



Potential Metro Parks and Nature bond renewal: Protect and connect people and nature.

Discussion draft 4/9/2019

Program Area	Funding Range	Potential investments	Highlights of program requirements/criteria
Protect and restore land Protect and connect greater Portland's special places, especially river and stream banks, oak and prairie habitat, wetlands and culturally significant sites, by purchasing land from willing sellers and restoring it to support plants, animals and people.	\$130-140M	Acquire 3,500- 4,000 acres including land that protect water quality, wildlife habitat and habitat connectivity and increase climate resiliency. Identify and fund 1-2 habitat restoration project(s) targeting regional challenges for fish and wildlife habitat improvement. Identify and fund 1-2 habitat restoration project(s) that would restore plant communities significant to greater Portland's Indigenous community.	Include goals in land acquisition strategies that protect and improve habitat for salmon, steelhead and lamprey. Include goals in land acquisition strategies for protecting culturally significant plant communities and first foods. Work with greater Portland's Indigenous community to identify culturally significant lands and partnership opportunities for land management.
Support local projects Distribute money to cities, counties and park providers across greater Portland to protect land, restore habitat, and build and care for parks that connect people to nature in local communities.	\$65-70M	Provide funding for 150+ local parks and nature projects. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local park providers to select projects after bond approval. Metro to develop a formula for funding allocations similar to 2006 bond. Local parks providers may opt out/designate other local park providers to receive and disburse their portion of Metro funds if they lack capacity. Some capital maintenance projects are eligible for these funds. 	Require transparent, inclusive community engagement, decision-making and accountability in local parks and nature projects funded by Metro's bond measure. Ensure that local projects advance racial equity and improve climate resiliency; remove barriers and increase contracting opportunities for minority-owned businesses. Improve access to nature for communities identified as "nature-deficient". Require use of low-impact, environmentally-friendly development practices in local construction and development projects.
Award community grants Support innovative approaches to caring for nature and creating public access at the community scale by awarding Nature in Neighborhoods grants, with an emphasis on historically marginalized communities.	\$25-30M	Provide funding for 100+ parks and nature projects through Nature in Neighborhoods capital grants. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competitive grants - \$50K-\$1M. Flexibility regarding partnerships, timelines, match. Improved racial equity outcomes; giving more decision-making power to communities of color and other marginalized communities. 	Require transparent, inclusive community engagement, decision-making and accountability in local parks and nature projects funded by Metro's bond measure. Ensure that grant-funded projects advance racial equity and improve climate resiliency; remove barriers and increase contracting opportunities for minority-owned businesses. Improve access to nature for communities identified as "nature-deficient". Require use of low-impact, environmentally-friendly development practices in grant funded construction and development projects.

<p>Take care of Metro parks Provide safe, welcoming places to connect with nature by completing newer nature parks and maintaining water systems, trails, bathrooms and other amenities at older parks like Oxbow and Blue Lake.</p>	<p>\$100-105M</p>	<p>Maintain critical infrastructure in legacy parks that Metro manages including Oxbow and Blue Lake. Make needed upgrades to other Metro-managed parks and natural areas including Smith and Bybee Wetlands, Glendoveer Nature Trail, Lone Fir and other historic cemeteries.</p> <p>Improve accessibility at Metro’s parks and natural areas by implementing ADA projects and other improvements such as accessible pathways, signage and visitor amenities.</p> <p>Increase public access to lands managed by Metro through construction of 5-6 “Phase II” Metro master-planned nature park projects, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chehalem Ridge Nature Park • East Council Creek Nature Park • Gabbert Butte Nature Park • Killin Wetlands • Lone Fir Cemetery Cultural Heritage Garden • Newell Creek Natural Area • North Tualatin Mountains <p>Plan and build 1-2 new Metro nature parks or public access improvements.</p>	<p>Improve physical and cultural accessibility to parks and nature through local and regional investments.</p> <p>Ensure that projects advance racial equity and improve climate resiliency; remove barriers and increase contracting opportunities for minority-owned businesses.</p> <p>Ensure transparent, inclusive community engagement, decision-making and accountability in Metro parks and nature projects.</p> <p>Require use of low-impact, environmentally-friendly development practices in local and regional parks and nature capital projects.</p>
<p>Create trails for walking and biking Secure land to build new trails and construct missing sections, fulfilling greater Portland’s vision for a network of trails where people can relax, exercise and commute.</p>	<p>\$40-55M</p>	<p>Acquire 8-10 miles of new regional trail corridors.</p> <p>Construct 6 miles of new regional trails and maintain of up to 10 miles of existing regional trails.</p> <p>Remedy 1-2 key pinch points in regional trail system.</p> <p>Metro to lead acquisition and construction, with some locally-led projects.</p>	<p>Ensure that projects advance racial equity and improve climate resiliency; remove barriers and increase contracting opportunities for minority-owned businesses.</p> <p>Require use of low-impact, environmentally-friendly development practices in local and regional trail construction projects.</p> <p>Require transparent, inclusive community engagement, decision-making and accountability in local parks and nature projects funded by Metro’s bond measure.</p> <p>Consider proximity to affordable housing, transit and connections to local or regional parks in trail project selection.</p> <p>Local trail projects eligible for “local share” and Nature in Neighborhood grants.</p>
<p>Advance large-scale community visions Help deliver large-scale projects that uplift communities by leveraging nature to achieve benefits such as job opportunities, affordable housing and safe, reliable transportation.</p>	<p>\$40-50M</p>	<p>Capital funding that catalyzes investments in 2-4 transformative regional-scale projects that increase access to nature for people in urban areas and/or improve the resiliency of urban natural areas.</p> <p>Provide additional funding for the Willamette Falls Legacy Project and the river walk.</p> <p>Technical assistance to projects seeking and receiving funding.</p> <p>Metro Council to designate project proposal and review process.</p>	<p>Leverage with public/private investments in affordable housing, transit and connections to local or regional parks.</p> <p>Ensure that projects advance racial equity and improve climate resiliency; remove barriers and increase contracting opportunities for minority-owned businesses.</p> <p>Require transparent, inclusive community engagement, decision-making and accountability in projects funded by Metro’s bond measure.</p>
	<p>\$400-450M</p>		

Note: Figures are based on general cost estimates – real costs will vary with complexity and location of projects; land costs vary significantly depending on location of target areas.