Project Criteria & Eligibility Selection

Goals and Values

PROCESS GOALS

★ General process goals for Metro:
- Support, develop, and activate new and existing community leaders
- Increase transparency in decision making process

★ Once geography is established,
- Clearly define and establish what communities on which the project is being centered
- Develop process goals and establish measures of successful outcomes through community-led processes

Comments, clarifications, suggested alterations?

agree

Agree

agree

Potentially "activate leaders &..."

Is this our final decision?

TARGETED POPULATIONS

❖ Committee recommendations for targeting participants & investment
- ➢ Environmental justice: center communities that are disproportionately impacted by pollution and environmental hazards, and/or disproportionately vulnerable to climate change-related disasters
- ➢ Underserved communities: center communities that are or have been historically underinvested, nature-deficient, represent intersecting marginalized identities, and/or communities impacted by displacement or gentrification.

❖ Instead of focusing on a particular population (e.g. youth or people with disabilities), use a **targeted universalist** approach:
- ➢ Bring in the general population for crowdsourcing ideas, then engage underserved voices to ensure their voices are being heard
- ➢ Engage multi-generational audiences to get a complete understanding of the community's needs.

Comments, clarification, suggested alterations?

neighborhoods at risk or currently experiencing gentrification

communities who are being/ have been displaced from gentrification

Include those disproportionally impacted by climate change

Targeted populations from Jamboard: "projects led by residents who hold marginalized identities"; JL: Metro Park & Nature's 24 "Target Areas"; JL: "communities of most need" (e.g., have NOT benefited from capital investments in recent years) by Philadelphia PB; I like this a little better: "projects led by people who identify as holding marginalized identities."

Communities subject to historic redlining or displacement?

target nature-deficiant areas

communities displaced (influx of displaced individuals and communities)

Is this our final decision?

Criteria Selection

Jeffrey | Kevin | Theresa | Blanca | Jairaj | Alisa | Metro

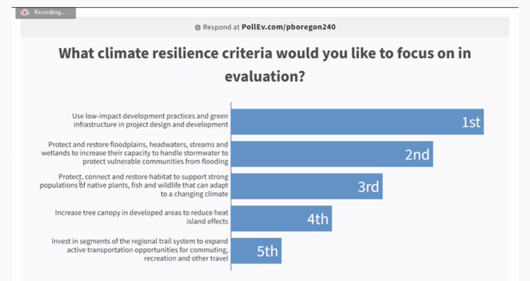
Community Engagement & Racial Equity Criteria

The Capital Grants Pilot must satisfy **all** of these requirements

- Meaningfully engage with communities of color, Indigenous communities, people with low incomes and other historically marginalized communities in planning, development and selection of projects.
- 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.
- Include strategies to prevent or mitigate displacement and/or gentrification resulting from bond investments.
- Prioritize projects and needs identified by communities of color, Indigenous communities, low-income and other historically marginalized groups. Metro has found ways to prioritize these communities in ways that do not violate the law, like outreach or reducing barriers.
- Improve the accessibility and inclusiveness of developed parks.
- Set aspirational goals for workforce diversity and use of COBID contractors and work to reduce barriers to achieving these goals; demonstrate accountability by tracking outcomes and reporting impacts.

Climate Resilience Criteria

The Committee must choose **one or more** of these critertia



- Protect, connect and restore habitat to support strong populations of native plants, fish and wildlife that can adapt to a changing climate.
- Protect and restore floodplains, headwaters, streams and wetlands to increase their capacity to handle stormwater to protect vulnerable communities from flooding.
- Increase tree canopy in developed areas to reduce heat island effects.
- Use low-impact development practices and green infrastructure in project design and development.
- Invest in segments of the regional trail system to expand active transportation opportunities for commuting, recreation and other travel.

Discussion, clarifications, questions

Do we want more narrow criteria (increasing chances success) or open (broadening project ideas)?

Do we need to consider how criteria funded currently?

I like an expansive approach. If we stuck with just low-impact development, we'll be missing out on hearing out the many (and unknown) lived challenges!

I would like to keep it broader. 1.) More tools to fight climate change; 2.) Would allow for flexibility in the future.

I would like to have a broader approach, but projects that fulfill more than one criteria gets a higher score

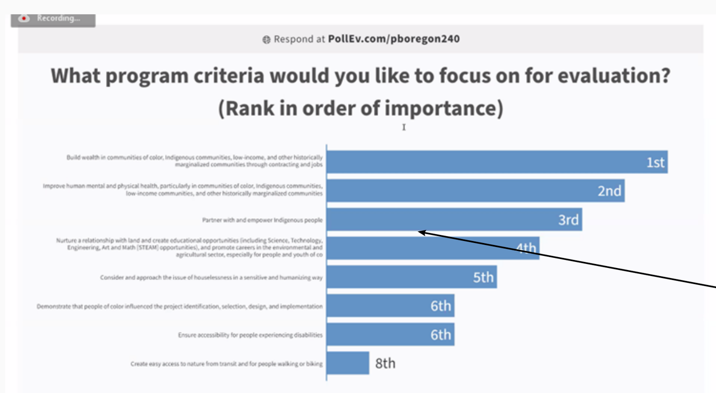
Would narrowing make it more difficult for CBOs to implement projects?

As a pilot, expansive approach could be useful to gauge interest and set later stages...

Is this our final decision?

Program Criteria

The Committee must choose **one or more** of these critertia



- 2 — Improve human mental and physical health, particularly in communities of color, Indigenous communities, low-income communities and other historically marginalized communities.
- 1 — Build wealth in communities of color, Indigenous communities, low-income and other historically marginalized communities through contracting and jobs.
- Demonstrate that people of color influenced the project identification, selection, design and implementation.
- 4 — Nurture a relationship with land and create educational opportunities (including Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math [STEAM] opportunities) and promote careers in the environmental and agricultural sector, especially for people and youth of color.
- 3 — Partner with and empower Indigenous people.
- Ensure accessibility for people experiencing disabilities.
- Create easy access to nature from transit and for people walking or biking.
- Consider and approach the issue of houselessness in a sensitive and humanizing way.

Revised:

- Improve human mental and physical health, particularly in communities of color, Indigenous communities, low-income communities and other historically marginalized communities.
- Build wealth in communities of color, Indigenous communities, low-income and other historically marginalized communities through contracting and jobs.
- Demonstrate leadership by Black, Indigenous, and People of Color in project identification, selection, design and implementation.
- Nurture a relationship with land and create educational opportunities (including Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math [STEAM] opportunities) and promote careers in the environmental and agricultural sector, especially for people and youth of color.
- Increase accessibility of public, park, and other natural spaces.
- Increase access to nature from transit and for people walking or biking.
- Consider and approach the issue of houselessness in a sensitive and humanizing way.

Discussion, clarifications, questions

HOMEWORK: Make language suggestions and continue discussion - 2-3 days before next meeting!

- Combined #3 & #5, per Theresa's comment as they're similar and to avoid syphoning votes from each other
- Changed influence --> leadership to avoid tokenizing relationships

- Made language broader to be more inclusive and less constrained to disability definitions of ADA
- Emphasizing projects to increase access in all public spaces, not just new projects ADA accessible

#5 --> extend to applying ITEK (Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge), creating space for spiritual and gathering, etc.?

I don't think the broad approach here is as achievable. Maybe top 3-4 choices.

Re: #2, From Climate Resilience Criteria Guidance: "Increase the diversity of the...workforce engaged in climate work to reflect Oregon's population and to ensure effective climate adaptation' (DLCD, 2021) "

3rd have potential risk of tokenism

5th feels kind of generalized

i agree about tokenism-- is there a way to call for empowerment without generating tokenism?

5 seems like it could also generate tokenism

#3 and #5 can probably be combined, but emphasizing partnership over influencing

Re: #5, From Climate Resilience Criteria Guidance: "Include long-term relationship-building between Tribal and local/regional governments, which is essential to the 'full and effective participation of Indigenous peoples' "

Is this our final decision?

The 2019 Bond Purpose, Principles and Criteria

Purpose

This proposed 2019 bond measure will allow the region to continue efforts protecting water quality and wildlife habitat for generations to come.

This program will fund community-led projects, with an emphasis on benefitting historically marginalized communities.

These projects will protect and improve water quality and fish and wildlife habitat, support climate resiliency and/or increase people's experience of nature at the community scale.

All projects must satisfy required bond program community engagement, racial equity and climate resilience criteria ... as well as the Capital Grants requirements set forth below.

Principles

All of the following will guide the Pilot

- Serve communities through inclusive engagement, transparency and accountability
- Advance racial equity through bond investments
- Protect clean water for people, fish and wildlife
- Protect and restore culturally significant native plant communities
- Protect, connect and improve habitat for native fish and wildlife
- Take care of what we have (maintain, update and reinvest in regional and local destinations)
- Make parks and natural areas more accessible and inclusive
- Connect more people to the land and rivers of our region
- Invest in trails for biking and walking
- Support community-led parks and nature projects
- Make communities more resilient to climate change
- 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

Program Criteria

Advance Racial Equity

Base Decisions on Meaningful Engagement

Prepare for Climate Change

Project Requirements

Funded projects must meeet **all** of the following

- Projects must demonstrate strong partnerships between community-based organizations and public (non-federal) agencies
- Projects must be within the Urban Growth Boundary and/or the Metro jurisdictional boundary, or as approved by the Metro Council
- Projects must be clearly achievable given the knowledge, skills, and resources available among project partners
- Expenses must be associated with capital projects only; not for general operating expenses
- Projects that involve the acquisition of properties or easements must be negotiated with willing sellers
- Grantees will be required to evaluate their projects (i.e. progress reports)

Funding Projects

Jeffrey | Kevin | Theresa | Blanca | Jairaj | Alisa | Metro

Multiple Funding Streams

Should the available grant money (the pot) be divided (and along with it, Project Development and the Community Vote ballot)?

Potential Benefits	*Potential Risks*
Balanced competition between different project sizes or types (avoids some projects being squeezed out) Allows for tailoring project development processes to specific needs of project types or budgets Allows individuals, jurisdictions, and community organizations to target their investment desires	Duplication of efforts Staff time investment for multiple development processes Subdividing too finely or into categories that don't match project submissions could result in some categories being overfull while some are unfulfilled

Questions for the Committee

What are the strengths and weaknesses of this approach?

Does it/could it align with stated Goals and Values?

What is an appropriate balance between the different streams?

How are projects divided/classified? Where are the thresholds?

Q: Should the grant fund be divided?

Y | Discussion, clarifications, questions | N

I definitely like the divide. Limiting numbering to not get down super fine but it will help us make sense or the "apples to oranges" issue.

I think we should go big and have less divisions.

I also like dividing it but probably need a limit on # of divides

I like the idea of dividing

I like dividing the pot to give smaller orgs a better chance; larger orgs with grantmaking staff have a strong advantage

The potential risks can be managed by the setup

I like the divide as an idea but can definitely see it getting too complicated (though I think the benefits outweigh the risks!)

Is this our final decision?

Funding Categories

If the answer above is **Yes**, how should the grant funds be divided, **by budget size or by type?**

Q: How should the grant funds be divided, by budget or by type?

Budget

Potential Benefits	*Potential Risks*
Less competition between small and large projects for limited fund dollars (small projects don't get squeezed out) Budget delegate work can focus on small projects, allowing them to be developed further, while large projects can rely on previous development and community engagement Would be less burdensome on community members (budget delegates); allows them to work on a range of projects in their neighborhoods Community events could be arranged by neighborhood A distributed mix of small and large projects allows implementation to be staged to maximum effect, i.e., while large projects go through longer approval and construction processes, small projects can be sequenced more quickly, resulting in lots of smaller winning investments punctuated by larger investment achievements	Threshold could be misaligned with community needs Statutory match requirements might pose challenges Would require different project development paths for small and large projects Might be more burdensome to staff and subject area expert allocation

Type

Potential Benefits	*Potential Risks*
Would create a single project development stream Would be easier to allocate staff and subject area experts to familiar types Could ensure a specific portfolio of project types Less competition among project types (only competing on ballot with similar projects) Community events could be arranged by project type	Categories could be misaligned with project ideas submitted Could be more burdensome on community members (budget delegates) working on project types outside their expertise More burdensome on idea submitters and program design and review committee to ensure alignment with project types

Discussion, clarifications, questions

Do more smaller projects allow for more diverse projects that cater to more diverse and meaningful ways of community engagement, green projects, etc.? At least as a pilot project, this could be a good way to start building a path to larger projects...

Is this our final decision?

Grant Limits

Should there be limits to project budgets (floor or ceiling)? If **Yes**, what should they be?

For example, the previous **2016 Capital Grants program**, with a fund of $1.7 million, had a **project cost floor of $50,000** (or a grant floor of $16,600, given a 2:1 grant match requirement) and a **maximum grant request of $500,000**.

4/26 meeting: presented with: small up to $100,000 and large up to $250,000

Q: Should there be a grant or budget floor?

Y | Discussion, clarifications, questions | N

Is this our final decision?

Q: Should there be grant or budget ceiling?

Y | Discussion, clarifications, questions | N

Is this our final decision?

Q: If Yes, what should the floor be?

Discussion, clarifications, questions

Previous Capital Grant Program= $16,600 for match, which is $50,000 for total cost

$10,000 for administrative burden

Previous NiN Restoration Grants = $10,000

$10,000 grant minimum for small projects
- minimum to reduce administrative burden
- still allows for small-scale neighborhood-level investments
- allows smaller & new community-based orgs to participate as leaders

Q: If Yes, what should the ceiling be?

Discussion, clarifications, questions

$100,000 small? $250,000 for large?

Previous Capital Grant Program: $250,000 for $1.7M in grant awards

Previous NiN Restoration Grants - $100,000

Consideration: Capital Grants allow no more than 10% funding goes to staff salaries/ operation costs

Metro recommendation: **$250,000**