



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 \$50,000 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 approach intends to provide financial support and limited staff support, if requested, for community activities. Potential activities may include: a community picnic, a camping program, 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 related 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 in 2020. There are two annual review cycles. The spring review cycle will have \$50,000 total available.

Interested in reviewing applications?

Metro is looking for people with backgrounds in community events, nature-based education, 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 April, 2020. (See timeline.)
- Evaluate requests based on the information submitted; the set sponsorship criteria and the review committee's professional and collective judgment.
- Meet with the program coordinator for a committee orientation meeting in **late March or early April, 2020.**
- Attend the review committee meeting held at 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland prepared to discuss the requests on **Tuesday, April 28, 2020, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**
- Develop sponsorship recommendations together with other review committee members.
- Potentially, conduct a presentation of the sponsorship recommendations to Parks and Nature leadership
- 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 resume which details your individual background, and send it to the community partnerships coordinator, Sheilagh Diez, sheilagh.diez@oregonmetro.gov by Monday, March 16, 2020.

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 review committee meeting, held at 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland. Are you available to do so on **Tuesday, April 28, 2020, 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?

December 2019	Availability of funds announced
Tue., January 14, 2020	Funding workshop, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Wed., February 12, 2020	Funding workshop, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Mon., March 16, 2020	Review committee applications due
Wed., March 25, 2020	Requests due to Metro
Late March/early April 2020	Review committee introduction meetings
April 2020	Committee members review applications
Tue., April 28, 2020	Review committee meeting, 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Early May	Parks and Nature leadership review & approval
Mid-May 2020	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.