

# Agenda



**Metro**

600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Meeting: Natural Areas and Capital Program Performance Oversight Committee  
Date: Monday, May 24, 2021  
Time: 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.  
Place: Please note: To limit the spread of COVID-19, Metro Regional Center is now closed to the public. This public meeting will be held electronically and recorded\*.  
You can join the meeting on your computer or other device by using this link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87444474080?pwd=dG44b0xkZFBZOGozTjI0YWVhV0xldz09>  
**Passcode: 749776 / Webinar ID: 874 4447 4080**

Purpose: Establish oversight committee's charge, purpose and work plan, deeper dive into the work ahead.

Outcome(s): Shared understanding of oversight committee role, feedback on member expectations of Metro and staff.

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**4:00 p.m. Welcome and agenda review**

**4:10 p.m. Overview of bond programs**

**4:30 p.m. Committee charge and purpose**

**4:40 p.m. Committee work plan, roles and responsibilities**

**5:25 p.m. Next steps**

**5:30 p.m. Adjourn**

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or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592

Webinar ID: 874 4447 4080

Passcode: 749776

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87444474080>

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### សេចក្តីជូនដំណឹងអំពីការមិនរើសអើងរបស់ Metro

ការគោរពសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ ១ សំរាប់ព័ត៌មានអំពីកម្មវិធីសិទ្ធិពលរដ្ឋរបស់ Metro ឬដើម្បីទទួលបានកម្មបាលវិស័យសង្គមសេដ្ឋកិច្ច។  
[www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/civilrights)  
បើលោកអ្នកត្រូវការអ្នកបកប្រែភាសានៅពេលអង្គប្រជុំសាធារណៈ សូមទូរស័ព្ទមកលេខ 503-797-1700 (ម៉ោង 8 ព្រឹកដល់ម៉ោង 5 ល្ងាច ថ្ងៃធ្វើការ) ប្រាំពីរថ្ងៃ មុនថ្ងៃប្រជុំដើម្បីអាចឱ្យគេសម្រួលតាមសំណើរបស់លោកអ្នក ។

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**Metro**

600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232-2736

# Meeting minutes

Meeting: Parks and Nature Oversight Committee  
Date/time: Monday, May 24, 2021 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.  
Place: Zoom: view recording at <https://vimeo.com/564406561/9b14196977>  
Purpose: Establish oversight committee's charge, purpose and work plan, deeper dive into the work ahead.  
Outcome(s): Shared understanding of oversight committee role, feedback on member expectations of Metro and staff.

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## **Attendees:**

### **Committee Members**

Tana Atchley Culbertson (she/her)	Shantae Johnson (she/her)	Tabitha Palmer DuPrau (she/her)
Burt Edwards (he/him)	Michelle Lin (she/her)	Eric Peterson (he/him)
John Ferguson (he/him)	Martita Meier (she/her)	Shannon Shoul (she/her)
Lisa Freedman (she/her)	PK Melethil (he/him)	Cary Watters (she/her)
Nicole Johnson (she/her)	Georgena Moran (she/her)	Owen Wozniak (he/him)
	Michael Morrow (he/him)	

### **Metro Council**

Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Christine Lewis, Councilor Mary Nolan

### **Metro staff**

Jon Blasher (he/him), Melissa Bergstrom (she/her), Beth Cohen (she/her), MG Devereux (he/him), Kate Fagerholm (she/her), Crista Gardner (she/her), Shannon Leary (she/her), Humberto Marquez Mendez (he/him), Dan Moeller (he/him), Melanie Reinert (she/her), Robert Spurlock (he/his), Robyn Stowers (she/her), Kelly Struhs (she/her), Melissa Weber (she/her)

### **Guest facilitators**

Allison Brown (she/her), Béalleka Makau (she/her), Ariella Frishberg

### **Public**

John Charles (Cascade Policy), Leigh Crabtree (Beaverton), Peter Swinton (THPRD)

### **Absent**

Brian Mercier, Vivek Shandas, Erin Upton

### **Welcome and Agenda Review**

Allison Brown, JLA Public Involvement, began the meeting by welcoming everyone and reviewing Zoom tools and logistics. Allison took roll. 15 committee members were present. Four were not present at the time of roll call. Councilor Mary Nolan gave opening remarks, starting with a Native Land Acknowledgment.

## Overview of Bond Programs

Beth Cohen, Strategic Funding Program Manager at Metro, gave a brief overview of the bond measure as an introduction to the following speakers. Three criteria set this bond measure apart: to advance racial equity, to prepare for climate change, and to conduct meaningful community engagement. Metro is currently in the “bond refinement” phase, which involves engaging community to help identify how to invest the funds.

Speakers representing each bond program shared details about the programs. This summary includes a brief overview of the points they shared and how to find more detailed information. References are made to a binder of general bond resources such as legislation and program materials provided to committee members.

- \$155 million for land acquisition and restoration, Dan Moeller, Conservation Program Director for Metro Parks and Nature
  - Refinement Goal: Metro Council adopts refinement plans for 24 target areas by early 2022, kicking off land acquisition
  - Target areas were developed with strong community engagement throughout the region
  - [Find more about these target areas in exhibit B in the legislation tab, section 1 of the resource binder]
- \$40 million for walking and biking trails, Dan Moeller
  - Refinement Goals: adopt trail gap acquisition priority list by early 2022 and create trail grant program with potential review bodies
  - Desire to be creative and thoughtful about how to efficiently distribute these funds through a streamlined process.
  - [Find more about trail target areas in 1F in the legislation tab, section 1 of the resource binder.]
- Take care of Metro parks program area: \$98 million for Metro park improvements, Melissa Bergstrom, Program manager for take care of Metro parks
  - Refinement goals: continue to address urgent infrastructure needs and work with community to prioritize second phase projects
  - Some of the conversations with community will include: where to prioritize efforts, what types of amenities to prioritize, and what will help communities of color feel safe and welcomed at Metro parks.
  - [Find more details about this program area in Exhibit E and Section 6a of the resource binder.]
- Capital grants program area: \$40 million for Nature in Neighborhoods capital grants, Crista Gardner, Program Manager for the Nature in Neighborhoods capital grants program area
  - Refinement Goals: launch participatory pilot by 2022 with regional task force, launch competitive capital grants program by 2023 with grant review committee
  - Four major categories likely to be considered: land acquisition, urban transformations, restoration, and neighborhood greening.
  - [Find more details about this program area in section 1, exhibit D of the resource binder.]
- Local share program area: \$92 million for local share, MG Devereux, Deputy Director for Metro Parks and Nature
  - Refinement Goals: launch program in spring 2021 and park providers submit priority projects and sign IGAs starting summer 2021
  - [Find more details about this program area in section 1, exhibit C of the digital binder as well as section 5, the local share handbook.]

- Complex community visions program area: \$50 million for large scale community visions, MG Devereux, Deputy Director for Parks and Nature
  - Refinement Goals: Develop solicitation package for phase 1 by fall 2021 and establish community-centered approach for phase 2 in 2022
  - [Find more details about this program area in section 1, exhibit G as well as in an email memo in section 10.]

The facilitator paused to allow time for questions but there were no questions from the committee at this point.

### **Committee Charge and Purpose**

MG Devereux reviewed the formal purpose of the committee and outlined the expectations for committee members. He gave a brief history of how the bond was built and how the Natural Areas Oversight Committee fits in the decision-making process.

Michael Morrow asked, “How do you know you’ve captured input from culturally-specific and other historically marginalized communities?”

MG Devereux clarified that one of the benefits of this bond team is that there is an engagement team that is focused on working with and providing information to organizations and communities in these categories. We won’t be able to reach everybody, but one of our engagement strategies is to be in as many places as we can and keep those lines of communication open. We also encourage members of this committee to help amplify this work within your networks or reach out to staff if you have ideas for additional work we can do in this area.

### **Committee Work Plan, Roles and Responsibilities**

Beth Cohen presented a schedule for the committee meetings in the different phases of the bond process. The full schedule graphic can be found on slide 21. She then outlined the three larger categories of committee responsibilities: Learn and Share, Evaluate, and Provide Feedback/Recommendations.

Councilor Nolan added that Council wants committee members to “dig deep” and invited them to be rigorous in their critique.

MG Devereux then shared some draft expectations for committee members. These include: attendance at meetings (and communication about absences), participation in training and onboarding activities, and being clear when speaking with members of the public about whether you are speaking as an individual or as a member of the committee. He reviewed upcoming decision points for the committee related to how the committee intends to operate and work together. He shared slides that summarized the role of Council Members and Metro staff in supporting the work of the committee (these can be found on Slides 25-26).

The facilitator paused here for questions. There were no questions from the committee members at this time.

### **Transparency & Accountability**

MG Devereux reviewed transparency and accountability for Metro and committee members. Metro will share information as it becomes available, be transparent about the work, and be transparent

about expectations. Committee members are asked to share any conflicts of interest and to share where there are any overlaps between committee work and their “day job.”

**Wrap up and Next Steps**

MG Devereux outlined the next steps for committee members. Allison Brown thanked Metro staff for sharing information and committee members for their participation. She encouraged committee members to share if there are tools that would be useful for the committee in meeting the committee’s goals or if they have any feedback for Metro staff. She provided committee members one more opportunity to ask questions.

PK Melethil thanked Metro staff for the information. He asked that slide decks be made available as early as possible prior to the meeting.

John Ferguson shared that site visits would be immensely valuable to the work and looks forward to getting out on site tours.

Béalleka Makau reminded committee members that they need to complete responses to the survey she sent out so she can schedule a 1-on-1 meeting with them. She will be leading the conversation during the July meeting.

Lisa Freedman asked if there is a list of all committee members and their bios in the binder. This information can be found in the binders behind the Table of Contents. Beth Cohen also reminded people they can request a physical binder as well as access all the information electronically.

Allison Brown reminded committee members they can contact Beth Cohen with questions by emailing [beth.cohen@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:beth.cohen@oregonmetro.gov) and closed the meeting.

**Decisions**

N/A

**Actions agreed upon**

N/A

**Appendix 1: Zoom Chat**

**PK Melethil:** RE Transparency

Pursuant to this Oversight committee's stated Purpose ("Provide independent program oversight on behalf of the Metro Council to ensure that the committee will keep Metro accountable and transparent in its use of capital funds ..."), I am requesting more information on current (2021) projects associated with the 2019 Parks & Nature Bond and levy.

The hope is that committee members can independently assess what is happening on the ground, so that we are better informed when we attend quarterly meetings.

As an example, the May 12 Jonathan Soll memo "Update on Refinement for Metro Bond: Protect and Restore Land", which was forwarded to me by Clackamas SWCD staff provided details of Metro's process (specifically Target Area Ecological Assessments (TAEAs) which may be of interest to other committee members also.

Thank you.

**Melanie Reinert (she/her):** The target areas map is included in the 2019 bond which is in your resources binder (virtual or digital)

**Lisa Freedman:** Tab 6?

**John Ferguson:** Does the numbering system on the target areas map indicate priorities for purchase from 1 to 24, or something else.

**Melanie Reinert (she/her):** Actually, it's in the legislation section Tab 1 I believe?

**Lisa Freedman:** Thank you. Would be great to be directed to each document (tab/page) as it is described.

**Melanie Reinert (she/her):** great thought Lisa- pulling mine out to see if I can help refer!

**Beth Cohen:** thanks John, the target areas are not numbered according to priority. My sense is that this was a way to create unique identifier for each target area to display on a map.

**Melanie Reinert (she/her):** target areas are exhibit F in the legislation in section 1 of your resources

**Melanie Reinert (she/her):** Melissa is going over exhibit E in same section and

**Melanie Reinert (she/her):** section 6a, map of capital projects

**Melanie Reinert (she/her):** Clarifying- the previous trails target section is 1F, and the Protect and restore target areas are 1B sorry if that was confusing. Crista is currently sharing on section 1 exhibit D: Capital grants.

**Melanie Reinert (she/her):** Local share is covered in 1 exhibit C, and see the handbook in section 5!

**Melanie Reinert (she/her):** The legislation in section one exhibit G summarizes the community visions program

**Melanie Reinert (she/her):** You can find the memo from MG in your last email from us, in section 10, and the Council's ordinance on the oversight committee is in section 1 just after the bond legislation for reference

**Melanie Reinert (she/her):** Section 8 in your resources has some more grounding in the department and Metro as a larger agency. Contact emails for the staff should be right after your table of contents as well.

**Beth Cohen:** beth.cohen@oregonmetro.gov

**Beth Cohen:** Also want to flag that we can compile questions already received, now and in between meetings and share answers to the whole committee if that's helpful

**Tana Atchley Culbertson:** Thank you for getting through so much content in a succinct way! Looking forward to our next gathering.





Metro

# Natural Areas and Capital Program Performance Oversight Committee

May 2021



# Committee members



Tana Culbertson	Co-Director, Willamette River Network
Burt Edwards	Communications Director, Friends of Columbia Gorge
Lisa Freedman	Former US Forest Service Executive and Budgeting Director
Nicole Johnson	Community Engagement Director, 1000 Friends of Oregon
Bryan Mercier	NW Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Georgena Moran	Accessibility specialist, ACCESS recreation
Eric Peterson	Vice President of Operations, Newland Communities
Cary Watters	Contract equity specialist, Portland Bureau of Transportation
Owen Wozniak	Land Transactions Program Manager, the Land Trust Alliance
John Ferguson	Former geotechnical engineer
Shantae Johnson	Owner, Mudbone Grown LLC
Michelle Lin	Adventure leader, Wild Diversity
Martita Meier	Digital Strategist and Project manager
PK Melethil	Environmental Scientist, private practitioner
Michael Morrow	Happy Valley Planning Commission
Tabitha Palmer DuPau	Underwriting Counsel, Fidelity National Title Group
Vivek Shandas	Professor, Portland State University
Shannon Shoul	Director, Procurement Sustainability, Nike
Erin Upton	Environmental social scientist and landscape architect

# Council liaisons

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

**Councilor Christine Lewis, District 2:** includes the cities of Gladstone, Johnson City, Lake Oswego, Milwaukie, Happy Valley, Oregon City, Rivergrove, West Linn, a portion of Southwest Portland and unincorporated parts of Clackamas County.

**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

# Staff team



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

*Background information, staff support:* Beth Cohen

*Meeting logistics, administrative support:* Melanie Reinert

*Facilitation and training (third party contractors):* Allison Brown and Béalleka Makau

*Office of Metro Attorney:* Kelly Struhs

*Parks and Nature finance manager:* Melissa Weber

# Today's agenda



- 4:00 p.m. Welcome and agenda review
- 4:10 p.m. Overview of bond programs
- 4:30 p.m. Committee charge and purpose
- 4:40 p.m. Committee work plan, roles and responsibilities
- 5:25 p.m. Next steps
- 5:30 p.m. Adjourn



# 2019 parks and nature bond programs



Metro



# \$475 million to improve water quality, protect fish and wildlife and connect people to nature

1. Land acquisition and restoration
2. Improvements at Metro parks
3. Community grants
4. Local government allocations
5. Trails
6. Large scale community visions



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Bond criteria set  
this measure  
apart

Advance  
racial equity

Prepare for climate  
change

Conduct meaningful  
engagement



Metro





# Bond refinement



Determine how bond funds will be invested within each program to meet the bond criteria and values







# \$155 million for land acquisition and restoration

Refinement goal:  
Council adopts refinement  
plans for 24 target areas by  
early 2022, kicking off land  
acquisition

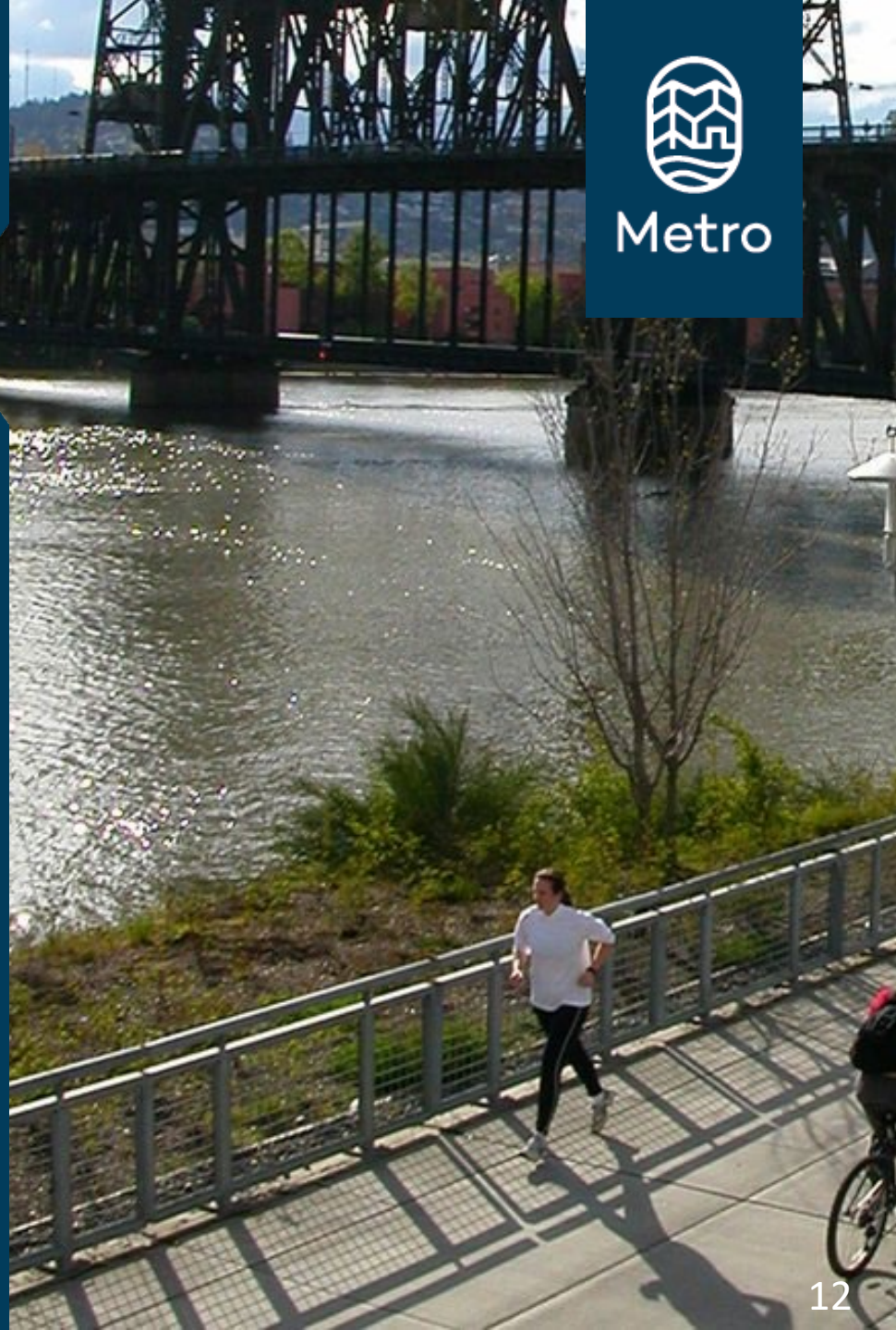




# \$40 million for walking and biking trails



Metro



## Refinement goals:

- Adopt trail gap acquisition priority list by early 2022
- Create trail grant program with potential review bodies

# \$98 million for Metro park improvements

## Refinement goals:

- Continue to address urgent infrastructure needs
- Work with community to prioritize second phase projects



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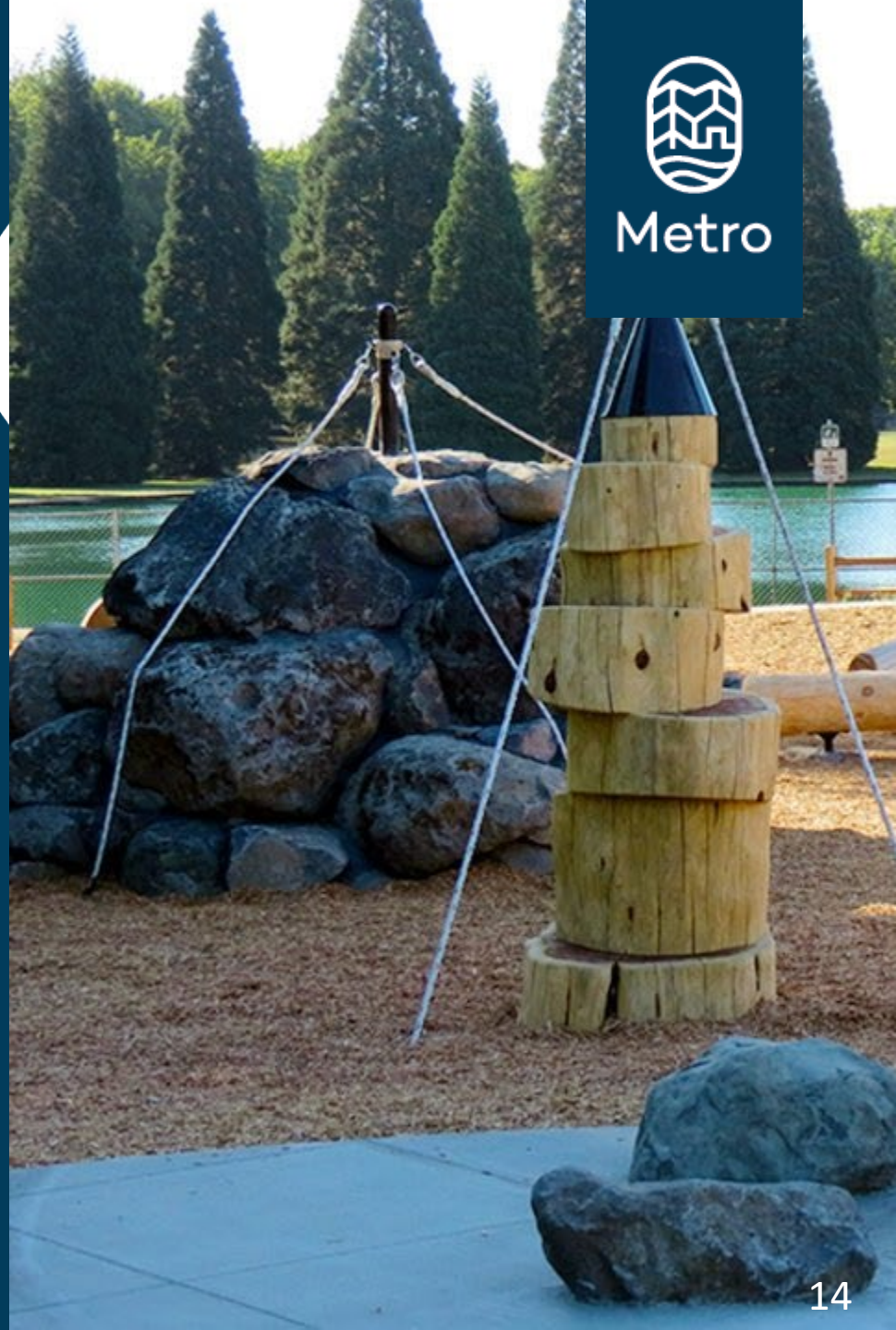
# \$40 million for Nature in Neighborhoods capital grants

Refinement goals:

- launch participatory pilot by 2022 with regional task force
- Launch competitive capital grants program by 2023 with grant review committee



Metro



# \$92 million for local share

Refinement goals:

- Launch program this spring
- Park providers submit priority projects and sign IGAs starting summer 2021



Metro





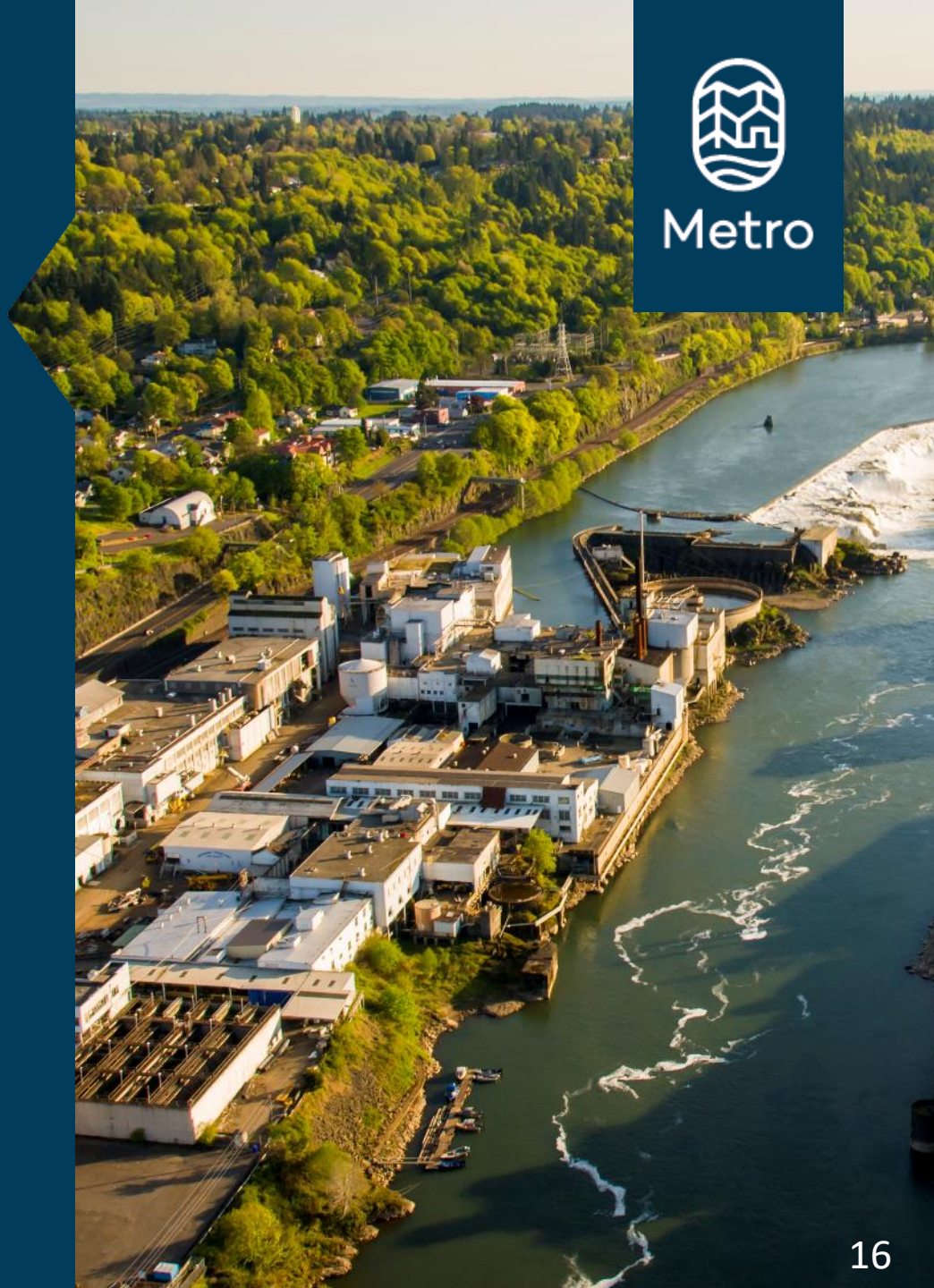
# \$50 million for large scale community visions

## Refinement goals:

- Develop solicitation package for Phase 1 by fall 2021
- establish community-centered approach for Phase 2 in 2022



Metro

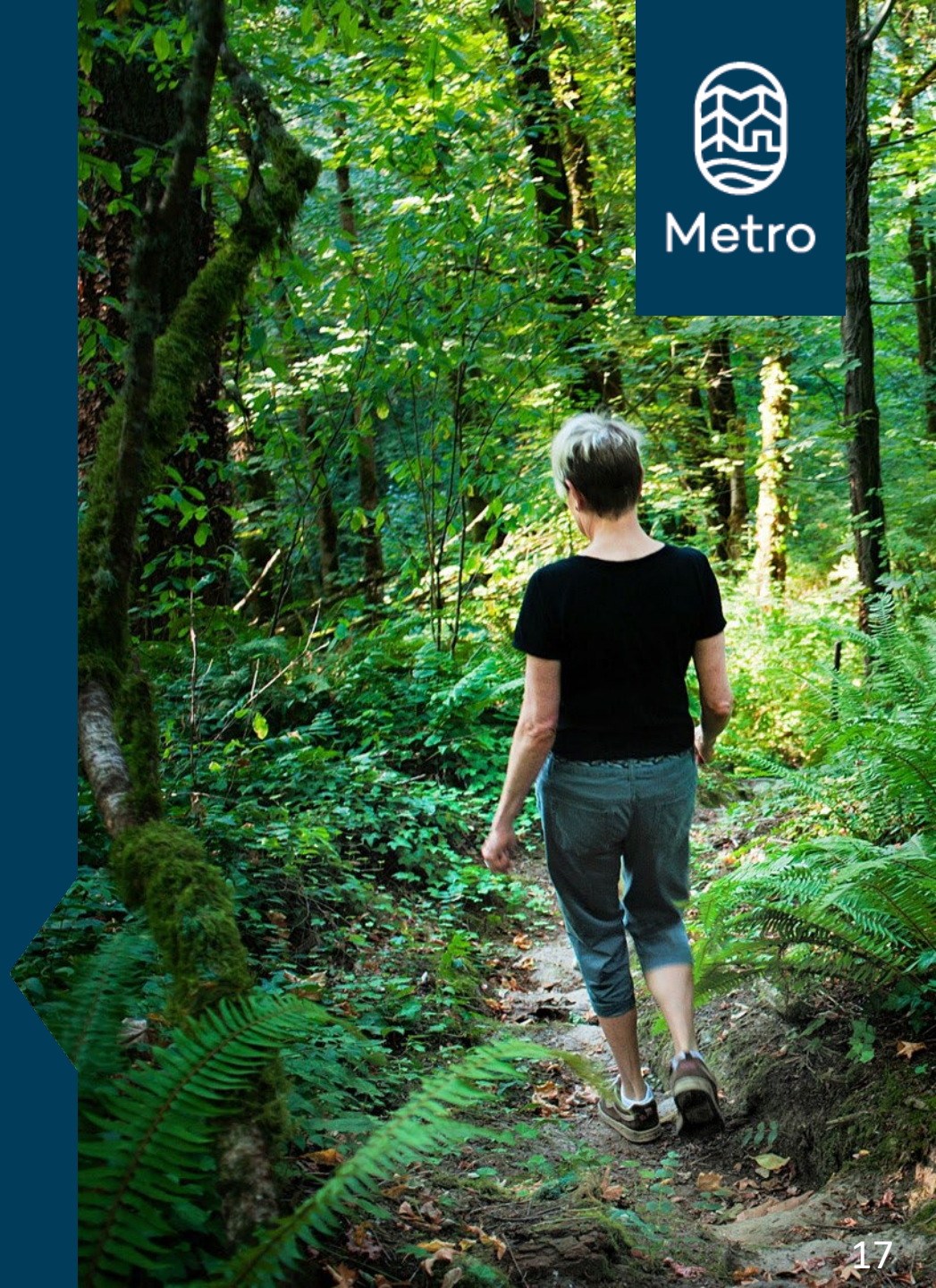




# Expectations for the committee



Metro



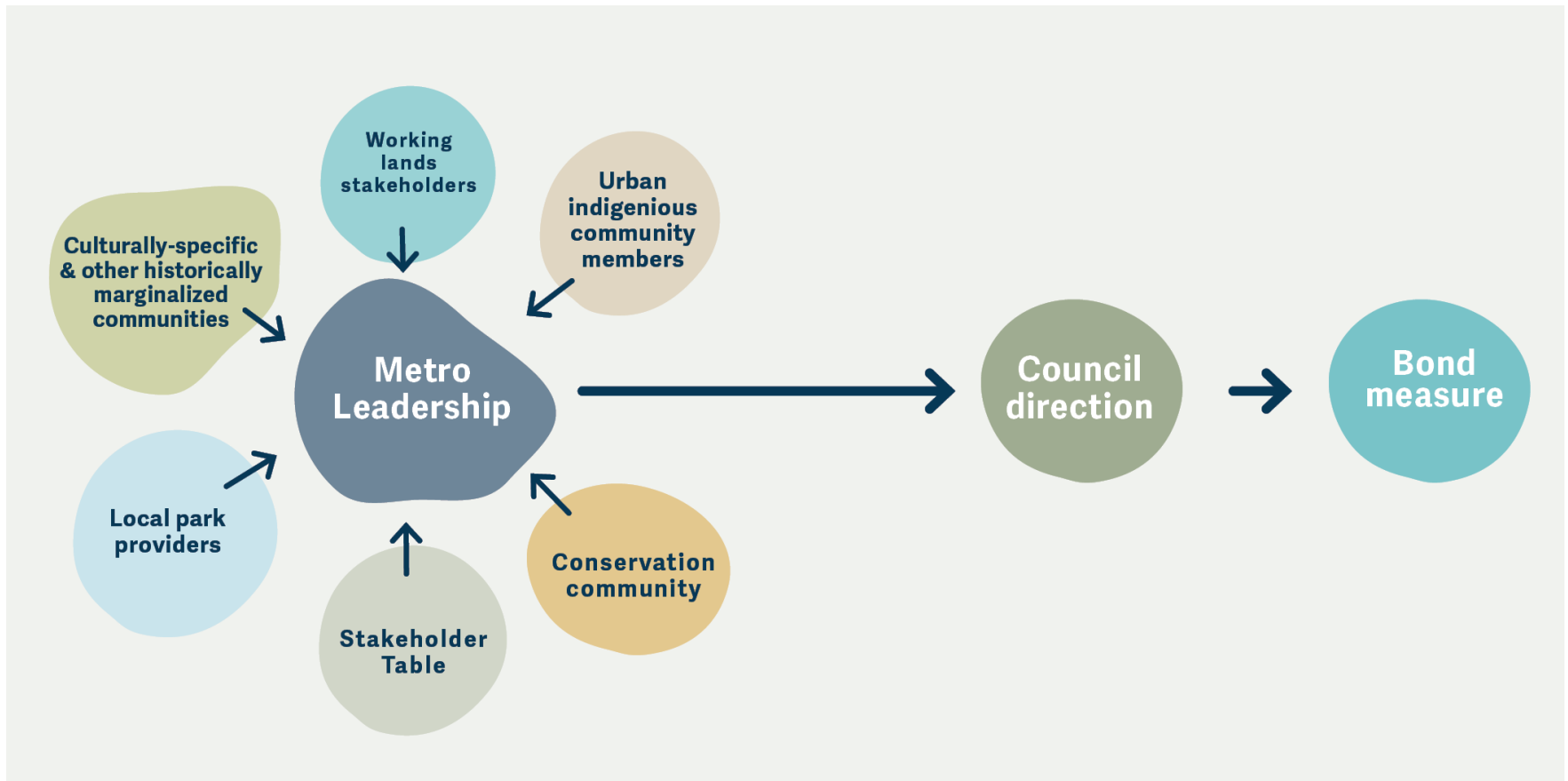


# Committee purpose

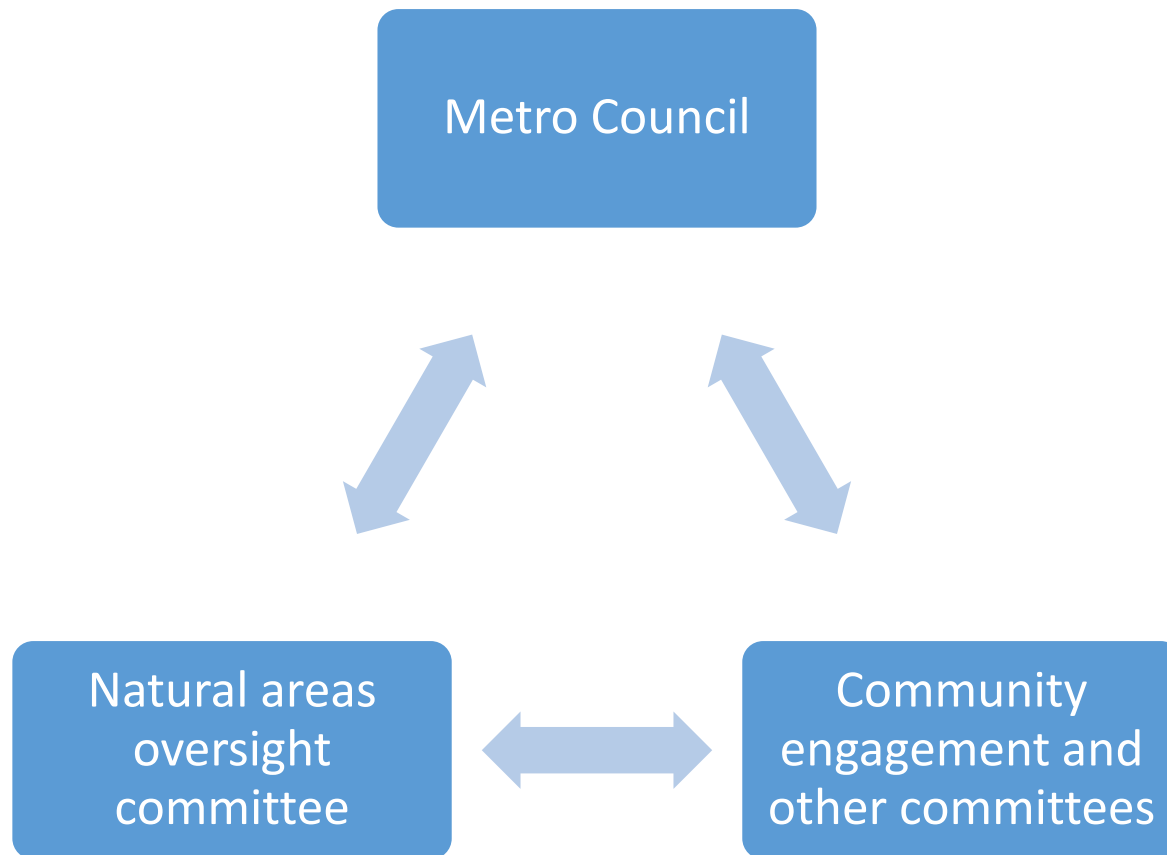


Provide independent program oversight on behalf of the Metro Council to ensure that the committee will keep Metro accountable and transparent in its use of capital funds from the \$475 million 2019 parks and nature bond, the parks and natural areas local option levy and any remaining funds from the 2006 natural areas bond.

# How the bond was built



# Oversight committee's role



# Committee meeting plan

Phase	1. Develop shared understanding		2. Build tools for committee work		3. Gather data and information		4. Review and report	
Purpose of phase	Understand bond programs, bond refinement and committee's role		Review relevant tools for first year of work		Receive Council adopted outcomes; Review PN staff developed report		Review relevant data for calendar year 2021; Shape content and format for first year report to Metro Council	
Timing	April 16, 2021 meeting	May 24, 2021 work session ★	July 26, 2021 meeting	Sept 2021 work session	Oct 2021 meeting	Dec 2021 meeting	Jan 2022 meeting	Jan/Feb 2022 report to Council
Activities projected and documents for review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bond programs deep dive</li> <li>Charge/purpose authority from the Metro Council</li> <li>Roles and responsibilities</li> <li>Work ahead</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training around three bond criteria (esp. racial equity)</li> <li>Committee approval of bylaws and group agreements</li> <li>Subcommittees (if needed)</li> <li>Co-chairs appointed by President Peterson (1-2 year terms)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council approved list of outcomes for measuring bond progress</li> <li>Parks and Nature staff developed annual report</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of oversight committee annual report to Council</li> <li>Recommendations for the next year of committee work</li> <li>Policy recommendations to the Metro Council</li> </ul>	

# Committee responsibilities

## 1. Learn and share

- Program briefings and updates
- Quarterly reports/emails
- Site tours

## 2. Evaluate

- Use Council approved outcomes
- Identify data and reporting needs
- Build tools
- Compile annual reports

## 3. Provide feedback/recommendations

# Expectations

Attend regular committee meetings as scheduled and if unable to attend, review content with PN staff

Participate in the bond criteria training and other onboarding activities

Be clear when speaking with individuals and groups outside the committee whether you are speaking as an individual or as a member of the committee



# Upcoming decision points

Review bylaws and group agreements

How the committee wants to represent itself

How the committee wants to receive information

Whether the committee wants to do its work in subcommittees and if so, how they should be organized.

How the committee wants to engage in the development of its annual report and what should be included.

# Metro Council

Appoint committee members

Identify three Council liaisons that attend committee meetings and participate

Receive committee recommendations and annual review reports on the progress in meeting the goals of the 2019 parks and nature bond, on any relevant issues with capital investments from the parks and natural areas local option levy and the final reports and close out of the 2006 Bond

Be responsible for policy decisions based on reviewing the committee's reports and recommendations

# Metro staff

Facilitate the work program of the committee

Respond to individual committee members' questions and concerns as they arise

be transparent with the committee about the work and the committee's role

Handle all meeting logistics

Propose a yearly work program for the committee



# Transparency and accountability

## For Metro

- Sharing information as it becomes available
- Being transparent about the work
- Being transparent about expectations

## For committee members

- Conflict of interest
- Share where “day job” overlaps with committee work

# Thank you and next steps



Post-meeting survey

Continued 1/1 conversations

Finalizing July and  
September meeting dates

Binders and sharefile  
available



**oregonmetro.gov**

