000
Johnson Creek Watershed Council	Bilingual Nature Events in the Johnson Creek Watershed	\$51,656	APANO, African Yout & Community Organization, Zomi Catholic Community, Portland Parks & Recreation, City of Gresham, Friends of Leach Gardens	Verde	The Johnson Creek Watershed Council partners with culturally-specific groups to provide bilingual and bicultural nature tours in east Portland and Gresham. Cultural, environmental, and economic equity are the center of this program.	Clackamas County	\$53,600

Pre-Applications not invited to submit a Full Proposal by the review committee, continued

Organization Name	Program Title	Amount Requested	Program Partners	Potential Partners	Program Summary	Location	Match Funds
Leach Garden Friends	Leach Botanical Garden Health in Nature Program	\$100,000	Wisdom of the Elders, Tenemos Rising, P:EAR, The Blueprint Foundation, African Youth & Community Organization	Oregon Nurses Association, Legacy Health, Portland Public School System/other schools & educators	Mental & Physical health for historically disenfranchised groups, as well as nurses & teachers. Shinrin Yoku, mindfulness, yoga, qi-gong, Traditional Ecological Cultural Knowledge ... led mostly by BIPOC experts. Funding to train BIPOC professionals	Multnomah County	\$100,000
Love is King	Love is King Heritage Events	\$35,000	Forest Park Conservancy is our committed partner. We been in partnership since 2021 working to bridge BIPOC communities into Forest park with Heritage Events.	Potentially we share the same space and have pre talked about partnering with Viva Northwest	Love is King aims to eliminate fear and establish safety for Black, Indigenous, and all people of color while in our public parks or on public lands and is committed to creating a reimagined outdoor environment focused on participation,	Multnomah County	\$35,000
Portland Audubon	Green Leaders Program	\$50,000	This initiative is part of a larger effort with Hacienda CDC, Verde, and Portland Audubon to develop a shared vision for engagement. All three partners participate in four Advisory Council sessions to establish benchmarks and provide real time guidance.	None identified	Portland Audubon's Green Leaders program will connect 8 youth (ages 15-19) from Hacienda CDC as trained environmental educators and changemakers in their own community, linking 50 families to the outdoors with 170 hours of programs in local greenspaces.	Multnomah County	\$50,000
Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center Inc.	Natural Resource Pathway Program	\$50,000	Friends of Trees, Portland Parks and Recreation, Columbia Slough Watershed Council, US Fish and Wildlife Service	None identified	Through the Natural Resource Pathway Program, POIC+RAHS, Friends of Trees, and Portland Parks and Recreation provide low-income youth and youth of color with many nature education opportunities via habitat repair, career-track mentorship, and more.	Multnomah County	\$100,000

Pre-Applications not invited to submit a Full Proposal by the review committee, continued

Organization Name	Program Title	Amount Requested	Program Partners	Potential Partners	Program Summary	Location	Match Funds
ROSE Community Development	Little Explorers	\$20,000	Providence Beginnings, African Family Holistic Health Organization, Portland Homeless Family Solutions, Women First, Future Generations Collaborative, Women's Doula Alliance, Guerreras Latinas, and Healthy Birth Initiative from the Multnomah	Leach Botanical Garden, Audubon Society of Portland, Metro, Urban Nature Partners, Multnomah County Library	Parent leaders and community partners from the Baby Booster Initiative will co-create nature-based activities for families with young children in order to reduce chronic stress and improve social, emotional, and mental health.	Multnomah County	\$20,000
Tryon Creek Watershed Council	KKJ Program - Kufurahisha na Kuelimisha Jamii, or Fun Community Education	\$70,000	HAKI Community Organization, West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District	Westside Watershed Resource Center, Friends of Tryon Creek, Oswego Lake WC, PP&R, BES Green Streets, BHCP, PCC Sylvania, Sauvie Island Center, Jackson MS, Oregon Zoo, Tryon Life Comm Farm (Many of these committed in 2020 & mutual interest in re-applying)	The Kufurahisha na Kuelimisha Jamii, or Fun Community Education program, will provide outdoor excursions for Portland's intergenerational Swahili-speaking refugee community, reducing barriers to environmental experiences and building a sense of place.	Multnomah and Washington Counties	\$70,000
Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District	Nature Experiences and Workforce Training (NEWT): Changing the Face of the Field	\$100,000	Adelante Mujeres, Beaverton School District (BSD)	Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District (matching funds) and Clean Water Services/Tree for All	THPRD will partner with Adelante Mujeres, Beaverton School District and others to provide after school nature programming for Latinx audiences and expand our current multi-year, workforce development program focusing on Latinx students.	Washington County	\$120,000

Pre-Applications not invited to submit a Full Proposal by the review committee, continued

Organization Name	Program Title	Amount Requested	Program Partners	Potential Partners	Program Summary	Location	Match Funds
Willamette Partnership	Connecting children to food, culture, and nature	\$45,000	Right From the Start, Mudbone Grown, Black Oregon Land Trust, Womb Homb Collective	Snap-Ed, Oregon Foodbank, Growing Gardens	Mudbone Grown, RFTS, BOLT, Womb Homb, and OHOI are connecting children to food, culture, and nature by building site-specific learning gardens, creating a community outdoor classroom, and offering training and resources to Black childcare providers.	Multnomah and Washington Counties	\$45,000
Willamette Partnership	Expanding Access to Outdoor Preschools	\$30,000	Down to Earth Forest School, United Way, Outdoor Early Learning Coalition of Oregon	Other members of the Outdoor Early Learning Initiative including preschool providers in the Portland Metro area, Environmental Education Association of Oregon, Oregon Natural Resource Education Program, CCR&R, Preschool for All, Right from the Start	Through capacity-building, storytelling, and advocacy, we are building a future where families of any background in the Metro area have the choice to send their kids to an accessible outdoor or nature-based preschool and reap the benefits of being outside	Metro-wide	\$30,000
World Salmon Council	Salmon Watch	\$20,000	The Blueprint Foundation, Willamette Valley Environmental Education group, East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, The Bureau of Land Management	The Latino Network, NAYA Family Center	World Salmon Council's (WSC) mission is to provide experiential education and encounters with wild salmon to connect students with nature and empower community engagement through field trips, service projects, and classroom activities.	Metro-wide	\$30,480

STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 22-5287, FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPROVING 2022 NATURE IN NEIGHBORHOODS NATURE EDUCATION AND OUTDOOR EXPERIENCES COMMUNITY GRANTS

Date: September 29,2022

Prepared by: Karissa Lowe, Mychal Tetteh

BACKGROUND

For nearly two decades, the Metro Council has provided funding for grants to community groups, nonprofits, and other organizations designed to support and create partnerships in local communities that improve water quality, fish and wildlife habitat and connect people with nature.

In May 2013, voters approved Measure 26-152, providing new funding for Metro's parks and natural areas and providing increased funding for Nature in Neighborhoods community grants, which were referred to the voters by Metro Council (Resolution 12-4398). The Metro Council awarded Conservation Education grants in July 2014 (Resolution14-4549), in July 2015 (Resolution 15-4635), in July 2016 (Resolution 16-4691) in June 2018 (Resolution 18-4896), and in June 2020 (Resolution 20-5114). In November 2016, voters renewed the Metro parks and natural areas levy with Measure 26-178, which continued funding for Nature in Neighborhoods community grants, which were referred to the voters by Metro Council (Resolution 16-4690). In June 2016, the Metro Council adopted the Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (Resolution 16-4708), which directs the agency to incorporate racial equity into all aspects of its work.

Grant program staff used the framework provided by Metro Council in Resolution No. 12-4398, Resolution No. 16-4690, and Resolution No. 16-4708 to develop an outreach plan, application materials, review committee and evaluation criteria for these community grants, referred to as Nature Education and Outdoor Experiences grants. Staff aligned Metro's grant criteria with state, regional and community initiatives in order to achieve multiple benefits.

Grant Evaluation Criteria

The following are the purpose and three goal categories for funding. Fulfillment of these purpose and goals are the primary evaluation criteria for the proposals submitted to the Nature in Neighborhoods community grants program:

Purpose

Nature education grants support and create partnerships in local communities that improve water quality, fish and wildlife habitat and connect people with nature.

Cultural equity

People of all cultures, races and traditions connect with nature and with one another in the region's parks and natural areas.

Environmental equity

Communities of color in greater Portland enjoy the benefits of conserving land, air and water and equitable access to safe and welcoming parks, trails and natural areas; communities enjoy learning about, helping restore, experiencing and connecting with nature and the region's natural areas.

These grants help address inequities in the conservation movement by providing access to nature and the positive impacts of clean land, air and water to Black communities, Indigenous communities, communities of color and other historically and continually marginalized groups in greater Portland.

Economic equity

Communities of color prosper economically from the business of Parks and Nature in greater Portland.

Review committee

Jonathan Blasher, Parks and Nature Director, selected this year's review committee from a pool of applicants. Participation on the grant review committee is by application, open and advertised to all community members. The review committee included local experts in nature education, outdoor experiences, cultural programs, mentorship and job skill development, diversity, equity and inclusion, community partnership development, philanthropy, grant management and related fields.

The members of the 2022 Nature in Neighborhoods Nature education and outdoor experiences grants review committee are:

- Gwen Amsbury, *Records Management Analyst*, Oregon State Archives
- Faith Cathcart, *On Call Grants Coordinator*, Zenger Farm
- Ridhi D'Cruz, *Member*, Atabey BIPOC Medicine Council; *Program Instructor*, Your Street Your Voice, Camp ELSO; *Core Artist Resident*, Stelo Arts
- Kolini Fusitua, *Program Coordinator*, Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization
- Isaiah Jackman, *Housing Specialist*, Urban League of Portland
- Aisha McCoy, *Project Developer*, Homes for Good
- Lucy Ohlsen, *Associate Attorney*, Buchanan Angeli Altschul & Sullivan
- Jen Shih, *Grants and Enrollment Specialist*, Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District
- Wilson Yee, *Project Manager (CERCLA and Navajo Nation sites, Stafford Act)*, Weston Solutions, Inc. and Board Member, Friends of Tryon Creek

Committee members declared any direct conflict of interest in the proposals and did not score or participate directly in the discussion or ranking of an application where there was a conflict.

2022 Nature in Neighborhoods nature education and outdoor experiences grants review discussion

Due to the large number of applications, Metro's Nature in Neighborhoods nature education and outdoor experiences grant program follows a two-step process including a pre-application phase and a full application phase. The review committee evaluated pre-applications and full applications based on the information submitted by applicants, the stated evaluation criteria, and the review committee's professional and collective judgment.

This funding opportunity was extremely competitive, as Metro received many very strong grant proposals. The review committee determined which proposals were the closest match to the grant program's purpose and goals based on the information submitted, the stated evaluation criteria, and the review committee's professional and collective judgment. The review committee included local experts in environmental education, habitat restoration, natural area land management, conservation planning, mentorship and job skill development, diversity equity and inclusion, community partnership development, philanthropy, and grant management.

In the sixth round of the renewed natural areas levy grants, the review committee valued the range of organizations, project types and project scales represented in the pre-applications submitted. There is solid geographic diversity in this slate of proposals, with five projects focused on Multnomah County, two projects focused on Clackamas County, two projects focused on Washington County, and one with a Metro-wide focus. Proposals came from a mix of culturally specific organizations and conservation focused organizations and included both organizations familiar to this program and many first-time applicants.

Proposals recommended for funding show strong evidence of involvement from BIPOC groups in proposal planning and development. This review committee was especially compelled by proposals from more grassroots and community led organizations, and several proposals recommended for funding are from smaller organizations that are earlier in their development, many of which are new to this funding opportunity. Overall, half of the organizations recommended for funding are larger organizations and half are small or medium-sized organizations.

The review committee members were happy to see strong evidence of BIPOC leadership's influence in proposals focused on work done by and with BIPOC communities, rather than for them.

The review committee was pleased that many of the proposals acknowledge the connection between nature and mental health, and the need to decolonize our relationship with nature. They appreciated proposals that centered the voices and perspectives of young people, and which aim to help youth build leadership skills and learn about STEM careers. Several proposals recommended for funding feature strong economic equity components, whether by paying stipends for participants, creating career pathways, or explicitly naming other steps that the organization will take to remove economic barriers to participation.

The review committee valued projects which aligned with the Nature in Neighborhood grant goals, individual organizations' plans or priorities, and state, regional or local conservation strategies. They found proposals stronger when they demonstrated longstanding and holistic partnerships

with communities and community-specific organizations. Proposals which showed newer, less established relationships with community-specific organizations were less competitive.

The review committee felt that nearly all applicants had strong and thorough answers about their diversity, equity and inclusion experience, and this was especially true for organizations that advanced to the full application phase. The review committee was glad to see the applicant organizations being thoughtful and clear about where's they're currently at with their equity work and about their next steps.

Applicant organizations' ability to pivot and evolve their programs in response to safety concerns around the pandemic impressed the review committee. Applicants' resilience and determination in the face of these challenges has led to new ways of delivering programs and connecting with community, and the review committee is eager to see how the work will continue to evolve.

The review committee was compelled by proposals that projects that acknowledge that communities' relationship with and access to nature is complicated, and projects that incorporated innovative strategies to build program participants' connection with nature and their sense of safety and personal empowerment in outdoor spaces. They appreciated organizations that are building meaningful, holistic, transformative cross-community partnerships and using participants' feedback to guide their program development and implementation.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the approval of the slate of grants indicated in Exhibit A of this Resolution. Metro received 41 pre-applications, totaling \$2.45 million in funding requests and 19 full applications, totaling \$1.24 million. The review committee reviewed the pre-applications and full applications according to the grant criteria and recommends **ten (10)** grants for funding a total of **seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000)** to the Metro Council (see Exhibit A).

Pending Metro Council approval, grant-funded projects will begin October 20, 2022. Grant applicants may have up to three years to complete their projects.

ANALYSIS/INFORMATION

1. Known Opposition

None.

2. Legal Antecedents

Resolution No. 20-5114, For the Purpose of Approving the 2020 Nature in Neighborhoods Nature Education and Outdoor Experiences Community Grants.

Resolution No. 18-4896, For the Purpose of Approving the 2018 Nature in Neighborhoods Nature Education and Outdoor Experiences Community Grants.

Resolution No. 16-4690, For the Purpose of Referring to the Voters of the Metro Area Renewal of the Metro's Local Option Levy for Protecting Water Quality, Restoring Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Connecting People to Nature.

Resolution 16-4708, For the Purpose of Approving the Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

Resolution 16-4723, For the Purpose of Approving the 2016 Nature in Neighborhoods Conservation Education Community Grants.

Resolution 15-4635, For the Purpose of Approving the 2015 Nature in Neighborhoods Conservation Education Community Grants.

Resolution No. 14-4549, For the Purpose of Approving the 2014 Nature in Neighborhoods Conservation Education Community Grants.

Resolution No. 12-4398, For the Purpose of Referring to the Voters of the Metro Area a Local Option Levy for the Purpose of Preserving Water Quality, Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Maintaining Metro's Parks and Natural Areas for the Public.

Resolution No. 05-3574A, Establishing a Regional Habitat Protection, Restoration and Greenspaces Initiative called Nature in Neighborhoods.

Resolution 05-3580A, Transferring \$1,250,000 from the Balance of the FY 2004-05 Recovery Rate Stabilization Reserve to a General Fund Reserve for Nature in Neighborhoods Restoration Projects.

Ordinance No. 07-1160B, Transferring \$250,000 from the Recovery Rate Stabilization Reserve Fund for Nature in Neighborhoods Restoration Projects.

Ordinance No. 09-1215B, Approving \$92,500 in the FY 2009-10 Budget and Appropriation Schedule for an additional round of Nature in Neighborhoods Restoration and Enhancement grants.

Ordinance No. 10-1235B, Approving \$150,000 in the FY 2010-11 Budget and Appropriation Schedule for an additional round of Nature in Neighborhoods Restoration and Enhancement grants.

Ordinance No. 12-1274A, Approving \$200,000 in the FY 2012-13 Budget and Appropriation Schedule for an additional round of Nature in Neighborhoods Restoration and Enhancement grants.

3. Anticipated Effects

This Resolution approves the award of 2022 Nature in Neighborhood nature education and outdoor experiences community grants and begins the individual contract award process for the selected grant applicants with an anticipated project start date on or after October 20, 2022. Projects may be up to three years in length.

4. Budget Impacts

This Resolution authorizes award of contracts in an amount previously identified by the Metro Council in the budget for this purpose. The adopted FY 2022-23 budget includes the necessary appropriation authority for reimbursement of these grants.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Chief Operating Officer recommends approval of Resolution No. 22-5287.