



Agenda

Meeting: Natural Areas and Capital Program Performance Oversight Committee
Date: Thursday, February 23
Time: 4:00–6:00 p.m.
Place: Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81311631634?pwd=aXNOYVpKL2lpK01ucVAwa2ZFtDZWdz09>
Webinar ID: 813 1163 1634 / Passcode: 194968 / +1 253 215 8782
Purpose: Discuss approach to preparing committee’s year 2 report; continue deep dive into bond projects and programs
Note: Public testimony will not be heard at this meeting; however, the committee accepts written comments. Please email parksandnaturebond@oregonmetro.gov

- 4:00 p.m. Welcome and introductions
- 4:10 p.m. *Discussion item:* shape plan for developing committee’s year 2 report
- 4:30 p.m. *Informational item:* Spotlight on bond community engagement criteria through presentation on upcoming community engagement activities around Blue Lake Park Renovation project
- 5:20 p.m. *Discussion item:* committee working group report out, identification of intersecting topics from working groups
- 6:00 p.m. Adjourn

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Meeting minutes

Meeting: Natural Areas and Capital Program Performance Oversight Committee
 Date/time: February 23, 2023, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
 Place: Virtual meeting (Zoom) recording link in notes
 Purpose: Discuss approach to preparing committee’s year 2 report; continue deep dive into bond projects and programs
 Note: Public testimony will not be heard at this meeting or in the breakout sessions; however, the committee accepts written comments. Please email parksandnaturebond@oregonmetro.gov

Committee Members:

Burt Edwards
 Georgena Moran
 John Ferguson
 Michelle Lin
 PK Melethil
 Tabitha Palmer DuPrau
 Cary Watters
 Vivek Shandas
 Shannon Shoul
 Erin Upton
 Owen Wozniak

Council Representatives:

Councilor Ashton Simpson, District 1
 Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, District 3

Absent

Tana Atchley Culbertson
Shantae Johnson
Martita Meier

Staff:

Beth Cohen, Metro
 Chantia Clarke, Metro
 MG Devereux, Metro
 Shannon Leary, Metro
 Humberto Marquez Mendez, Metro
 Dan Moeller, Metro
 Eduardo Ramos, Metro
 Melanie Reinert, Metro
 Mychal Tetteh, Metro
 Olena Turula, Metro

Recording: <https://vimeo.com/802064638/aabad3e472>

Burt welcomed the group and led introductions of attendees.

He noted that the agenda order changed slightly, and that report outs from the working groups be moved up in the order.

MG provided staff updates and reminded the members to state intersections between personal/professional work and bond spending.

- Erin shared her work with Dialogues in Action, which is contracted with Metro on impact evaluation.
- Members who still want one-on-ones with MG can reach out to Melanie for scheduling.
- This morning Council reappointed some members to the second of their two-year terms on the committee.
- Bryan Mercier has withdrawn from the committee due to other commitments.

- As Lisa needed to step away from the co-chair role last year, Cary has accepted the role of co-chair in her place. Metro Council President will confirm this with a letter.
- Councilor Craddick's term at Metro ended at the beginning of this year, and Councilor Ashton Simpson represents District 1 and will take her place as a Council liaison to the committee. The Councilor introduced himself.

Burt asked the working groups to report on their meetings earlier in February via a representative.

PK presented for the land acquisition group (*also refer to separate meeting notes*).

- Acquisition of land is a long process, and the 2006 bond measure is still acquiring properties. As many easier to acquire properties have been obtained with previous bonds, staff are now working on more challenging acquisitions.
- There are only 19 members representing the metro community, which is one committee member to almost 40,000 people. PK has been discussing with staff how to broaden transparency and equity and increase community engagement as part of the committee's role.
- Consider how Metro can make its documents more accessible. He cited the recent annual report's online format without a pdf as an example. PDFs are easily downloaded and understood, and PK recommends those for accessibility.
- Consider how much material the committee is asked to read, ensure that staff read it as well so there is understanding of time commitment. This gives an estimate of the amount of time a community member would need to get engaged with the material.
- Consider brevity, fact sheets, readability of presentations of Metro's work.

John shared that the group felt another tool would be useful—Look at the region from 10,000 feet to see locations, the connectivity of habitats and see patterns over the years regarding large habitat areas and needed connections.

- This tool could be updated every few years and shared with the public to show progress and evolution over time. This would be helpful for the committee and where purchases could be prioritized in the future.

Vivek noted the focus on how Metro has set up the bond's climate resilience criteria in the land acquisition closing memoranda.

- The criteria is tied to federal ESA listings and other conservation goals in place.
- He learned about the engagement with Indigenous communities on the bond and thought about how to characterize the equity work within the criteria.
- In the closing memoranda, consider how can Metro show equity goals are being met. Consider the targets of the program as well.

Burt asked if the committee had questions or responses to the group.

- Georgena had comments regarding the second-year report documents and held those until that part of the agenda.
- John shared that the group discussed what bond criteria are being met on each land purchase.
 - Staff shared summary graphs indicating what criteria have been met on last 12 purchases, and this was a good feature and evaluating tool.
- Beth shared that the working groups' comments and work will go into the year-end report and periodic staff reports and reflect their feedback.

Michelle presented from the community engagement group (*refer to separate meeting notes*).

- The group heard a presentation on the Community Choice grants program, which allows community to decide grant awards.
- The group discussed the year-two report contents, understanding in the engagement process beyond statistics and numbers on sessions and attendees, to understand how the feedback has been used and how feedback influences decision-making.
 - Also consider showing how engaged participants are, and if there is continuity of engagement over time.
- Some other processes have had less engagement, and the group discussed opportunities for increased and deepened engagement.

Georgena added an interest in how participants in the engagement process will be informed of how their input is affecting the future of Metro's work. This goes beyond the scope of the bond.

Burt asked for comments and responses from other members.

- PK shared that the committee and Metro's greatest challenge is to increase community engagement. This is the biggest component of these measures, and government is often seen as not getting enough feedback. We need to help make Metro's work products more accessible.

Burt asked staff about past work on the accessibility issues PK raised.

- MG shared that this bond is markedly different than previous measures, particularly in the focus on community engagement. Parks and Nature has historically tried to have high levels of community engagement in its breadth of work and the goal is to have this feedback reflected in the work.
 - In the formation of the 2019 bond, there was a strong effort to bring in community voices and continue conversations over time to influence the measure. Part of this bond work was and is building relationships.
 - The renewed levy implementation also follows the bond criteria for a consistent approach and is being updated as we learn from the bond.
 - The community engagement group conversation underscored how large and complex the bond is and the importance of how the work is communicated as well as the emphasis on how the three criteria are centered in all work. The engagement efforts, work and related communications are also being approached by the agency as a whole.
- Georgena suggested that engagement participants directly get input on potentials before they are implemented.
 - MG shared that Olena's presentation on Blue Lake will also show some of the project engagement work and processes.

Cary shared on behalf of the bond finance working group (*refer to separate notes*).

- The group heard about the bond spend so far and discussed COBID participation rates. There are different ways to show COBID information, and hierarchies in certification types in presentations of data can sometimes not tell the whole story to the public about performance.
- They discussed the shift from C2P2 to the Construction Careers Pathway Program into the Regional Workforce Equity Agreement. The group was curious about the form and implications of the new model.
- They discussed the administrative rate, which had previously drawn public comment to the committee. When looking at spends each year, is it possible to show anticipated milestones to allow committee to compare after the fact whether anticipation was met. This would be helpful in general and on the administrative rate.

- The group was curious about impacts of changing market conditions and whether to expect a change of pace in the land acquisition work as a result.

Tabitha shared perspective on the administrative rate in real estate and how sometimes large expenditures require large staffing levels. The group fleshed out understanding of how effective of a tool the rate is.

Cary noted differentiation between admin costs associated with capital projects as compared to indirect overhead costs and shared her experiences in the nonprofit sector and pressures to lower admin rates there. She encouraged Metro to show full value that may not be apparent at surface level.

Burt asked for comments and responses.

- Erin asked in chat: I was curious if the numbers about engaging COBID contractors in the Slide Deck 3 (38%)- if this percentage is higher compared to the past? Are there particular goals? Is this showing an improvement?
- Cary also had a question about whether the 30% rate included prime contractors or was related to subcontractor equity. This would be good to highlight in the report.
 - Staff will follow up with an answer and trends over time. The floor is set at 20% COBID participation, and participation has been increasing over time. Beth believed the data included both prime and sub-contractors. Analysis of this data will continue to be refined.

MG introduced community engagement for the Blue Lake Park maintenance work. (refer to slide deck 2)

- This is an example of overall bond engagement processes filtering down to a project level in the taking care of Metro parks program.
- The hope is to give the committee an understanding of how the overarching bond goals are being implemented in the community engagement at a project level.
- Engagement work should ensure that program work represents community members over time, and participants should have a clear understanding of the realistic boundaries of decision-making for that engagement effort.
- Community should be shown how their feedback has shaped the work over time and if feedback could not be implemented, we can clearly explain why.
- We have learned lessons over time, in translation work and language interpretation at events, for example. Engagement for this bond is meant to build relationships with community rather than a one-time approach for participation.
 - There is a volume of past feedback about Blue Lake Park from community already, and this feedback is also being referenced for this project.
 - This phase is an opportunity to revisit the feedback with communities who provided input on the Blue Lake Park project during bond development, and to show how plans have taken shape.
- MG noted the unique qualities of Blue Lake Park in the Metro parks portfolio—It is the only site with a developed access to a lake, have large structures for gathering outdoors, and has existing buildings in various states of degradation in need of demolition or restoration.

Olena, a landscape architect and planner in Parks and Nature shared slides highlighting the Blue Lake Park engagement work and provided background information on the park, which is the most used park in the Metro system and is used by diverse communities (refer to slide deck 2).

- Work that community prioritized has moved forward first. Utilities and facilities are being upgraded and the park will be renovated in phases that are informed by future engagement.
- Engagement includes community, partner agencies and tribal governments, and internal Metro discussions.
- Community engagement should be focused on areas where they can make an impact and affect project outcomes. Engagement goes beyond this project and is meant to build long-term relationships with Metro.
- Three levels of engagement are planned: a broad, light touch, focus groups with a medium audience for a deeper dive, and a partner cohort consisting of a small group with deep engagement.
- The project team has an Indigenous community consultant on it, and the work has a specific track for Indigenous community engagement.
- Engagement best practices such as translation, interpretation, stipends and meals are planned.
 - Engaging with systemically oppressed groups, making the process accessible, and clearly communicating work and results is an overarching goal of the work.

Cary asked about the Indigenous community engagement, both with community and at a government-to-government level with tribes.

- Olena shared that the community work done on this team is separate from the government engagement, and they have coordinated with Metro's tribal liaison for the government level engagement plans.
- Olena can follow up with more details, as there was interest in the topic.

Councilor Rosenthal asked about transit accessibility to the park and what can be done to allow this, as it would enhance accessibility.

- Staff confirmed the closest bus stop is 1.5 miles away, and that coordination with TriMet to get a stop at the park would be wonderful.

Owen saw the project has been a lot of work and asked how typical this level of engagement work is in parks planning.

- Olena felt this was typical, as the department seeks to bring results in line with what community desires but noted that the Blue Lake attendance is by far the largest of Metro's parks, and this necessitates even more higher levels of engagement.

Shannon was excited by the work and asked if the goals are agency-wide or only for this project. She suggested the additional goal of a learning platform or model for long-term future uses of the park. There may be insights not able to be executed there or now that might be useful at other times or other sites.

- Olena felt this was useful and could be incorporated. Feedback at Blue Lake has often filtered out to other work in the portfolio.

Georgena suggested that before public transit can be arranged at Blue Lake, Metro could work with other transit groups like Adventures Without Limits, Audubon Society, or Independent Living Resources for increased ADA transit options.

- She also addressed a chat comment about committee interest in regular progress updates on community engagement, confirming she'd want to hear the information as engagement occurs.
- Olena appreciated the suggestions and will work with the group about bringing updates.

Tabitha asked how marginalized communities who are engaged are identified and how much response is there. Some communities such as refugees and immigrants may be more dispersed or harder to reach.

- Olena shared that the process hasn't started yet for this project, and she can follow-up. Staff are starting with community organizations and partners who worked on other areas and phases of the bond to reach out through their networks and identify groups. This is a result of building relationships over the course of the bond work.

Tabitha asked who are specific partners, suggesting refugee resettlement services, schools and churches.

- Olena shared that the team's community engagement specialist is working with organizations who have engaged on several projects and can follow up with specifics.
- For Indigenous community engagement staff are relying on their consultant who has been building long-term relationships within the community.
- Beth shared that staff are also considering methods for successful post-engagement evaluation. Staff will track metrics of participation, but also seek feedback on the impacts and the engagement process itself from participants.

PK appreciated the presentation and the value of engagement with community. He asked if the team is involved with the people who fish at Blue Lake and the stocking of the lake. The stocked lake is a great opportunity for community to get food when spending time in nature.

- Olena shared that ODFW stocks Blue Lake, and that Parks and Nature has a partnership with Get Hooked to get kids fishing at Blue Lake. Staff have also worked with community on how to make the lake more accessible.

Councilor Simpson asked if the team has engaged with Play East, Beyond Black to Play and Learn, and Youth PDX, who could provide valuable feedback on accessibility. The National Association of Black Veterans also works to get local youth into nature.

Councilor Rosenthal noted the wide range of uses at the park by many different communities. He asked if there were lists of which communities generally use each park and what the range of uses were. This could also be a tool for outreach.

- Beth shared that lists of neighbors and some park users exist, and these are used to create Good Neighbor letters that go out before major work or projects at the parks.
- Outside of the bond community grants and programming for community groups and partners are done at park sites. Those contacts are also sources of relationship building and receive updates on park projects and engagement opportunities. This is a good thing to think about with the committee.

Councilor Rosenthal noted there are many different communities with very different needs, and this diversity should be considered.

Erin asked in the chat: Maybe this question can be addressed in the Community Engagement working group, but I'm curious about scale of engagement for projects in general- does the focus tend to be geographic (specific to the where the park or nature area is located), or is the outreach also extended to community in the entire Metro region?

- Beth responded that for other bond engagements such as land acquisition engagement was regional with focus on BIPOC community feedback.
- Olena felt there was both a regional and park-local level to the work and noted past data indicated 35% of Blue Lake visitors were from a 5-mile radius and 35% were from a 10-mile radius. This park is an opportunity to serve east Multnomah County.

Erin noted the challenges of getting people to engage and the opportunities to overlap on other projects in the region. There could be opportunities to get communities together to talk about multiple projects and programs. Does Metro consider this approach?

- Olena explained that coordinated approaches are used when possible. There is also a need to bring clarity to engagements about what is being asked. Feedback relevant to other projects is also passed along.

Georgena asked that staff bring a list back to the committee once the parties being engaged are determined.

- Beth and Olena can follow-up on outreach and partner cohorts, likely in May or June. Previously engaged groups and those likely to be contacted can also be shared out.

Burt introduced the discussion on the committee's second year report to Metro Council.

He asked the Councilors for any comments or recommendations based on past reports.

- Councilor Rosenthal felt good input on how Metro could identify and engaged different communities is valuable.

Beth shared the proposed timeline, as last year's report was presented to Council in late May.

- The committee could use the working groups in early April to work on the report.
- The meeting on April 25 will further that work, and the report can be refined from there in May working groups.
- Presentation to Council could be in June. (refer to slide deck)
-

The committee was asked to consider the following questions:

1. How would the committee like to drive the process? Similar to last year or different?
2. What questions does the committee want to ask/answer for this report?
3. How can each of the three working groups tackle a specific set of questions?
4. What are key pieces of information that the committee would like to consider for the report?

Georgena shared that her concerns/comments had been addressed in earlier discussion.

Erin wanted to know about future goalposts, what's been achieved and where the work is headed in addition to looking back in the report.

- Beth noted this was a common theme across the working groups and can be taken into account moving ahead.

Burt returned to previous comments about visualization tools and accessibility of information in the report and sought further feedback from the committee.

- Tabitha felt this would help differentiate the funding and work progress between the specific programs and overall spend.
 - Show interconnection and progress in discrete areas, explain the timelines and progress, factors impacting those. Show the progress and commitments made for the future work.
 - She noted money spent is often the last step of the work at Metro.

Shannon wanted to clarify the purpose of the report: Is the report on the committee's activity or the bond?

- MG explained that the committee’s purpose is to reflect on the work that Parks and Nature has done over the last year to signal to Council that it is within the bond criteria and used for the purposes legislatively outlined. Committee may make recommendations.

Shannon wanted to clarify the voice of the report, noting the use of “we” was not in past reports from the 2006 bond oversight committee in reference to what Metro was doing, but rather “we” was the voice of the committee as they did oversight work.

- MG explained “we” incorporates the change in the committee’s role for the 2019 bond, as the new overarching bond criteria create an additional layer to the work done for the 2006 bond reports.
- Beth explained that staff will gather information in a staff report as a resource for the committee, and the committee report is a response to that or highlighting elements of that.
- Shannon wanted to make sure that the voice of oversight was present in the report.

Burt asked for feedback or changes from the approach taken on the year-one report.

- Shannon supported the proposed process and requested that the report work timeframe be announced well in advance.
- She asked whether work being divided up by subcommittee or done as a group?
 - Burt felt working groups would have sectional work on the report and intersections could be discussed more broadly.
 - Beth felt the information could be arranged for this approach with a bond-wide look to show intersections.
- Erin felt looking at the bond criteria across programs, not just in subcommittees, would be a good approach, as the working groups don’t cover all the programs.
- Georgena asked how many community outreach items would be proposed before the end of the report and how would they be presented in the report.
 - Beth can follow up further and also noted that this year’s engagement and upcoming work at Blue Lake wouldn’t be covered in this report’s timeframe.

Burt asked for thoughts on climate topics in the report.

- Owen felt it was an important topic and will contribute to that.
- Erin felt reflecting on the previous presentation on climate resiliency would be helpful.

Burt encouraged members to continue to reach out to him and to staff with thoughts and questions. The committee hopes to have some site visits later this year and welcomes thoughts on that.

Burt ended the meeting.

February 23, 2023 meeting Zoom chat

- 00:19:15 Erin Upton (she/her): Thanks Cary!
- 00:19:24 Mychal Tetteh (he/him): Thank you Cary
- 00:20:01 Cary Watters (she/her): Thanks all! I'm super excited to serve in this capacity!
- 00:20:44 Owen Wozniak: Welcome, Councilor Simpson!
- 00:20:49 Owen Wozniak: And I love the Zoom background.
- 00:21:12 Cary Watters (she/her): Yes, welcome, Councilor Simpson! So glad to have you on board!
- 00:33:40 Shannon (she/her) Shoul: Yes, please, Beth. Thanks
- 00:35:25 Georgena Moran - Access Recreation (she/her): I agree with PK about making the information available in pdf's when brought to the committee and the public.
- 00:36:30 Burt Edwards, he/him/his: Tana joined us as well
- 00:36:50 Beth (she/her): <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/tools-partners/grants-and-resources/nature-grants/capital-grants/capital-grants-pilot>
- 00:37:34 Melanie Reinert (She/her): The working group summaries and links to recordings are posted in the virtual resource library if anyone needs them, as well.
- 00:44:36 Beth (she/her): good question...we have offered translation and interpretation in many areas of the bond engagement. Olena may touch on that related to the blue lake park project and we can share more about what materials have been translated. staff may pop an example of two in the chat. but important to add in the year 2 report as a data point
- 00:45:42 PK Melethil: Good point, Vivek.
- 00:49:24 Erin Upton (she/her): I was curious if the numbers about engaging COBID contractors in the Slide Deck 3 (38%)- if this percentage is higher compared to the past? Are there particular goals? Is this showing an improvement?
- 00:50:55 Erin Upton (she/her): Thanks Beth
- 00:51:22 Shannon Leary (she/her) Metro Parks and Nature: RE: pace of acquisition - the quarterly report Beth sends out includes some supplemental information specifically about land acquisition. One item covered there is around constraints and we talk a bit about pace. Happy to follow up with you if helpful.
- 01:00:55 Burt Edwards, he/him/his: In the discussion after the Blue Lake presentation we were hoping to hear from the committee on a couple fronts:

- How does this case study help the committee with providing useful oversight guidance to staff and council around community engagement? What other context is needed?
- Is the committee interested in hearing about the progress on these community engagement activities regularly? What information would help evaluate success of these activities?
- What additional topics related to this project or other bond community engagement topics would the committee like to hear about?

01:16:46 Erin Upton (she/her): Thanks Olena. That was all helpful to learn about.

01:25:57 PK Melethil: Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization (IRCO) may be a good partner.

01:26:08 Erin Upton (she/her): Maybe this question can be addressed in the Community Engagement working group, but I'm curious about scale of engagement for projects in general- does the focus tend to be geographic (specific to the where the park or nature area is located), or is the outreach also extended to community in the entire Metro region?

01:26:52 Burt Edwards, he/him/his: Good question Erin. Any comments from Metro staff?

01:27:19 Cary Watters (she/her): I assume that you have good working relationships with the Coalition of Communities of Color, which can be a great first point of contact with culturally-specific community based organizations

01:36:35 Beth (she/her): thank you Cary, we do (both as an agency and department) as well as some of the members of the coalition. it is a great organization

01:36:54 Cary Watters (she/her): Nice, glad to hear, Beth! Thank you!

01:37:34 Shannon Leary (she/her) Metro Parks and Nature: For example, we shared the engagement report from P&RL with other programs as a resource.

01:39:26 Olena Turula (she/her): Thank you all for your time and questions!

01:39:46 MG Devereux Metro Parks and Nature (He/Him): Cary to your earlier question about Tribal Government engagement happy to chat off line or connect you to Katie McDonald our Tribal Affairs Liaison.

01:40:36 Cary Watters (she/her): Great, thanks so much, MG... A presentation about tribal consultation at a future committee meeting might be helpful!

01:41:42 MG Devereux Metro Parks and Nature (He/Him): Yes we can do that.

01:42:13 Burt Edwards, he/him/his: Could you bring up the calendar slide?

01:42:55 Cary Watters (she/her): Awesome, thank you!

01:43:51 Burt Edwards, he/him/his: Questions for committee discussion

1. How would the committee like to drive the process? Similar to last year or different?
2. What questions does the committee want to ask/answer for this report?
3. How can each of the three working groups tackle a specific set of questions?
4. What are key pieces of information that the committee would like to consider for the report?

01:46:53 Beth (she/her): for example we will provide a map of bond investments to date

01:46:57 Beth (she/her): we need to get that to you

01:48:41 Erin Upton (she/her): I definitely like the idea of including infographics where possible.

01:53:24 Beth (she/her): we could organize the information we share with you by working group topic

01:54:20 Erin Upton (she/her): This is unrelated- but I wanted to ask if we could learn more about Large Scale Community Visions in future committee meetings? Is that already in the plans?

01:55:19 MG Devereux Metro Parks and Nature (He/Him): Yes we can - might be a good topic for our summer meeting

01:55:41 Erin Upton (she/her): Thanks MG. That would be great!

01:57:51 Beth (she/her): we'll probably share a post-meeting survey where we can capture ideas too



Metro

Natural Areas and Capital Program Performance Oversight Committee

February 23, 2023

Today's agenda



- 4:00 p.m. Welcome and introductions
- 4:10 p.m. *Discussion item:* working group report out and identification of intersecting topics from working groups
- 4:40 p.m. *Informational item:* Spotlight on bond community engagement criteria through presentation on upcoming community engagement activities around Blue Lake Park Renovation project
- 5:40 p.m. Discussion item: shape plan for developing year 2 report
- 6:00 p.m. Adjourn

Developing year 2 report | What we're hoping to hear from you



Agenda item

Slides to review before the meeting

Questions for your feedback

Discussion item: shape plan for developing year 2 report

Slides 7-15

How would committee like to drive year 2 development process? how can staff support?
What information can staff provide?

Reminder: Meeting topics and activities for 2023



GOAL 1:
Deepen understanding of bond



GOAL 1:
Deepen understanding of Metro



GOAL 2:
Continue evaluation of bond



GOAL 3:
Strengthen committee membership and leadership



	Dec. 2022	Feb. 2023	April 2023	May/June 2023	Sept. 2023
Climate resilience/protect and restore land  	Take care of Metro parks 	Large scale community visions 	Local share  	Capital grants  	
		Connect with Council liaisons	Site visit/tour opportunity	Connect with other Metro committees	Site visit/tour opportunity
		Develop process for year 2  	Review staff report for year 2 	Develop year 2 report 	Present year 2 report 
Plan for targeted recruitment in 2023	Co-chair identified; working group time	First meeting with new members	Working group time		

Reminder: Committee functions



Receive information and updates

- These items could be presentation based and could involve a pre-taped brief video explainer beforehand with questions



Help shape audit and evaluative tools

- These items could involve staff posing specific questions for committee feedback to shape tools and would involve a presentation of the tools with facilitated conversations at the meeting and answers for staff at the meeting.



Reporting/recommendations for the Metro Council.

- These items would involve committee reviewing existing information and reporting and actively building recommendations or items for Metro Council awareness

Committee business reminders



Public testimony received

Reminders to reply only to

parksandnaturebond@oregonmetro.gov

on committee business

Other member updates to share?



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Approach to developing year 2 report



Questions for committee discussion



Metro

1. Based on experience from last year, how would the committee like to drive the process?
2. What questions does the committee want to ask/answer for this report?
3. How can each of the three working groups tackle a specific set of questions?
4. What are key pieces of information that the committee would like to consider for the report?

Goals for year 2 report



Metro

Timeline: Ready for presenting in spring/summer 2023

Content:

- Opportunities to circle back to issues/questions/comments raised in the year 1 report and show progress or highlight
- Review of additional investments, progress made in calendar year 2022 on bond criteria
- Highlight focal areas for committee moving ahead

Formatting: make the final report as easy to access and readable as possible

Reminder: process for year 1 report development in spring 2022



February 2022

March 2022

April 2022

May 2022



Topics/themes from year 1 report



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Report included areas of emphasis, background on committee's work to date and items to focus on in future year

- Affirmation of bond work to date
- Focus on bond spend and administrative rate
- Emphasis on themes of racial equity, engagement and accessibility for bond work moving ahead
- Focus on opportunities to improve access to bond information by public

Goals for committee work from year 1 report



Bond-funded land acquisition

- Review of policies, engagement and regional priorities that shaped the 24 target areas.
- Understand how land acquisition program works with the other programs in the bond and other jurisdictional partners to increase access and benefits to communities that have historically not benefited from these investments.

Promoting accessibility through the bond

- Continue to review how the bond measure will support improvements across Metro's portfolio and the system of local parks around the region that make parks and natural spaces accessible to all with a focus on reviewing opportunities to consult with individuals experiencing disabilities.

Ongoing opportunities for community to help shape bond investments

- Review the impact of community engagement conducted to date including how feedback received has and will shape bond investments.
- Review opportunities for community engagement to help shape bond investments.
- Review the development of an outcomes framework that will be available to conduct an evaluation of progress toward meeting these goals.

Resources for the committee in developing year 2 report



[PN annual report](#) (covering activities from July 2021-June 2022)

Year 2 staff report to the committee covering activities from January-December 2022 (forthcoming)

Quarterly reports to the oversight committee (latest is January 2023)

Review of topics covered with the committee in calendar year 2022

Working group time/discussions

Information available for potential inclusion



Summary of bond investments made in 2022

Bond finance summary

Reporting on COBID participation

Update on activities that relate to the 3 bond criteria (setting direction, milestones achieved, measuring progress)

Report/findings from bond evaluation outcomes data collection pilot

Proposed: timeline for developing year 2 report



February 2023: Committee decides on approach, begins to identify information needs, questions to ask/answer

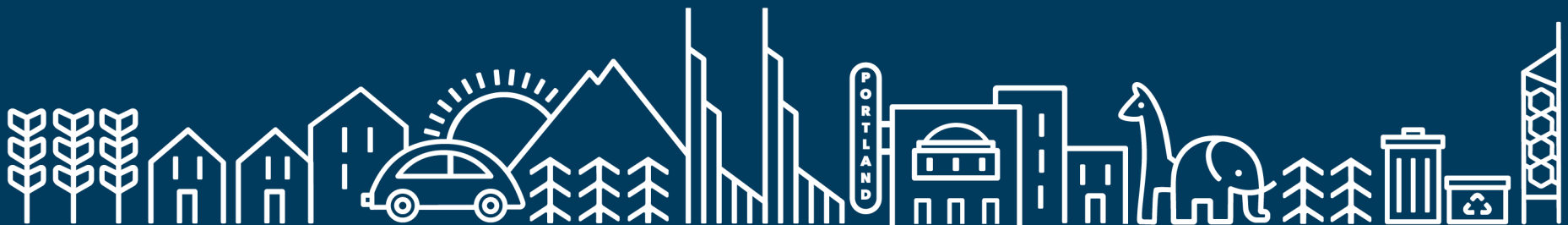
March/April 2023 working groups: Review draft staff report, working group focuses on their topics, reviews relevant staff information in reports, captures questions and comments

April 2023 full committee: Full committee discussion on questions, comments, themes, intersecting issues

May 2023: Develop draft for committee review in May working groups and at drop-in session if needed

June 2023: finalize and present to Council

oregonmetro.gov



Case study on
bond
community
engagement
criteria: Blue
Lake Park
renovation



Metro



Community engagement and Blue Lake Park renovation | What we're hoping to hear from you



Metro

Agenda item	Slides to review before the meeting	Questions for your feedback
Informational item: community engagement activities at Blue Lake Regional Park	Slides 3-24	How does this case study help the committee with providing useful oversight guidance to staff and council around community engagement? What other topics or questions related to community engagement do you have?

Goals for today's discussion



Metro

Share a specific example (community engagement for Blue Lake Regional Park Renovation) to highlight efforts to address the bond's community engagement criteria

Provide a baseline example on community engagement to revisit for evaluation by the committee

Prompt questions from the committee about other community engagement related topics to review

Questions for discussion



Metro

1. How does this case study help the committee with providing useful oversight guidance to staff and council around community engagement? What other context is needed?
2. Is the committee interested in hearing about the progress on these community engagement activities regularly? What information would help evaluate success of these activities?
3. What additional topics related to this project or other community engagement topics would the committee like to hear about?

Reminder: bond community engagement criteria



Metro

Meaningfully engage with communities of color, Indigenous communities, people with low incomes and other historically marginalized communities in planning, development and selection of projects.

Prioritize projects and needs identified by communities of color, Indigenous communities, low-income and other historically marginalized groups.

Demonstrate accountability for tracking outcomes and reporting impacts, particularly as they relate to communities of color, Indigenous communities, people with low incomes and other historically marginalized communities.

Improve the accessibility and inclusiveness of developed parks.

Include strategies to prevent or mitigate displacement and/or gentrification resulting from bond investments.

Previous committee discussions on community engagement



Meeting date	Topic	Key comments/questions
July 2021	Training on bond criteria	Overview of bond criteria based on 1/1 conversations with committee members prior to training
February 2022	Community engagement working group	Reviewed bond's community engagement framework, a summary of community engagement activities completed.
May 2022	Community engagement working group	Met with Parks and Nature's ADA accessibility coordinator about planning for accessibility at our sites
February 2023	Community engagement working group	Discussed ongoing engagement activities like the Community Choice grants

Key questions from committee on engagement



Metro

What engagement has happened previously? Is all the engagement complete or is some still ongoing?

Who is staff engaging with and how are we continuing to broaden outreach?

How is staff using the feedback received from engagement to shape the work?

How is staff measuring impact of community engagement and evaluating the effectiveness of it?

How is Metro engaging with tribal governments?

Each phase of bond community engagement informed by previous findings



Where possible, building a list of community members to invite to multiple engagement activities; building continuity and looking to strengthen relationships

Engagement that shaped bond development and refinement helped shape bond programs, ongoing engagement now is more project based

Where possible, incorporating evaluation of engagement events and processes

Community feedback in 2019 identified priorities that helped shape take care of Metro Parks program



Metro parks and natural areas connect people to nature. It's important to make these special places more welcoming to people who have not had the best access to nature.

People support repair and replacement of existing park facilities.

Make parks universally accessible for people with disabilities.

It's important to have nature close to home— especially in communities that face barriers to enjoying the outdoors. Create opportunities for cultural, multigenerational gatherings and healing spaces.

Provide access to water.

Take care of Metro Parks (\$98 million to invest in improvements across Metro's developed sites)



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Progress to date

- Completed Chehalem Ridge and Newell Creek
- Completed Blue Lake Park utilities and facilities plan, water line phase 1, building demo, kicking off engagement activities at the site
- Projects underway at BLP including water line phase 2, sanitary sewer
- Engagement activities around Lone Fir Cultural Heritage and Healing
- Launching ADA accessibility pilot at Graham Oaks



Blue Lake Regional Park Community engagement

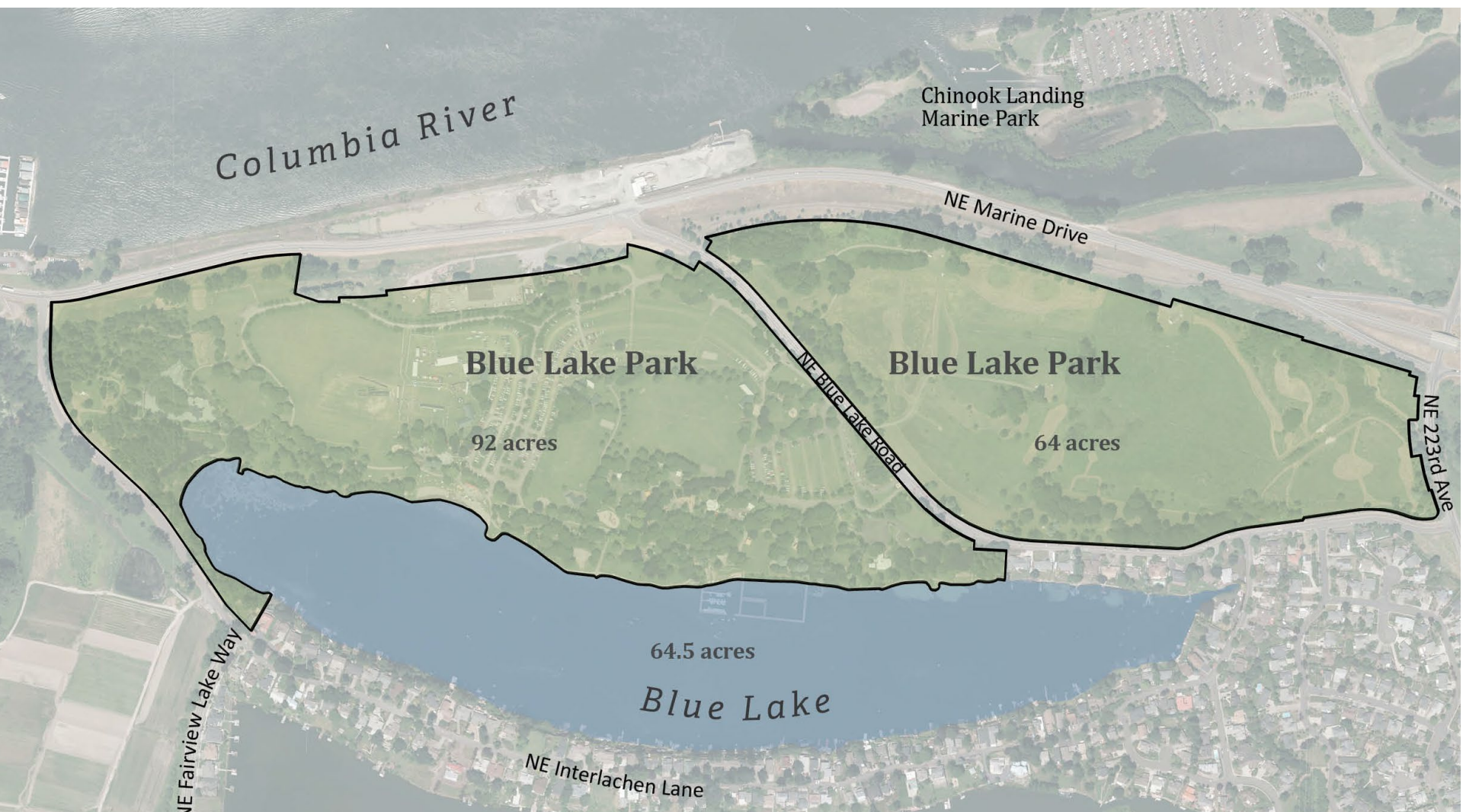


Metro



Blue Lake Regional Park

Park overview and context



Blue Lake Regional Park

Approach to capital projects



Blue Lake Park capital projects

Improvements at Blue Lake Park were prioritized for the Take care of metro parks program area of the 2019 bond.

Our approach to bond implementation at Blue Lake is to first move quickly with projects that improve infrastructure and operations – which respond to community input we already received to take care of what we have.

We are taking more time for community engagement and to make sure public-facing park renovation centers BIPOC communities in engagement, design and decision making.

Operations and maintenance facility improvements

This project will modernize the maintenance hub for operations of Metro's nature parks. The project will renovate the existing Curry maintenance building and build a new park operations office. This project supports operations of Metro's entire nature park system.

Water and sanitary infrastructure projects

These three projects will update park infrastructure by connecting the park to municipal water via a new pipe in Blue Lake Road, replacing the water distribution lines within the park and upgrading the sanitary sewer system in the park.

Building demolition

Buildings that are no longer meeting the needs of park visitors or staff have been removed. Several of these buildings have been closed for years and in some cases are structurally unsound.

Dock/fishing pier demolition and repair

The structural stability of part of the existing fishing pier will be repaired, and pier accessibility will be improved. The remaining portion of docks and piers will be removed.

Blue Lake Regional Park Overall park renovation



Columbia River

Chinook Landing
Marine Park

NE Marine Drive

Blue Lake Park

92 acres

Blue Lake Park

64 acres

NE Blue Lake Road

NE 223rd Ave

64.5 acres

Blue Lake

E Fairview Lake Way

NE Interlachen Lane

Blue Lake Regional Park renovation Project focus areas



1. Lake and water access
2. Picnic and community gathering places
3. Play
4. Nature



Blue Lake Regional Park renovation

Project goals



1. Accessible and inclusive park amenities for all ages and abilities
2. Create welcoming places that people enjoy visiting, and build facilities that support & encourage people to visit the park
3. Climate resilience
4. Long term operational sustainability
5. Meaningful engagement that centers systemically oppressed communities

Blue Lake Regional Park renovation Engagement overview



Community engagement:

Focus on engaging with systemically oppressed communities, community groups, park visitors

Partner agencies:

Tribal governments, local governments, drainage district (coordination, partnering on common goals, upholding Tribal governments' rights and interests)

Metro coordination and communication:

Staff, leadership, Metro committees, Metro Council (role: policy level guidance)

Blue Lake Regional Park renovation Roles related to Metro-led community engagement



Metro

Metro Council: Sets high level policy around bond programs/projects being grounded in meaningful engagement

Parks and Nature staff: plan and execute engagement; build relationships with community members and organizations; ensure projects are in alignment with policy guidance; building a set of best practices

Natural Areas Oversight Committee: Review progress from engagement strategies and activities, using findings from evaluation data collection pilot to evaluate bond impact and identify areas for improvement

Blue Lake Regional Park renovation

Community engagement goals



1. Focus resources and time on engaging systemically oppressed communities including Black, Indigenous, people of color (BIPOC), LGBTQI2S+ communities, immigrant and refugees, people with low incomes, and people with disabilities.
2. Engagement with systemically oppressed communities meaningfully impacts project decisions and outcomes.
3. Community members understand how their input shaped park design and how we incorporated (or why we didn't incorporate) their feedback.
4. Communicate project constraints and limitations early and often so community members know what to expect and have a clear understanding of what is possible to accomplish as part of the project.
5. Create and grow communication channels and relationships between Metro and community members through the project.
6. Create accessible outreach materials and opportunities.
7. Be flexible and responsive to how community members want to engage.

Blue Lake Regional Park renovation

Three levels of community engagement



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1. Broad audience, light touch

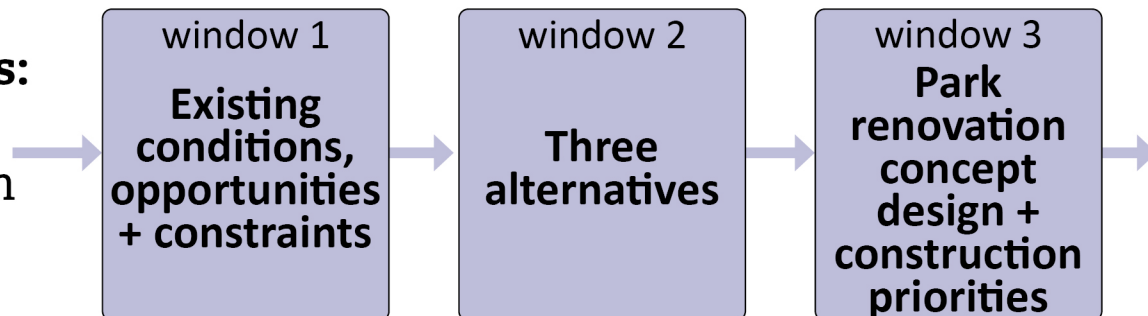
- Self-guided online open houses and surveys (open for several weeks)
- Listening sessions (zoom or in person)

2. Focus groups: medium sized audience, deeper dive

- Focused on systemically oppressed communities
- Topic specific
- Focus group virtual meetings and discussion
- Decision making focus

Milestone Engagement windows:

open houses, surveys, listening sessions, focus groups, meet with interested parties and groups



Blue Lake Regional Park renovation

Three levels of community engagement



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3. Partner cohort: small group, deeply engaged

- Community members join the project team
- Collaborate with Metro staff and consultants in park planning and design
- Support the project team in framing, advising and facilitating the community engagement
- A way to invite community “behind the scenes” into the design studio

Blue Lake Regional Park renovation Tools and strategies



Best practices

- Stipends, translation and interpretation
- Build in evaluation check in at each milestone, and course correct based on feedback
- Focus on decisions community can impact
- Communicate expectations and constraints/limitations

Building on past engagement, piloting new approaches

- Invite people who participated in past bond engagement
- Partner cohort
- Indigenous community focus

Blue Lake Regional Park renovation Meeting bond engagement criteria at Blue Lake



Metro

1. Intentionally focusing resources on engagement with systemically oppressed communities
2. Improve the accessibility and inclusiveness of developed parks.
3. Prioritize projects and needs identified by communities of color, Indigenous communities, low-income and other historically marginalized groups.
4. Accountability to project outcomes reflecting what we hear through engagement.

Questions for committee



Metro

1. How does this case study help the committee with providing useful oversight guidance to staff and council around community engagement?
2. Is the committee interested in hearing about the progress on these community engagement activities regularly? What information would help us evaluate alignment with bond criteria?
3. What additional topics related to this project or other community engagement topics would the committee like to hear about?

Working group report outs



Metro



Working group discussions



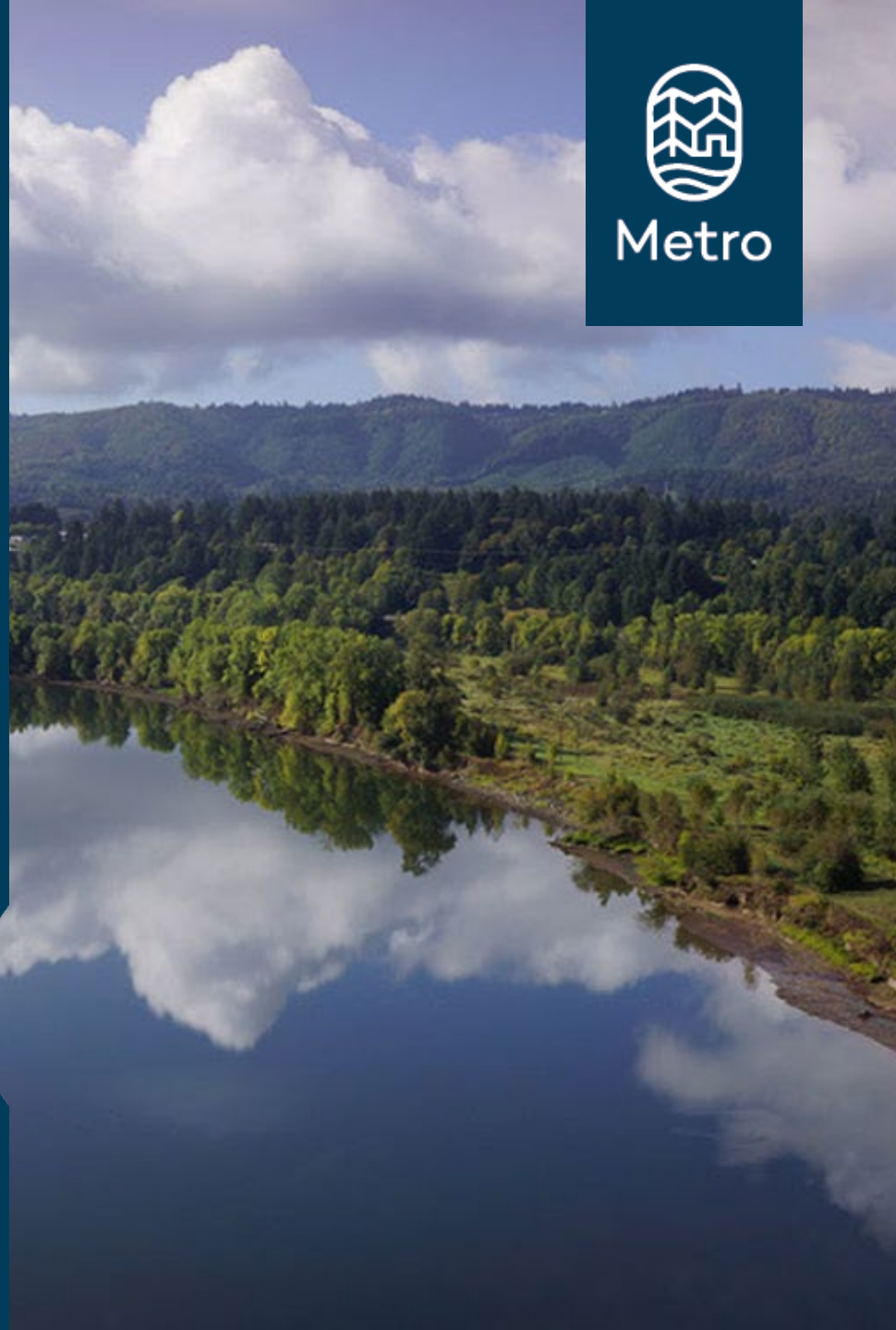
Metro

- Brief summary of what was discussed
- Issues/questions to highlight for year 2 report discussions?
- Topics the group discussed to return to in future group meetings
- Thoughts about how to make the working groups more effective

Informational item: Winter 2023 bond updates



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Reminders and resources on bond reporting



Metro

- Winter 2022 quarterly update
- Latest public facing dashboard can be found here, <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/public-projects/parks-and-nature-bond-measure/bond-progress>

October-December 2022 bond updates



Metro

- 5 projects submitted for local share (3 from Portland Parks and Recreation, 1 from Forest Grove, 1 from Wilsonville)
- Information collection on four letters of intent submitted for large scale community visions pilot
- [Completion of water line project phase 1 and building demolition at Blue Lake Park](#)
- Kick off of ADA improvements at Oxbow boat launch parking

Anticipated winter 2023 bond milestones



Launch of capital grants pilot idea generating phase in Metro Council district 4, Western Washington County

Solicitation for initial round of capital grants

Land acquisitions (ongoing)

Bond finance reporting



Metro



Total bond funds spent as of January 10, 2023



2019 Parks and Nature Bond Total spend (numbers below rounded to the nearest million)

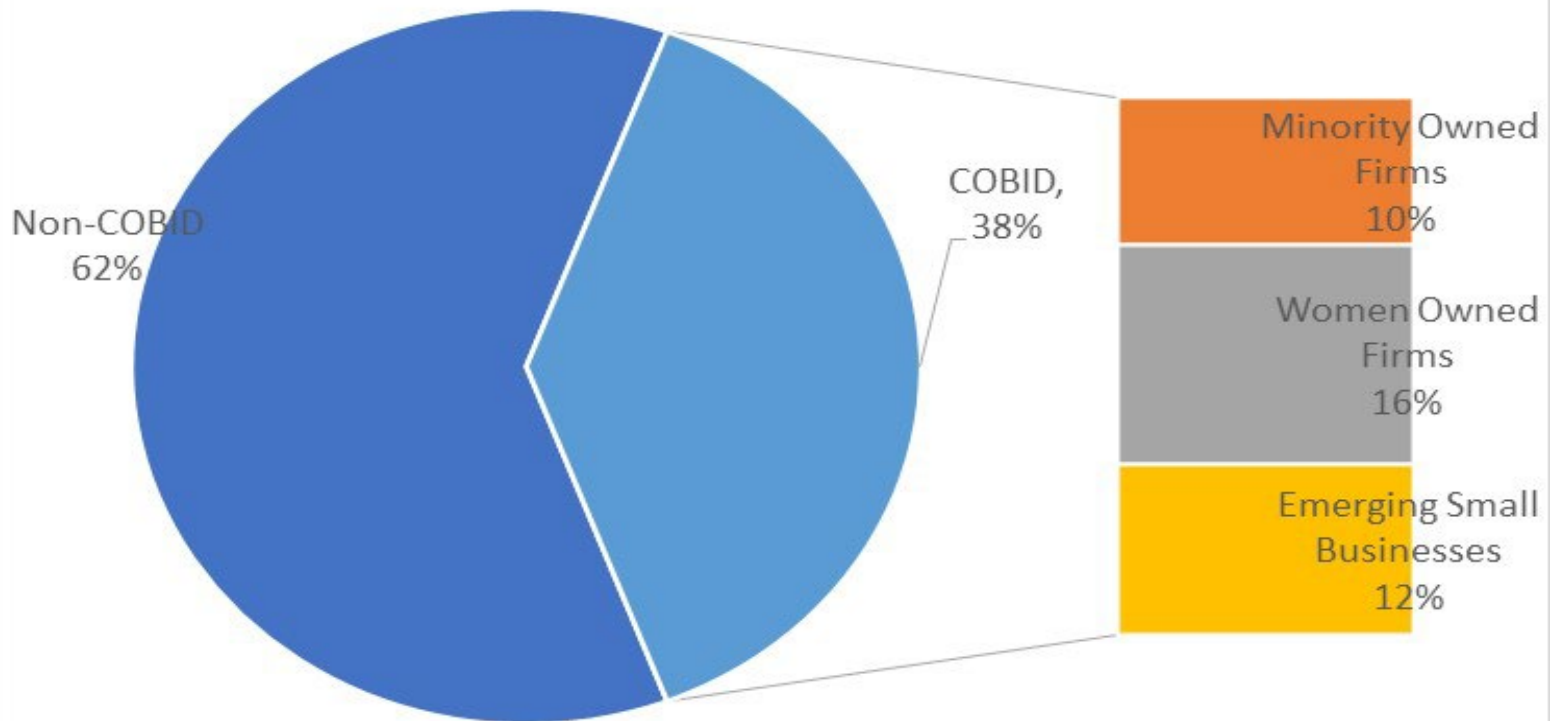
Total program spend	\$26.8
Total admin spend	\$8.6
Total Bond spend	\$35.5
Total bond funds awarded, not spent	\$24.8
Total bond spend/awarded	\$60.3

COBID spending over the life of the bond



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P&N COBID Utilization by Certification Type - FY23 YTD



Land acquisition reporting



Metro



Reminders land acquisition reporting



Program level reporting

- Acquisitions by target area
- Stabilization costs to date
- Purchase price vs. market value constraints



Supplement
to quarterly
report

Property level reporting

- Regional significance
- Racial equity
- Accessibility
- Summary of bond criteria met and description of key property features



Closing
memorandum
(revised)

Reminders— land acquisition property level reporting



Regional significance

Accessibility

Racial equity

Date: September 16, 2022
To: Lynn Peterson, Council President
From: Dan Moeller, Conservation Program Director
Re: Parks and Nature land acquisition

Target area: Lower Tualatin Headwaters	Date of closing: August 8, 2022
File number: 54.025	Purchase price: \$1,000,000
Seller: Jonathan and Debra Pearce	City: Unincorporated Washington County
Ownership type: Fee simple	Partner: N/A
Acreage: 39.95	Stream frontage: 3,160 LF (both sides)

Below please find a summary of a recent Parks and Nature land acquisition, which will contribute to protecting fish and wildlife habitat, improving water quality, and connecting people to nature close to home in the greater Portland region.

Regional Significance

As part of the Lower Tualatin Headwaters target area, this property includes main stem and headwater areas of Heaton Creek and is a regionally significant natural area due to its fish and wildlife habitat and contribution to water quality in the Tualatin River. Springs and forested headwaters on this property help provide cold, clean water and increased summer base flow downstream. This property is the first property in the Heaton Creek watershed to be purchased for conservation by Metro or any other conservation organization, and it will provide a meaningful anchor for future conservation investment in this part of the Lower Tualatin Headwaters target area.

Accessibility

All Metro natural areas are open to the public. This property is in a remote part of Washington County and is not accessible by public transportation or regional trails. Steep slopes and erodible soils make access difficult and could affect water quality. The property connects to large adjacent areas of intact forested habitat with relatively low levels of human disturbance.

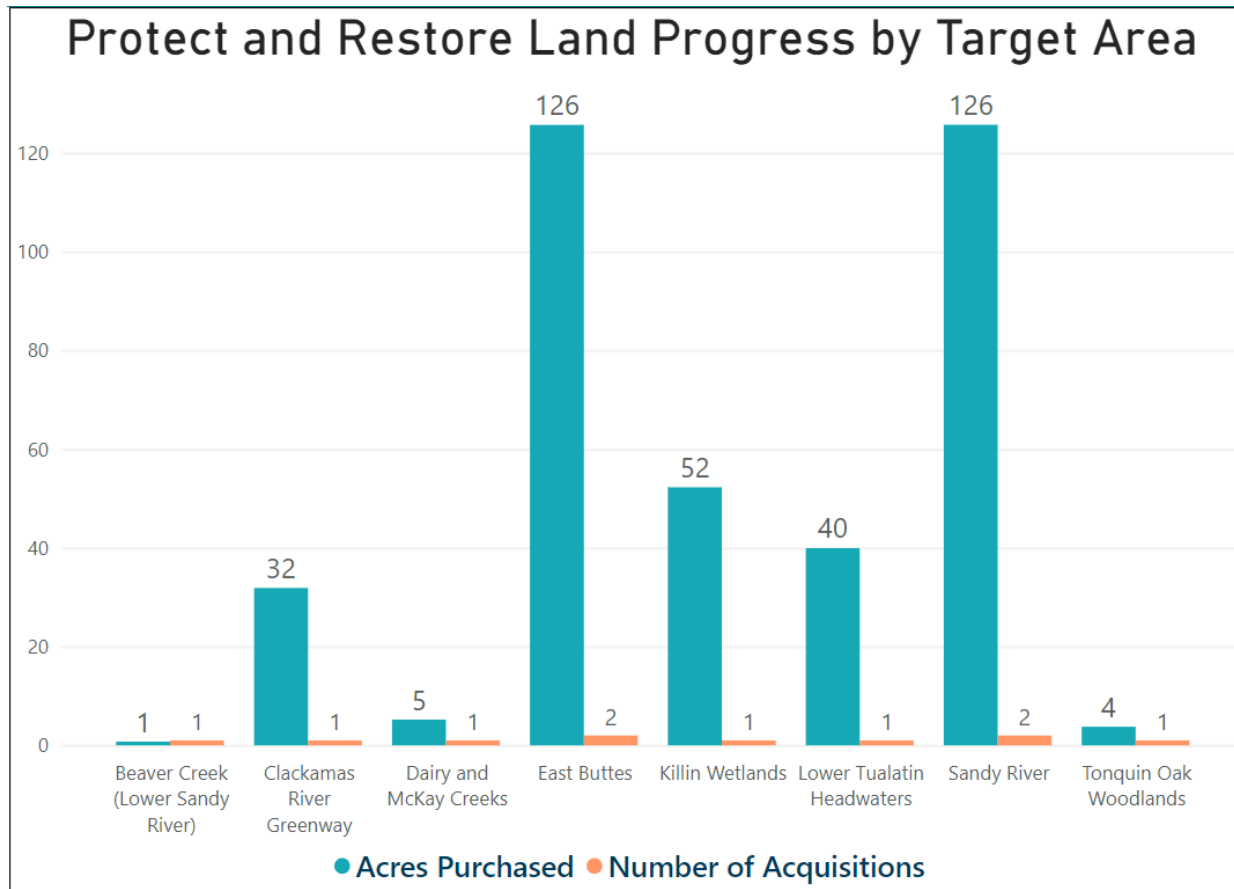
This acquisition is important to the region because it meets the criteria established in the parks and nature bond measure approved by voters in November 2019 and supports the refinement plan goals and objectives for this target area as adopted by the Metro Council in April 2022:

Racial Equity and Community Engagement Criteria

- Prioritize projects and needs identified by communities of color, Indigenous communities, low-income and other historically marginalized groups.

Protecting this property conserves culturally significant native plants while also permanently protecting important spawning and rearing habitat for culturally important native fish such as Coho Salmon, Steelhead and Pacific lamprey, important species identified by Tribal Nations and

Land acquisitions to date (July 2020-December 2022)

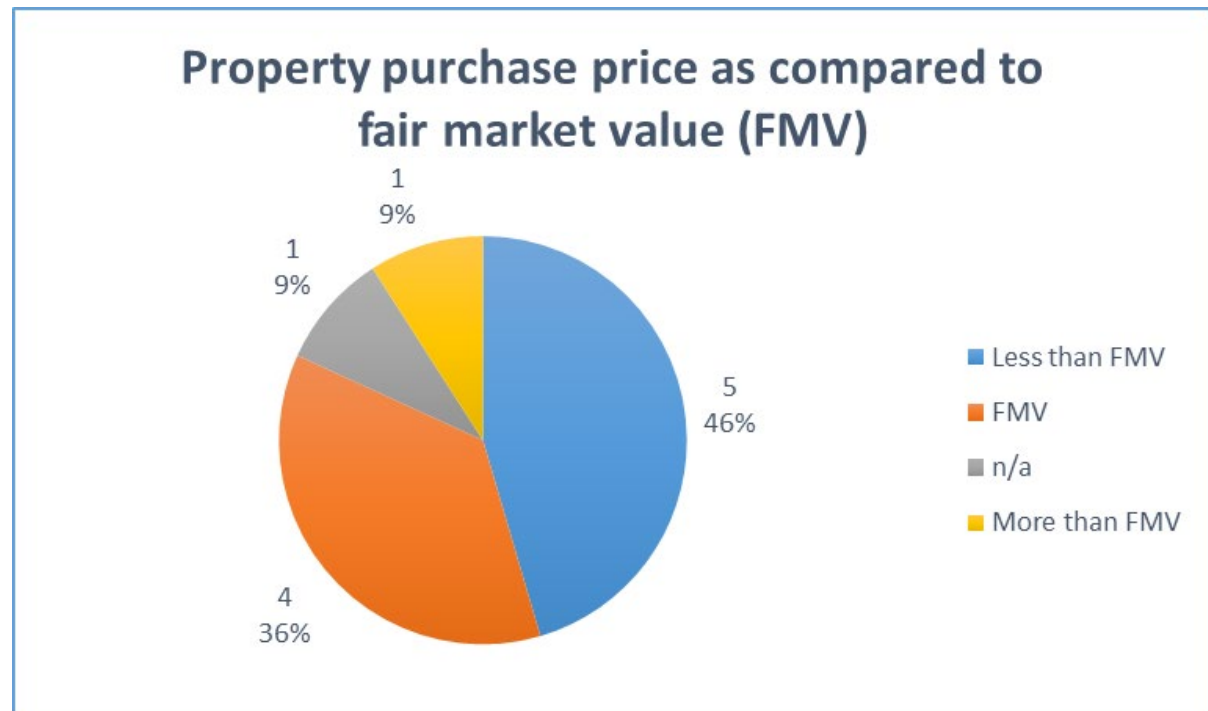


Snapshot of purchase prices as of December 2022



What is this chart?

The Metro Council may direct staff to purchase property at any price, but through the policy established in the Natural Areas Work Plan, the Metro Council has delegated authority to staff to acquire properties for fair market value as supported by an independent appraisal.



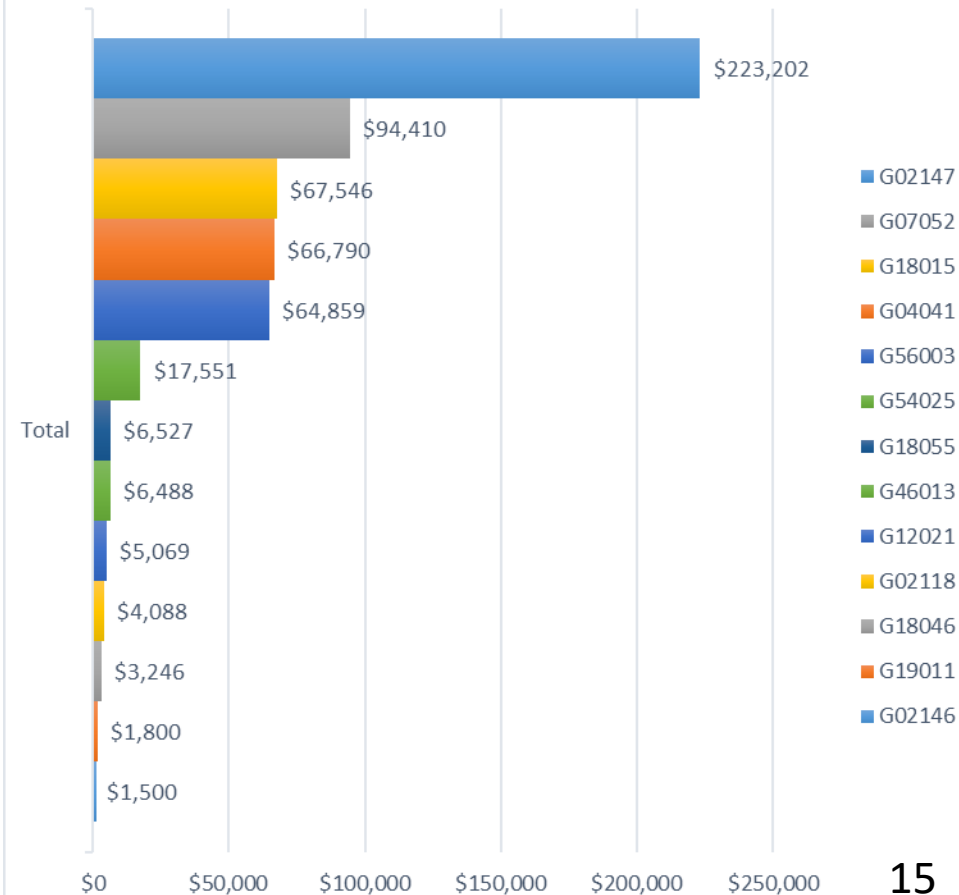
Stabilization costs to date as of December 31, 2022



What is this chart?

Stabilization is one of the four program activities eligible for Protect and Restore Land funds. Stabilization is the phase of management that follows acquisition. During stabilization Metro uses bond funds to address threats that would otherwise compromise the values for which a new natural area is acquired. As no two properties are the same or have the same conditions present, stabilization plans and costs will vary by property and the conditions present.

Dollars spent stabilizing property acquisitions



Reference slides



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Committee members



Metro

Tana Atchley Culbertson
Burt Edwards
Lisa Freedman
Bryan Mercier
Georgena Moran
Cary Watters
Owen Wozniak
John Ferguson
Shantae Johnson
Michelle Lin
Martita Meier
PK Melethil
Tabitha Palmer DuPrau
Vivek Shandas
Shannon Shoul
Erin Upton

Co-Director, Nesika Wilamut
Director of Programs, Re-Think Media
Former US Forest Service Executive and Budgeting Director
NW Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Accessibility specialist, ACCESS recreation
Contract equity manager, Portland Bureau of Transportation
Land Transactions Program Manager, the Land Trust Alliance
Former geotechnical engineer
Owner, Mudbone Grown LLC
Strategist, Oregon Food Bank
Digital Strategist and Project manager
Environmental Scientist, TCM physician
Underwriting Counsel, Fidelity National Title Group
Professor, Portland State University
Director, Procurement Sustainability, Nike
Environmental social scientist and landscape architect

Council liaisons



Metro

Councilor Ashton Simpson, District 1: includes Fairview, Gresham, Troutdale, Wood Village, portions of East Portland and the unincorporated communities of Damascus and Boring

Councilor Mary Nolan, District 5: includes Northwest and North Portland, portions of Southwest and Northeast Portland, plus the city of Maywood Park and part of Washington County.

Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, District 3: includes portions of Washington and Clackamas counties and the cities of Beaverton, Durham, King City, Sherwood, Tigard, Tualatin and Wilsonville

Staff team



Metro

Parks and Nature leadership: Jon Blasher, MG Devereux, Dan Moeller, Mychal Tetteh

Background information, staff support: Beth Cohen

Meeting logistics, administrative support: Melanie Reinert

Office of Metro Attorney: Michelle Bellia

Parks and Nature finance manager: Chantia Clark

Group agreements



Metro

- In discussions, challenge ideas rather than individuals.
- Approach different opinions with curiosity, seek to understand.
- Keep the needs and concerns of the local community and the larger region at the forefront of the work.
- Keep focus on the objectives of the meetings; work with facilitator to note additional topics for discussion.
- Keep multi-tasking to a minimum

Group agreements



Metro

- Notify committee chairperson and Metro staff of any media inquiries and refer requests for official statements or viewpoints to Metro. Committee members will not speak to media on behalf of the committee or Metro, but rather only on their own behalf.
- Share questions they have with the full committee so everyone can benefit from the answers
- **Members in working groups commit to capturing discussions to transparently share the results with the larger group.**

Land acquisition at-a-glance



Metro

Money allocated in bond

Total of \$155 to acquire priority parcels in 24 target areas across the region through a willing seller program (\$15 million for community-led acquisition), plus \$10 million from trails program for trail gap acquisition

Governing documents

- Council approved refinement plans with acquisition priorities for land and trail gaps
- Natural areas work plan sets parameters for acquisition protocol
- Closing memo for each completed purchase to Metro Council and oversight committee demonstrates alignment with bond criteria

Progress to date (as of February 2023)

- Deep engagement to identify priorities for land acquisition
- \$12 million spent on 12 acquisitions
- Acquisition of over 478 and 1 trail gap
- Hired two real estate specialists
- Outreach to about 80 landowners since July 2022

Trail grants program at-a-glance



Metro

Money allocated in bond: \$20 million for grants to trail planning and construction projects

Key documents

- Council approved resolution approving slate of grants
- Trail grants handbook
- Report from summer 2022 public comment

Progress to date (as of February 2023)

- one cycle of trail grants awarded to 12 projects for \$19.5 million in September 2022;
- moving towards executing IGAs for the 12 projects awarded

Key issues for awareness

- Grant program is reimbursement based, with up to 30% available up front
- Incorporating policy priorities into requirements for grantees like cultural resource assessments for ground disturbing activities and workforce equity goals

Local share program at-a-glance



Metro

Money allocated in bond: \$92 million to 27 park providers for natural area and park land acquisitions, habitat restoration, new or improved access facilities at public parks and natural areas, local or regional trails, enhanced or new environmental educational facilities.

Key documents

- [Local share handbook](#)
- Council approved local share IGA template (approved by resolution)
- [Local share webpage with resources for identifying and submitting projects](#)

Progress to date (as of February 2023)

- five projects awarded \$9.3 million in funds; \$4 spent on acquisition
- 5 projects in review (3 from Portland Park and Recreation, Forest Grove and Wilsonville);
- 1/1 meetings and 8 roundtables to support park providers in meeting bond criteria

Key issues for awareness

- Allocations based on a population, assessed value formula, range from \$200,000 to over \$30 million
- Park providers have ten years to identify and submit projects for funding;
- Program is largely reimbursement based with the allowance up to 30 percent awarded up front. For acquisitions, full dollar amount is awarded up front.

Nature in Neighborhoods

Community Choice grants at-a-glance



Money allocated in bond: \$4 that the community in western Washington County will identify a project or projects for funding using participatory budgeting principles

Key documents

- Pilot guidebook and guidebook brief
- RFP for community engagement services for idea collection and community vote phases

Progress to date (as of February 2023):

- Preparing materials to launch idea collection activities in Spring 2023
- Convened a committee in 2021 to build the program handbook and guide idea collection;
- affirmed initial geographic focus for pilot on district 4;
- Partnering with 5 park providers in district 4 on pilot;
- hired community engagement team for idea collection and preparing materials and website for future engagement and community voting

Key issues for awareness:

- Project(s) selected will need to be in public ownership

Nature in Neighborhoods Capital grants program at-a-glance



Money allocated in bond: \$40 million for projects that support partnerships between park providers, community organizations, schools and others to increase experience of nature at the community scale

Key documents: [Capital grants initial solicitation handbook](#)

Progress to date (as of February 2023):

- Developed solicitation for initial round with an eye towards recommending a slate of funding awards to Council in summer 2023
- Received 16 letters of intent for \$6 million

Key issues for awareness:

- This program in the 2006 natural areas bond funded 8 rounds of grants including projects like Cully Park, Gateway Green, Nadaka nature park in Gresham, Milwaukie riverfront park
- Projects must involve partnership of a park provider and community organizations and funded projects must result in a capital asset in public ownership
- Traditionally it has taken time, staff support and building relationships with grant recipients to identify projects that will result in a capital asset and are ready for funding

Take care of Metro parks program at-a-glance



Money allocated in bond: \$98 million to take care of Metro's developed sites across the region with a focus on addressing infrastructure at sites like Blue Lake and Oxbow before investing in new development at sites with approved master plans.

Key documents

- [PN Capital Improvement Plan](#)

Progress to date (as of February 2023)

- \$9 million spent to complete 9 projects
- completed Chehalem Ridge and Newell Creek
- Completed Blue Lake Park utilities and facilities plan, water line phase 1, building demo and projects underway at BLP including water line phase 2, sanitary sewer
- Kick off of ADA improvements to Oxbow boat launch parking
- ADA pilot at Graham Oaks
- Engagement activities at Lone Fir Cultural Heritage and Healing Garden

Key issues for awareness

- Blue Lake Park Curry building project incorporates Metro's regional workforce agreement goals.
- About \$10 for investing in ADA transition plan including pilot at Graham Oaks
- \$4 million to Lone Fir Cultural Heritage and Healing Garden

Community visions program at-a-glance



Money allocated in bond: \$50 million to help deliver significant investment in habitat preservation, restoration, and access to nature in coordinated and visionary capital projects, \$20 million earmarked for Willamette falls legacy project

Key documents

- [Council approved pilot program handbook](#)
- [Website with active notice of funding availability](#)

Progress to date (as of February 2023):

- Pilot solicitation for up to \$10 million in projects open in summer 2022
- 4 letters of interest submitted by end of October 2022
- Completed initial review of letters of intent

Bond administration/criteria alignment at-a-glance



Metro

Key documents

- [Bond measure language](#)
- [Oversight committee bylaws](#)
- [Climate resilience intention](#) guidance document
- [Anti-displacement information and resources](#)
- [Evaluation framework to articulate impact of bond investments](#)
- [Bond dashboard](#) (updated quarterly)



February bond finance working group meeting

Attendees: Martita, Cary, Tabitha, MG, Chantia, Melanie, Beth

Summary of topics covered for report back to full committee

- Reviewed finance reporting from quarterly report—In quarter 2 reporting covering activities until December 2022. As of January 2023, bond spend is at \$35 million and awarded over \$24 million with an admin rate around 24 percent.
- Discussed current COBID participation for the bond to date is about 38 percent, 10 percent of that is to minority owned firms and 16 percent is to women owned firms. Also discussed future opportunities to disaggregate COBID reporting for the bond into specific types of COBID contractor (minority owned, women)
- Discussed bond spend and administrative rate and factors around current administration rate and how/when staff anticipates it going down as bond spending continues to ramp up. Also discussed factors that will shape trajectory of future bond spending including pace of real estate acquisitions amid a changing real estate market.
- Discussed what other information and tools staff can share with the working group to provide helpful context for the committee and the public on progress of bond spend and milestones to track progress outside of raw financial data.

Question/topics that intersect with other working group topics and/or may be relevant to year 2 report

- Do real estate staff anticipate opportunities to accelerate pace of land acquisition with changing market conditions (intersect with land acquisition topics)? What is reasonable to expect?
- Can staff provide additional context about how we expect the pace of expenditures to change and how that will impact administrative rates?
- Are there ways for staff to develop mile markers that help show progress and provide context about bond spend so we have other information outside of only financial data to show progress?
- Important to make value of cost of operating and implementing the bond known to the public.
- Are there future opportunities to look at COBID reporting by disaggregation?

Future topics for committee follow up or discussion

- Recommendations for committee's year 2 report
- Follow up on Metro's workforce equity program and how it connects to the regional workforce agreement.
- Request for staff—provide an agenda and some information to review ahead of each working group meeting

Key terms and definitions related to bond finance

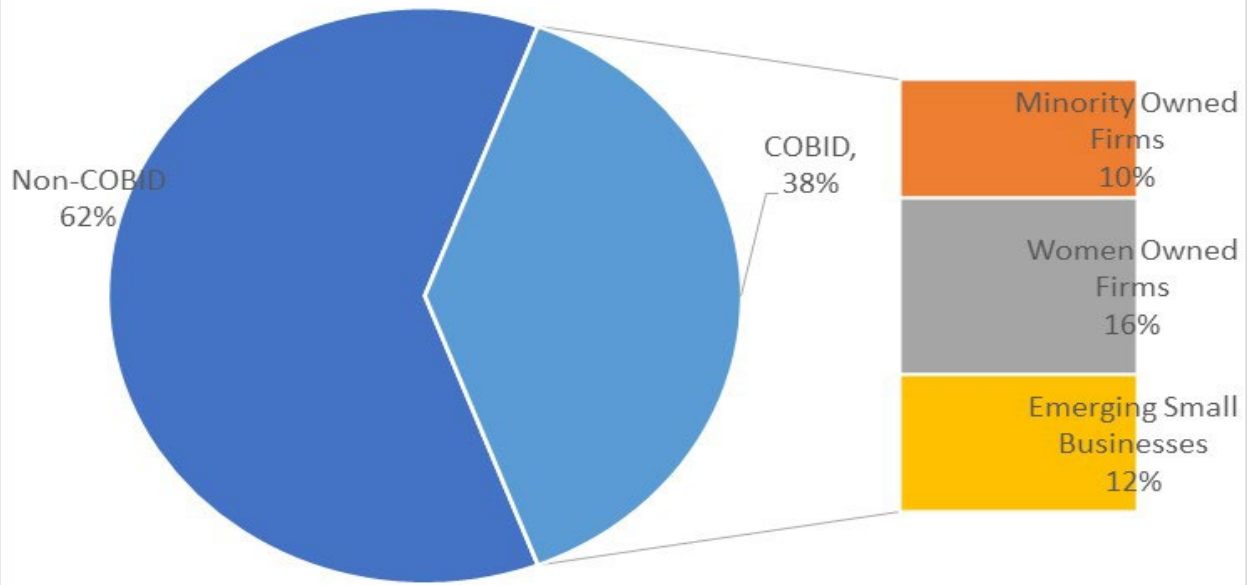
COBID: Oregon’s Certification Office for Business Inclusion and Diversity. The primary goal of certification is to level the playing field by providing certified firms a fair opportunity to compete for government contracts regardless of owner ethnicity, gender, disability or firm size.

Construction Career Pathways: Regional effort of public agencies teaming up with stakeholders from private industry, apprenticeship programs, unions and community-based organizations to provide reliable career pathways for women and Black, Indigenous, and people of color in the construction trades.

Bond spend as of January 10, 2023 (from Q 2 report to the natural areas oversight committee)

	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23YTD	Total Spend
Protect/Restore					
Personnel	\$ 8,897	\$ 1,027,574	\$ 1,318,586	\$ 804,807	\$ 3,159,864
M&S or Capital	\$ 120,063	\$ 843,385	\$ 5,104,935	\$ 1,899,051	\$ 7,967,434
Total	\$ 128,960	\$ 1,870,959	\$ 6,423,521	\$ 2,703,859	\$ 11,127,299
Take Care of Metro Parks					
Personnel	\$ 8,897	\$ 642,133	\$ 1,334,500	\$ 571,916	\$ 2,557,446
M&S or Capital	\$ 221,847	\$ 3,051,112	\$ 2,279,728	\$ 1,336,116	\$ 6,888,804
Total	\$ 230,744	\$ 3,693,245	\$ 3,614,228	\$ 1,908,032	\$ 9,446,249
Local Share					
Personnel	\$ 29,397	\$ 213,678	\$ 240,033	\$ 107,547	\$ 590,655
M&S or Capital	\$ -	\$ 2,464	\$ 2,492,200	\$ 1,581,824	\$ 4,076,488
Total	\$ 29,397	\$ 216,142	\$ 2,732,233	\$ 1,689,371	\$ 4,667,143
Grants					
Personnel	\$ 12,847	\$ 184,414	\$ 240,528	\$ 171,355	\$ 609,144
M&S or Capital	\$ -	\$ 2,061	\$ 85,755	\$ 10,353	\$ 98,169
Total	\$ 12,847	\$ 186,475	\$ 326,283	\$ 181,707	\$ 707,312
Trails					
Personnel	\$ 8,489	\$ 243,278	\$ 233,358	\$ 147,734	\$ 632,859
M&S or Capital	\$ 3,825	\$ 818	\$ 148,071	\$ 9,548	\$ 162,262
Total	\$ 12,314	\$ 244,096	\$ 381,429	\$ 157,282	\$ 795,121
Community Visions					
Personnel	\$ -	\$ 3,480	\$ 121,359	\$ -	\$ 124,839
M&S or Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ -	\$ 3,480	\$ 121,359	\$ -	\$ 124,839
Total Program Spend	\$ 414,262	\$ 6,214,397	\$ 13,599,053	\$ 6,640,251	\$ 26,867,964
Admin					
Personnel	\$ 100,692	\$ 555,696	\$ 591,933	\$ 312,631	\$ 1,560,952
M&S or Capital or Transfer	\$ 402,467	\$ 990,481	\$ 2,934,472	\$ 1,570,836	\$ 5,898,256
Personnel	\$ 10	\$ 330	\$ 395	\$ -	\$ 735
M&S or Capital or Transfer	\$ 309,359	\$ 27,344	\$ 544,812	\$ 281,551	\$ 1,163,066
Total	\$ 812,528	\$ 1,573,851	\$ 4,071,612	\$ 2,165,018	\$ 8,623,009
Total Bond Spend	\$ 1,226,790	\$ 7,788,248	\$ 17,670,665	\$ 8,805,269	\$ 35,490,973
Administrative spend as a total of bond spend	66.23%	20.21%	23.04%	24.59%	24%

P&N COBID Utilization by Certification Type - FY23 YTD





Natural Areas oversight committee community engagement working group

Attendees: Burt, Tana, Georgena, Michelle, Humberto, MG, Antonia, Melanie, Beth

Topics discussed (for report out to committee)

- Humberto provided an update on bond's [Nature in Neighborhood's Community Choice Grants](#), a pilot program that is launching a process to have community members in Western Washington County identify and select capital projects for up to \$4 million in funding
 - Primary principles underpinning this process, work to date and upcoming milestones including idea collection and community design workshops through the spring and summer.
 - Community engagement strategies being developed by consultants in partnership with Metro staff including convening a committee to shape grant program, using power analysis to identify stakeholders, community design advocate model.
 - Outreach strategies to connect with community members. Georgena shared additional organizations to follow up with.

- Discussed whether Metro has conducted surveys to ask how people have been experiencing engagement activities (short answer is yes, with more planned and more to do)
 - Post-event surveys provide feedback to help us do better in convening engagement events
 - Bond evaluation project data collection pilot surveyed and interviewed community members to understand their experience with Metro-led community engagement for some bond activities. Responses from the data collection pilot are low, we've been struggling to get people to give us information. Small number of comments we've gotten have been generally good and there have been some individual community members that don't fully trust Metro to deliver on promises around engagement.

- Snapshot on how park providers across the region are addressing the bond's community engagement requirements in their local share projects and process
 - Antonia who manages the local share program reflected on the local share experience...working with jurisdictions has been a great opportunity. Supported park providers in interpreting bond criteria around community engagement.
 - Saw a lot of concern early on from park providers worried about the time it would take for them to meet bond criteria and now, for the most part, that is no longer the case

Issues/themes for year 2 report

- More detail on how feedback from community engagement has been used
- Where possible, share how individuals are being engaged from bond program to program. Articulation of whether there is continuity from engagement process to process, helps determine if there is effective engagement if folks involved early on are continuing to be re-engaged.
- Distinguish between engagement for individual bond projects vs. broader engagement
- Share feedback collected so far from individuals participating in bond engagement
- Clarification from staff whether each engagement process (like the community choice grants) has goals to ensure continuity in participant involvement.

Future topics for working group discussion

- Local share funded projects with community engagement elements that is part of their design, development or activation stage.
- Determine how to report out what other things should we start to think about in terms of measuring success, especially looking at engagement activities of local jurisdictions.
- Share more information and goals for future working group meetings in advance so there's time for committee members to prep for discussion

Resources about topics discussed at the working group

- Link to more info about Nature in [Neighborhoods Community Choice grants](#)
- Snapshot of some of the info about community engagement activities across the bond (see below)

Community engagement activity	Program or project level	How feedback was/will be used	Principles of continuity applied?	Was evaluation conducted to determine impact?
Community choice grants idea collection, project development and community vote (spring-fall 2023)	project	To identify, design and select projects for up to \$4 million in funding	Participants from previous bond engagement events will be invited to participate. Participants will continue to be invited at every step of the process.	Evaluation planned after the process is complete
Community Choice grants program design and review committee (2021 to present)	program	To shape the grant program handbook including criteria, priorities and solicitation and review process	6 members were appointed in 2021; 4 have continued on into 2022	2 interviews conducted of members on their experience; future evaluation planned
Community engagement activities planned for blue lake park renovation (summer 2023)	Project	To shape overall vision for park renovation; to help guide path for specific capital improvements at the site	Will use existing lists of community members to share info about activities;	Future evaluation planned between engagement events and after

Community engagement activity	Program or project level	How feedback was/will be used	Principles of continuity applied?	Was evaluation conducted to determine impact?
			recruiting small partner cohort by xx	the entire process
BIPOC focused engagement sessions to help shape priorities for bond funded land acquisition (2022)	Program	Helped identify priorities for land acquisition and restoration based on lived experience	Same individuals invited to participate in two separate focus groups; have been invited to other engagement activities	No
Engagement with urban Indigenous community members to shape priorities for bond funded land acquisition (2020-2022)	Program	Shaped data collected; affirmed priorities for acquisition/restoration that benefitted salmon; prioritized specific geographies for acquisition like Johnson creek watershed council	Yes, cohort of urban Indigenous community members have been engaging with Metro	Yes; bond evaluation outcomes project collected 2 interviews and
BIPOC-focused and general community engagement sessions to shape priorities for trail gap acquisition (2021)	Program	Informed how 6 factors were prioritized in the acquisition of future trail segments	Participants were invited to attend other bond engagement opportunities	



Working group for land acquisition

Attendees: PK, John, Vivek, MG, Shannon, Jonathan, Melanie, Beth

Summary of topics covered for report back to full committee

- Discussed broader context for understanding pace and progress on land acquisition
 - Timeline for bond spend—goal is for 8-16 year spend down timeline around 2019 bond.
 - Building on legacy of previous bond measures—Metro completed 500 individual transactions starting 1995. Low hanging fruit has been achieved. The transactions now are more complicated (require land use or other review) and we are able to take advantage of long-standing opportunities.
 - Statewide context—Metro’s acquisition activities are largely nested within species recovery plans for statewide strategy. We’re not working in our bubble, but in a nested system.
 - Discussed balance between acquiring tier 1 and tier 2 parcels in Council approved refinement plans with goal to make sure have a chance to get highest priority parcels.

- Discussed how to articulate progress on land acquisition and bond climate resilience criteria
 - Important to measure success towards climate criteria quantitatively and qualitatively including staff developed graphs showing how each parcel meets the bond’s climate resilience criteria and agreed they could be part of staff’s reporting
 - Explore opportunities to add info about connectivity to future areas for acquisition
 - Try to measure progress to meeting the targeted number of acquisitions we expect to complete in the next 12 to 15 years.

- How restoration costs are estimated on purchase of land (NOTE: restoration projects are not funded by the bond, but by Metro’s parks and nature levy)
 - When Metro is thinking about acquiring a property, doing diligence that helps us understand future stabilization and restoration needs.
 - Certain correlation between the habitat type that we’re acquiring and its future management costs and we have a good way to estimate what costs will be. Any property Metro buys that’s going to be managed for prairie or savannah has significant restoration costs as are projects that we acquire in order to do stream restoration. We may buy a property that was recently clear cut. Needs are to plant it and nurse it along.
 - In quarterly reports, summary of dollars spent on stabilization.

Topics/questions that may help shape year 2 report/intersecting with other working group topics

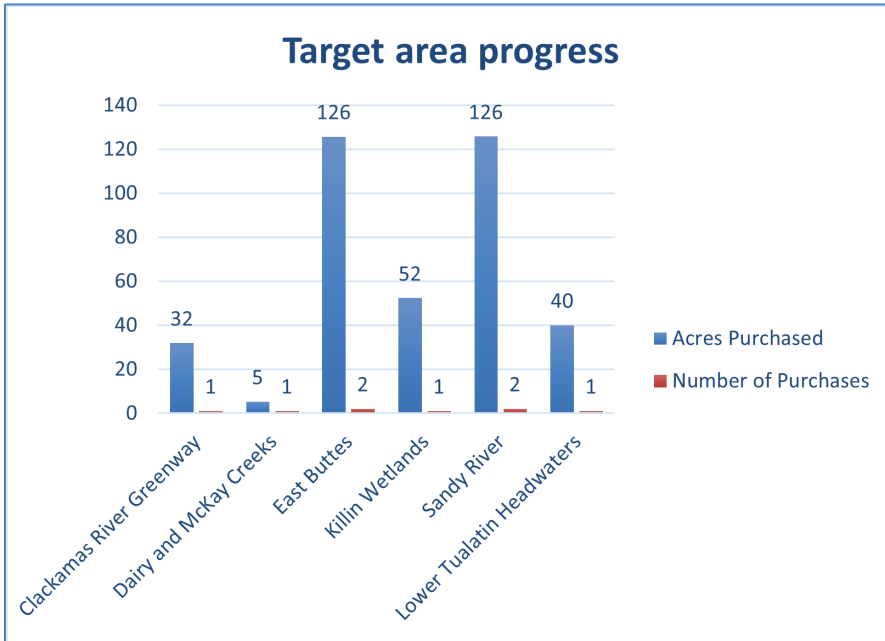
- Feedback on communications tools
 - Provide snapshots on this type of complex information, 1-2 pagers.
 - Include context about how this bond measure builds on 1995 and 2006 bond measures in communications materials (annual report and others)
 - Update closing memo to be more specific about goals of the bond measure to better articulate connectivity, anchor habitat across multiple habitat types goals.
- How to frame conversation in the annual reports to reflect what is important to the oversight committee.
 - Consider recommending stronger emphasis on wildlife corridors in future acquisitions
 - It will be important to show and track progress towards goals across all bond programs; voters will want it and helping to track trends over time.
- How are three bond criteria being addressed across the bond? Each of these criteria are important
 - Would like to see more information on how protect and restore land and all bond programs address the three bond criteria
 - Share mapping of all bond investments (protect and restore and other programs)
 - Would like more opportunities to hear about other bond programs

Topics for future meetings

- Recommendations and key themes for year 2 report
- Review staff developed measures for how we assess the relative connection of a given land acquisition to the criteria of the bond measure that will help articulate which habitat types are in this parcel that we're acquiring and the characteristics of the land that make it more desirable.
- Geographic component and access to land (quantitative and qualitative)
- Simple matrix to demonstrate potential for variance of restoration cost

Key terms and resources related to topics discussed at the working group

- [Refinement plans to guide bond funded land acquisition \(approved by Council in spring 2022\)](#)
- Stabilization: one of the four program activities eligible for Protect and Restore Land funds and the phase of management that follows acquisition. During stabilization Metro uses bond funds to address threats that would otherwise compromise the values for which a new natural area is acquired.
- As of December 2022, 2019 parks and nature bond has funded the acquisition of 386 acres through 11 acquisitions. See more detail in graph below



Winter 2023 Parks and Nature quarterly update

Covering bond activities and investments from October-December 2022



BOND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMPLETED: JULY-DECEMBER 2022

From October-December 2022, staff have completed the following outreach across bond programs:

- Conversations with 25 new landowners out of 60 total about opportunities for land acquisition
- Kick off conversations with 5 park providers about the capital grants pilot in western Washington County and one meeting of the [capital grants design and review committee](#)
- November 2 local share roundtable held for park providers on community engagement
- 10 conversations with park providers about submitting projects for the bond's local share program
- December 12 training for trail grant recipients on cultural resource assessments and developing inadvertent discovery plans (IDPs)

BOND REPORTING AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES COMPLETED

[A set of infographics](#) are posted on Metro's website to visualize bond progress over time to the public. These are meant to serve as a compliment to the [storytelling](#) that we have been doing to highlight specific projects and bond wide progress. [The Parks and Nature annual report](#) for FY 2022 is also posted on the website.

The bond evaluation outcomes data collection pilot has collected data on initial bond programs through 38 interviews and 34 online survey responses as part of efforts to evaluate the impact of early bond program activities and engagement. The findings from the pilot will be included as part of the year 2 staff report to the committee.

BOND ACTIVITIES AND INVESTMENTS COMPLETED: OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2022

Protect and restore land activities from October-December 2022

oregonmetro.gov/protect-and-restore-land

The team continues to ramp up outreach to land-owners across the region to create a pipeline of opportunities for acquisition in alignment with the targets and goals approved by the Metro Council this past spring.

Most recently, Metro purchased a small but significant parcel that includes 115 feet of Beaver Creek

and is surrounded by Metro's South Beaver Creek Greenway Natural Area and [40 acres in Washington County](#), creating the new Fir Clearing Creek Canyon Natural Area including springs and forested headwaters that help provide cold, clean water and increased summer base flow downstream to the Tualatin River. The property contains over 3,000 feet of fish habitat in the main stem, tributaries and headwater areas of Heaton Creek, which is important spawning and rearing habitat for culturally-important native fish such as Coho Salmon, Steelhead and Pacific Lamprey (important species identified by tribal nations and Indigenous community stakeholders). This property will provide a meaningful anchor for future conservation investment in this part of the Lower Tualatin Headwaters target area.

This takes the total parcels acquired as of December 2022 to 11 for 385 acres and 1,900 feet of trail gaps. See more specific information about acquisitions in the appendix of this report.

Local share activities completed from October-December 2022

oregonmetro.gov/localshare

The local share team is working with the region's park providers to identify, submit and approve priority projects for bond local share funding and will continue to report on projects submitted for

approval and finalized agreements with park providers.

During this period, the team received a submission from Portland Parks and Recreation for three projects totaling \$7.5 million and one from the City of Forest Grove for a project at Stites Park for \$1.5 million.

As of December 2022, this makes 5 total projects approved for \$10.3 million with these four projects in active review.

Walking and biking trails activities completed from October-December 2022

Since Council approved [12 trail grant awards for \\$19.5 million](#) across the region from the Clackamas River trail to the Gresham Fairview trail to the Westside trail to Marine Drive trail, the Parks and Nature team is working with grant recipients execute intergovernmental agreements with park providers by spring 2023 so that project work can move forward.

Take care of Metro parks activities completed from October-December 2022

Progress continues on health, safety and accessibility improvements at Blue Lake and Oxbow.

[At Blue Lake Park](#), investments are underway to update the health, safety and accessibility. Initial phase of construction for the new water line is complete as is the work to remove defunct buildings. The park remains open.

Work continues on developing the long-term framework to support Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements across the Metro portfolio. Improvements will kick off with a pilot at Graham Oaks Nature Park to address barriers to access. The intent of the pilot is to inform next steps with a focus on scaling up the work and determining the applicable accessibility standards at one site and apply to the entire portfolio.

[At Oxbow Park](#), two ADA parking spaces are being permitted with construction expected in spring 2023. The location of the parking spaces allows for easier access at the boat launch. In addition to the parking spaces, an accessible seating area with a view of the river is also planned.

Nature in Neighborhoods Community Choice grants activities completed from October-December 2022,

<https://www.oregonmetro.gov/tools-partners/grants-and-resources/nature-grants/capital-grants/capital-grants-pilot>

The Community Choice grants, which utilize a novel participatory approach that gives community members a direct voice in choosing which projects in their communities to recommend for funding to the Metro Council, is launching this winter in Western Washington County to solicit project ideas based on the [solicitation guidebook](#).

Large scale community visions activities completed from October-December 2022

In response to a notice of funding availability for an initial \$10 million pilot grant cycle has been open based on the Council approved [pilot program handbook](#) to fund larger-scale projects that uplift communities by improving access to nature and/or climate resilience in urban areas with minimum budget of \$6 million minimum including a \$2 million investment in habitat uplift, staff have received four letters of intent.

Staff are currently working to review the letters of intent in order to develop a recommendation on next steps for consideration by the Metro this spring.

BOND SPENDING: OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2022

As January 2023, Metro has spent \$35 million of bond proceeds available and allocated an additional \$24.8 million in local share and trail grant awards. The full bond spend report as of January 10, 2023 can be found in the appendix. As with other voter investments, administrative expenses tend to be highest in the first few years as new programs are being built. Once the programs are up and running, the administrative expenses as a percentage of total spending decrease significantly, before a small uptick in the last few years of the life of a bond measure.

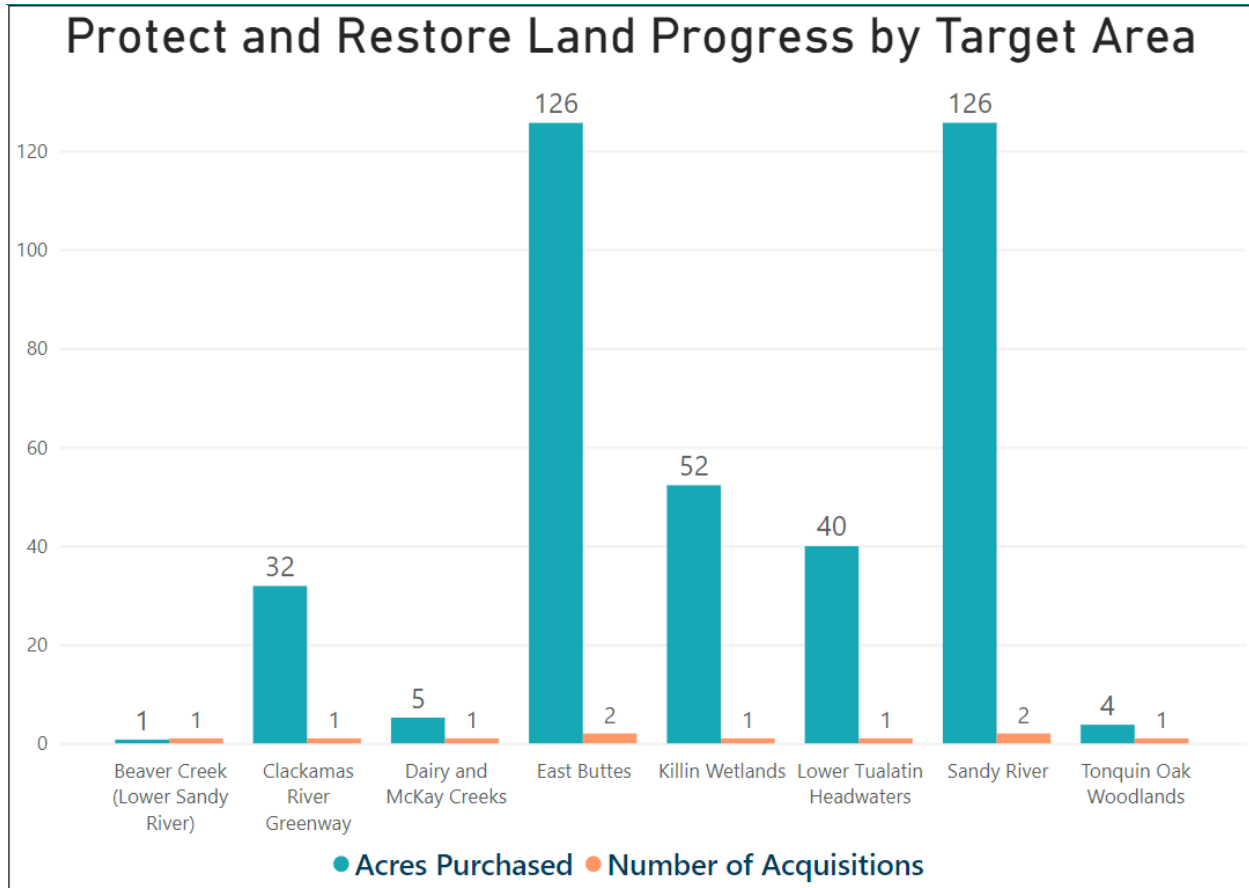


BOND SPEND AS OF JANUARY 10, 2022

	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23YTD	Total Spend
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Personnel	\$ 8,897	\$ 1,027,574	\$ 1,318,586	\$ 804,807	\$ 3,159,864
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Administrative spend as a total of bond spend	66.23%	20.21%	23.04%	24.59%	24%

BOND COBID PARTICIPATION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022

Acquisitions to date by target area

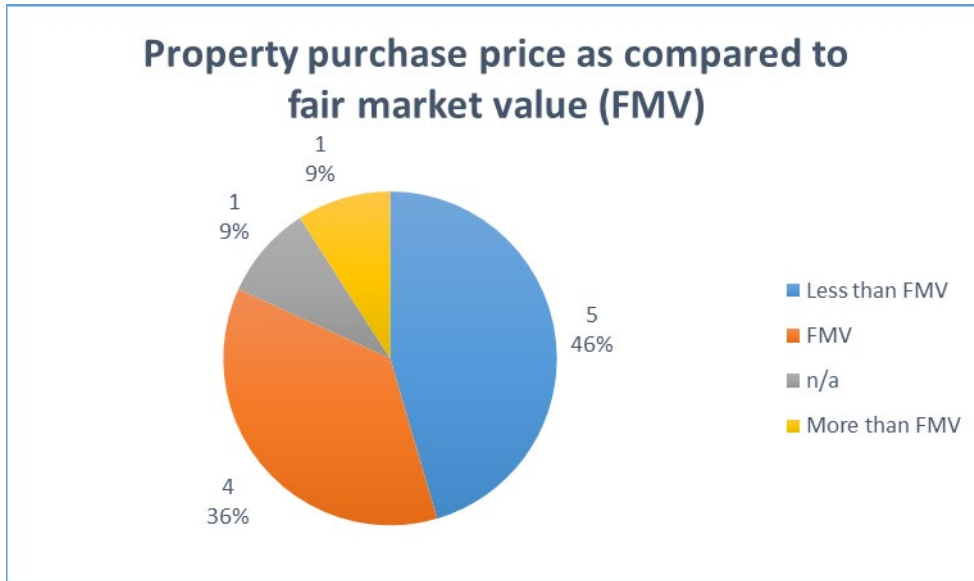


What is this chart?

Through the policy established in the [2019 parks and nature bond measure](#) and the [target area refinement plans](#) the Metro Council has directed staff to acquire properties in 24 regional target areas that meet the refinement plan goals. Each property varies in size and other features. This chart displays the both the number of properties purchased and acres protected in each target area through the Protect and Restore Land program over the lifetime of the 2019 bond. Through December 31, 2022, Metro staff have acquired 10 properties totaling 385 acres across 8 target areas. This number will expand over time as more properties are purchased across all target areas.

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Purchase price vs. market value

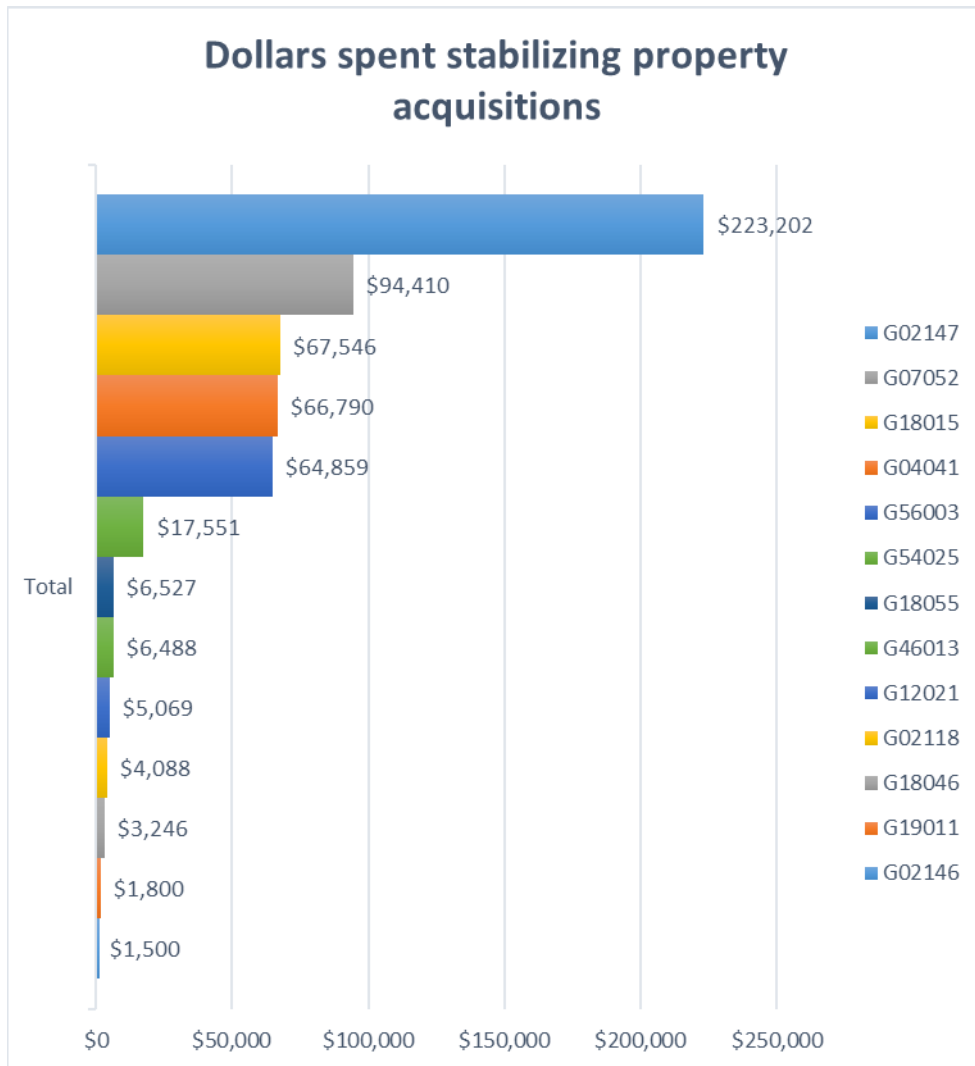


What is this chart?

The Metro Council may direct staff to purchase property at any price, but through the policy established in the Natural Areas Work Plan, the Metro Council has delegated authority to staff to acquire properties for fair market value as supported by an independent appraisal (with the exception of properties purchased for less than \$50,000, which do not require an appraisal). The Chief Operating Officer may purchase a property for up to 10% more than the value established by an appraisal provided certain conditions are met. This chart shows that most properties purchased to date were for fair market value or an appraisal was not required (i.e., the purchase price was less than \$50,000). This includes all purchases funded through the Protect and Restore Land as well as Create Trails for Walking and Biking programs.

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Cost of stabilization to date



Dollars spent through December 31, 2022

Note; labels starting with "G" are financial project codes; each one represents one property.

What is this chart?

Stabilization is one of the four program activities eligible for Protect and Restore Land funds. Stabilization is the phase of management that follows acquisition. During stabilization Metro uses bond funds to address threats that would otherwise compromise the values for which a new natural area is acquired. As no two properties are the same or have the same conditions present, stabilization plans and costs will vary by property and the conditions present. Metro uses a function-based approach to identify and implement stabilization activities appropriate to each site. Function-based stabilization focuses on actions that protect high ecological function and shift currently degrading conditions to a positive trend leading to Metro to meeting the conservation objectives for which the property was purchased. Common stabilization actions include natural resource enhancement and property management and security actions. Important ecological functions addressed include key features such



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as: soil erosion control, habitat quality and trend, temperature and flow modification of streams, and public safety.

Constraints

Current constraints on pace of implementation relate to staff capacity and market dynamics. Capacity is on the way up as Metro has recruited for and hired 2 senior conservation real estate positions in fiscal year 2023, with one assistant conservation real estate specialist position to be hired in the future. That will bring the total to 4 FTE (full time equivalent) working on acquiring real estate for Metro. New staff are getting up to speed quickly and have launched landowner outreach and relationship building activities. New landowner outreach is increasing rapidly which we expect will translate into more possible transactions.

The market continues to be dynamic and challenging for off market transactions. The largest challenges in the market are still related to timelines and seller expectations of value – but Metro real estate staff are now also seeing impacts of low inventory and high interest rates on willing seller cultivation.

Total COBID participation percentages by fiscal year for the 2019 parks and nature bond

Fiscal Year	2019 bond
FY20	1%
FY21	29%
FY22	46%
FY23 YTD	46%

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