



JOIN THE SPONSORSHIP REVIEW COMMITTEE!

Metro Parks and Nature: Sponsorships for community-led activities

Metro is recruiting people to serve on the review committee for the Parks and Nature Community Partnerships (formerly Partners in Nature) community-led activities sponsorships program. Members of the committee will recommend the allocation of up to \$25,000 in total funding for applications of up to \$3,500 to organizations and groups led by and for people of color¹ seeking to build community capacity and connect people of color with nature.

These funds support community-led events and activities held at Metro parks and natural areas. This is a new approach for existing funds intended to provide financial support and limited staff support, if requested, for community activities. Potential activities may include: a community picnic, a walking tour, a nature-based art program or others.

It's important to have a broad diversity of experience and backgrounds represented on the review committee. People seeking sponsorships are eligible to serve on the review committee. All reviewers must disclose any financial conflicts of interest to submitted requests. The committee will review the requests and make a funding recommendation. The Metro Parks and Nature department director will make all final funding decisions.

This is the first round of Parks and Nature Community Partnerships sponsorships for community-led activities to be awarded through the 2016 renewal of Metro's Parks and Natural Areas levy. During this pilot year, there will be two annual review cycles. The fall review cycle will have \$25,000 total available.

Interested in reviewing applications?

Metro is looking for people with backgrounds in community events, nature-based recreation, health or art programming, racial equity, diversity and inclusion work, grant management or related fields. Stipends for committee members will be available upon request.

Metro will select a mix of committee members that bring experience or interest in:

- Collaborating with community groups representing communities of color
- Leading events or community activities at parks and natural areas
- Reviewing or writing small grant proposals or sponsorship requests
- Offering suggestions on ways to integrate a racial equity lens into funding programs.

¹ Metro shares the Coalition for Communities of Color recognition of the following communities of color: African, African American, Asian and Pacific Islander, Latinx, Middle Eastern and North African, Native American and Slavic. Metro includes groups that serve a multi-cultural community comprised primarily of members of the groups listed above.

What is the commitment?

- Review approximately 20 requests in late August - September. (See timeline.)
- Evaluate requests based on the information submitted; the set sponsorship criteria and the review committee's professional and collective judgment.
- Attend a committee orientation meeting held at 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland during the **week of August 26-30**.
- Attend the committee meeting held at 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland prepared to discuss the requests on **Tues., September 24, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**
- Develop sponsorship recommendations together with other review committee members.
- Provide feedback to staff about ways to strengthen the funding program

How to apply

To apply for the sponsorships for community-led activities review committee, please answer the questions below in an email, attach a recent resume which details your relevant background, and send it to the community partnerships coordinator, Sheilagh Diez, sheilagh.diez@oregonmetro.gov. Metro staff will begin reviewing applications on **August 14 2019**.

Application questions

- **Interest:** Why are you interested in serving on the sponsorships for community-led activities review committee?
- **Experience:** What lived or professional experience, knowledge and skills will you bring to the committee? What is your connection to and involvement with communities of color and with racial equity, diversity and inclusion work?
- **Availability:** In order to serve on the review committee, you must attend the two review committee meetings, held at 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland. Are you available during the week of August 26-30 and on **Tuesday, September 24, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.?**
- **Resume:** Please attach a recent resume that reflects your relevant experience and skills.

What's the timeline?

July 15, 2019	Availability of funds announced
Tuesday, August 6, 2019	Funding workshop, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Wed., August 21, 2019	Requests due to Metro
8/22	Review committee introduction meeting
8/23	Review committee meeting, 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.
9e September 2019	Parks and Nature leadership review & approval
Early October 2019	Community-led programming sponsorship awards

Questions about the committee or the program?

For more information, please contact Sheilagh Diez, community partnerships coordinator, at 503-813-7533 or sheilagh.diez@oregonmetro.gov.