



# Meeting summary

## Smith and Bybee Advisory Committee

September 22, 2020

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### Committee members in attendance

Troy Clark ..... Audubon Society of Portland  
Carrie Butler ..... Port of Portland  
Emily Roth ..... Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes  
Daryl Houtman ..... City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services  
Jonathan Soll ..... Metro  
Pat Jewett ..... 40-Mile Loop Trust  
Eugenia Tam ..... North Portland Neighbors

### Others in attendance

Raven Russell ..... Bybee Lakes Hope Center  
Allan Schmidt ..... Metro  
Matan Gold ..... Metro  
Annie Toledo ..... Metro  
Andrea Berkley ..... Metro  
Susan Barthel ..... Public  
Patt Opdyke ..... Public

### Committee members not in attendance

Jen Levy ..... St. Johns Neighborhood Association  
Bill Briggs ..... ORRCO  
Max Samuelson ..... Columbia Slough Watershed Council

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## WELCOME

Eugenia Tam is the newest committee member. She is replacing Patt Opdyke as a representative from North Portland Neighbors. Welcome, Eugenia!

The May meeting summary was approved by the committee. A member of the public is concerned that there were not discussion points added to the May summary and will reach out to the coordinators with revisions.

## BYBEE LAKES HOPE CENTER PROGRESS UPDATE

Raven Russell of the Bybee Lakes Hope Center presented renovation updates and the status of the reentry center (formerly the Wapato Jail). They received their demolition permit and got started on the remodeling. All of the fencing, barbed wires and window bars were removed; it no longer resembles a jail.

They also received their building permit which meant that they could start on the construction. They are working on the shelter in two parts which will enable them to have clients there sooner than later. By the end of the year, three out of nine dorms will be open—approximately 84 beds. The rest of the building will be under construction for the rest of the year.

The renovations will allow for an increased amount of natural light and better air circulation. They have received many donations from an assortment of companies and agencies. A law firm donated furniture, cafeteria tables from schools that were decommissioned or upgraded were donated, a landscape company donated the repair of the property's irrigation system, etc. Portland Public Schools will be providing a tablet to every kid staying at the shelter, and they've also changed their bus route to be able to take the kids to and from school.

Trimet has installed a new bus stop for line #11 about a block away from the property. This will help folks get to and from the Hope Center, and will also provide better transportation opportunities for all employees in the area.

There are no plans to change the vegetation buffer surrounding the property; it is currently being irrigated and well taken care of. The dog kennel will be installed at the end of the year, and they won't be accepting non-service animal dogs until that time. The lighting for the building has been upgraded to energy-efficient LED lights. It was noted at the meeting that there are certain LED spectrums that are better for birds, but the lights have already been approved and will not be changed.

See Attachment 1 for photos of the project.

## **PLANNING PROJECTS UPDATES**

Allan Schmidt, Metro parks planner, gave updates on the Columbia Blvd. Bridge and the St Johns Prairie Trail projects. He gave an overview of the projects, shared the general scope, partnering agencies and demographics of the area. See Attachment 2.

### **Columbia Blvd. Bridge**

This bike/pedestrian bridge will be accessible to people of all abilities and is part of four new miles of regional trail that's being planned—jumping off from Chimney Park and going all the way through the St Johns Prairie to Marine Drive. The bridge design is not conducive to inconspicuous camping, which limits safety hazards related to that.

The trail and bridge alignment has been chosen and approved by participating agencies. There will be updates to Chimney Park including an enhanced parking area. To realize the chosen alignment, some trees will need to be removed but there will be others planted in the area, per the City's tree code. Portland Parks and Recreation is handling all of the community engagement for this project.

The bridge is funded partially (about 50 percent) and was funded through grants. The team anticipates that the 2019 bond funds will help out with the cost, but they'll know for sure by the end of the year.

## **St Johns Prairie Trail**

This project is currently in the feasibility phase; they need to get an understanding of the scale of effort and what they can afford to do. Once that is decided, they will be able to begin a larger public engagement process centering on the art installation at the site.

The overlook point is what the project team and landfill staff are the most excited about. There are plans to have interpretive signage there, and possible sub-loops that shoot off from the outlook so that there is more for visitors to do. This trail will also be part of the new segment of paved regional trail, although one section dips down below the flood level so the permitting process will be different there. For safety, there will be infrastructure installed to deter people from wandering into dangerous areas of the site, and park rangers will be present to enforce the safety standards.

There was discussion about the bridge over the slough that is documented in the CNRP. They are still working out what alignment would work best, but are not sure when this part of the project will commence. The segment of the 40-Mile Loop Trail that would connect the north end of the slough bridge to Marine Drive is quite damaged. The project team will be assessing what costs are associated with rebuilding the whole trail and making it compliant with regional trail standards. Emily Roth mentioned that gravel would be the most resilient option for the trail, but would be hard to maintain. A raised boardwalk would be the best option due to the trail being located in an area prone to flooding.

Other notes to add:

- Limited access will be available to the fishing/informal boat launch area once the project is completed. This area is owned by the City of Portland, not Metro.
- There are no plans to open Ramsey Lake to the public.
- Informal trails (present and future) originating from the Bybee Lakes Hope Center to the wetlands will need to be addressed. Allan plans to connect with Raven Russell about this.

See Attachment 2 for draft schedules, photos and plans for both projects.

## **FIRE IN WILDLIFE AREA AND POTENTIAL NEED FOR REGULATORY SIGNS**

Troy Clark discussed a recent fire on Port of Portland's mitigation area property near the wetlands, which was first noticed by a contractor working at the Bybee Lakes Hope Center. He suspects that the fire started from a cigarette and asked Carrie Butler if there could be increased regulatory signage emphasizing that smoking is prohibited. Carrie said that it is feasible and will look into it.

## **CONSERVATION PROJECTS UPDATES**

Jonathan Soll gave updates regarding restoration activities happening at Smith and Bybee. They are making a lot of headway with the restoration projects. There are no signs of avian botulism reported at the site, currently. The Ludwigia is still proving hard to manage and they are continuing their work with the UC Davis scientist on researching control strategies. The overall health of the lake appears good, minus the Ludwigia issue. Patt Opdyke asked about the management of parrot feather—Jonathan will inquire about that.

Emily Roth would like to discuss recreational usage of the lakes at a future meeting. She has noticed an increase of activity since the onset of COVID-19. There currently is no official data about the recreational usage at the site; that would be a good topic for the next CNRP discussion.

Attachment 3 shows current restoration projects and their corresponding funding source.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- Jonathan Soll to respond to an email from Emily Roth who had follow-up questions to Katy Weil's May presentation.
- Allan Schmidt to connect with Raven Russell regarding informal trails near the Bybee Lakes Hope Center.
- Carrie Butler to talk with Port of Portland about the potential to install regulatory signs near the mitigation area.
- Jonathan Soll to inquire with Metro staff about the management of invasive parrot feather at Smith and Bybee.

### **NEXT MEETING**

November 17, 2020

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Via Zoom

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.



ATTACHMENT 1



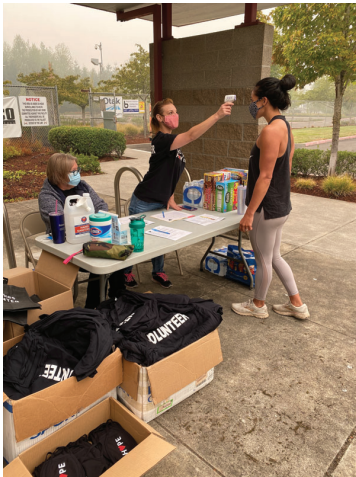


# ATTACHMENT 1





## ATTACHMENT 1



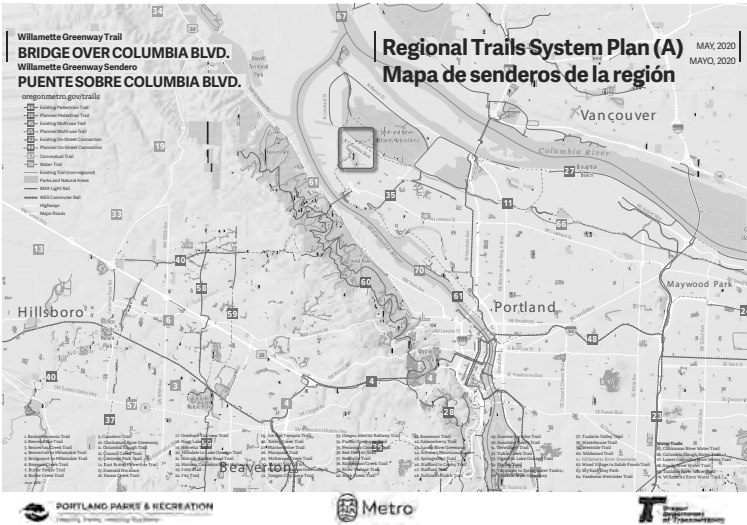
## ATTACHMENT 1





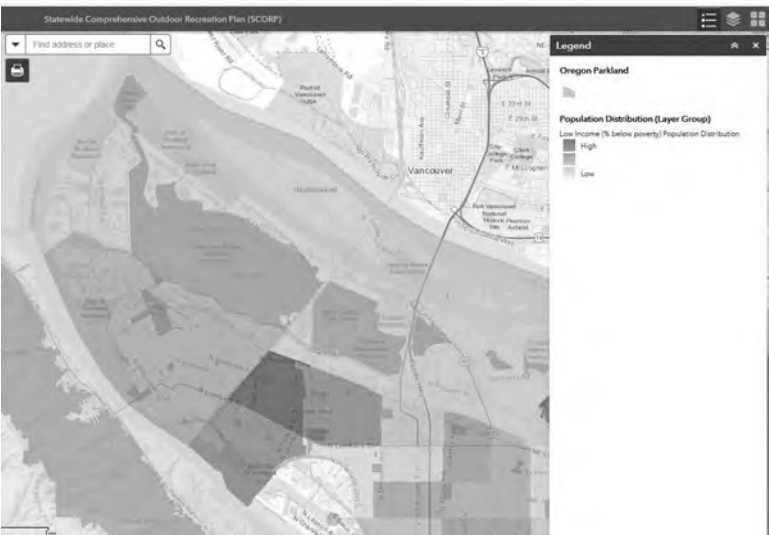
Columbia Blvd Bridge &  
St. Johns Prairie Trail  
PROJECT UPDATE

September, 2020





ATTACHMENT 2



# Columbia Blvd. Bridge

## Who lives here?

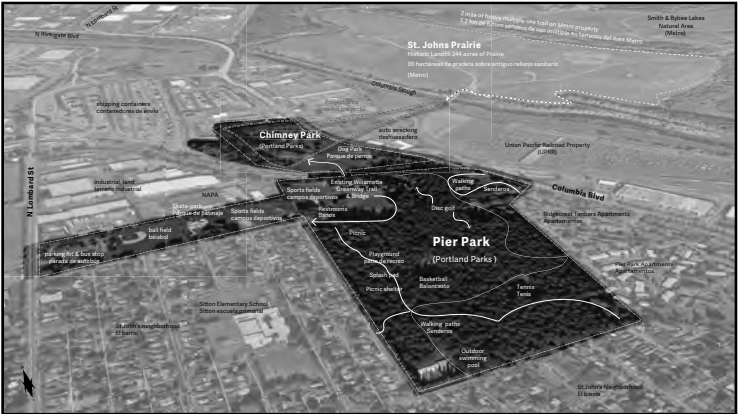
**St John's Race Distribution**  
White (64%, 8456)  
Black (11%, 1514)  
Native American, Alaskan (4%, 609)  
Native Islander (1%, 237)  
Asian (5%, 722)  
Hispanic (20%, 2660)  
Other (12%, 1644)

More than 20% of the community identifies as Hispanic with a total of 36% identifying as a race other than white which is high for the region

There is a need to identify and engage Spanish language speakers and persons of color

This is supported by PPS data for James John Elementary School (1/4 mile from site)  
36% of students identify as White  
26% are English Language Learners  
59% are counted as historically underserved.

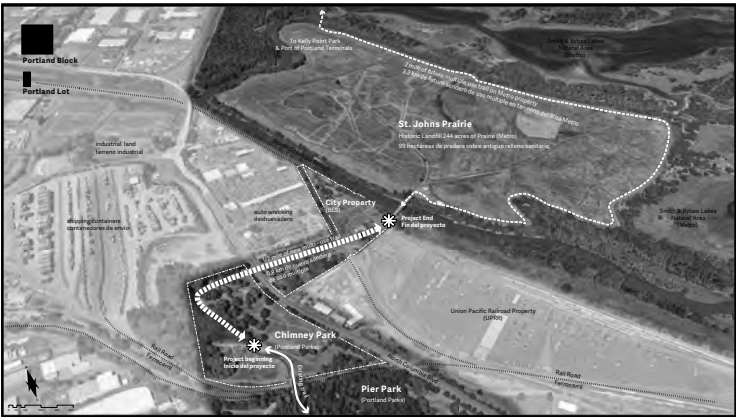
\*data is from PP&R, Metro, PPS, SCORP and Portland Maps



Willamette Greenway Trail  
BRIDGE OVER COLUMBIA BLVD.  
Willamette Greenway Sendero  
PUENTE SOBRE COLUMBIA BLVD.

**PIER PARK CONTEXT MAP (B)**  
Mapa contextual de Pier Park

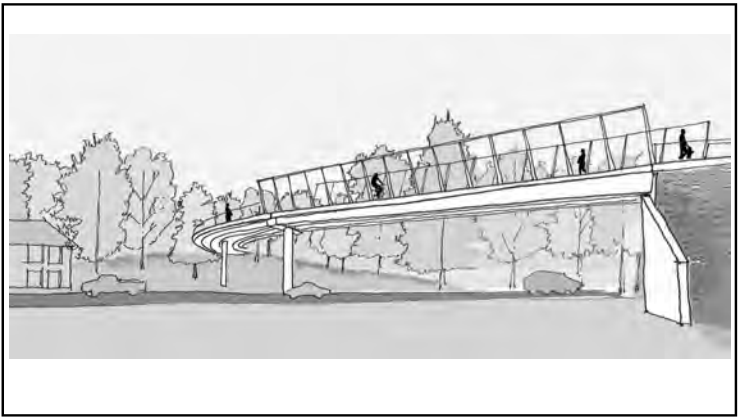
MAY, 2020  
MAYO, 2020



Willamette Greenway Trail  
BRIDGE OVER COLUMBIA BLVD.  
Willamette Greenway Sendero  
PUENTE SOBRE COLUMBIA BLVD.

**TRAIL CONTEXT MAP (C)**  
Mapa contextual de Senderos

MAY, 2020  
MAYO, 2020



Willamette Greenway Trail  
BRIDGE OVER COLUMBIA BLVD.  
Willamette Greenway Sendero  
PUENTE SOBRE COLUMBIA BLVD.

MAY, 2020  
MAYO, 2020



# ATTACHMENT 2

## WHAT WE HEARD

FROM COMMUNITY MEETING #1 (DECEMBER 14, 2019)

**Q: Will trees be removed?**

A: Yes, some trees will be removed, but many more new trees will be planted as part of the project. Most of the trees being removed are in poor health and/or are considered invasive trees. The design team worked very hard to locate the bridge to minimize tree impacts.

**Q: Will the dog area be impacted or moved?**

A: NO! We know the dog area is very important to the community, so we did not support a bridge design that went through it. The proposed design will improve parking and access to the dog area. Dog park users may experience some temporary impacts during construction, and we will be able to share more about these impacts when we get closer to construction.

**Q: Will the new bridge be accessible by all users?**

A: YES! The new asphalt paved pedestrian and bike trail will be fully accessible under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) allowing for the widest possible range of user experiences.

**Q: Will the new trail be wide enough to accommodate both pedestrians and cyclists?**

A: YES! The new paved pedestrian and bike trail will be 12 feet wide with one-foot gravel shoulders.

## LO QUE ESCUCHAMOS

DURANTE LA REUNIÓN COMUNITARIA #1 (14 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2019)

**P: ¿Se eliminarán árboles?**

R: SI, se quitarán algunos árboles, pero muchos más árboles nuevos serán sembrados como parte del proyecto. La mayoría de los árboles que se quitarán no gozan de buena salud y/o se consideran invasivos. El equipo de diseño se esforzó mucho para ubicar el puente de forma que el impacto a los árboles sea minimizado.

**P: ¿Será afectada o reubicada la zona para perros?**

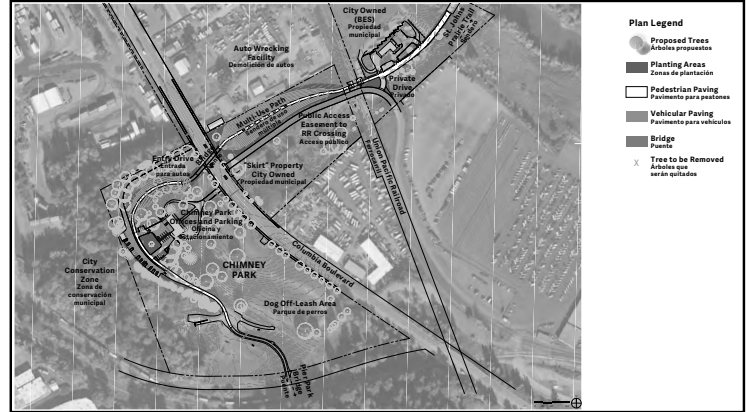
R: ¡NO! Sabemos que la zona para perros es muy importante para la comunidad, así que no apoyamos ningún diseño del puente que la atraviesa. El diseño propuesto mejorará el estacionamiento y el acceso al área para perros. Es posible que durante la construcción los usuarios del parque para perros se vean afectados temporalmente y compartiremos más información al respecto cuando se acerque más la fecha de construcción.

**P: ¿Será accesible para todos los usuarios el puente nuevo?**

R: ¡SI! El nuevo sendero de asfalto para peatones y bicicletas será completamente accesible conforme a la Ley sobre Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (ADA, por sus siglas en inglés) y permitirá la gama más amplia de experiencias para usuarios.

**P: ¿Será lo suficientemente ancho el nuevo sendero para dar cabida tanto a peatones como a ciclistas?**

R: ¡SI! El nuevo sendero pavimentado para peatones y bicicletas medirá 12 pies de ancho y tendrá arcenes de grava que medirá un pie.



Willamette Greenway Trail  
BRIDGE OVER COLUMBIA BLVD.  
Willamette Greenway Sendero  
PUENTE SOBRE COLUMBIA BLVD.

COMMUNITY MEETING #1 (E)  
Reunión comunitaria #1

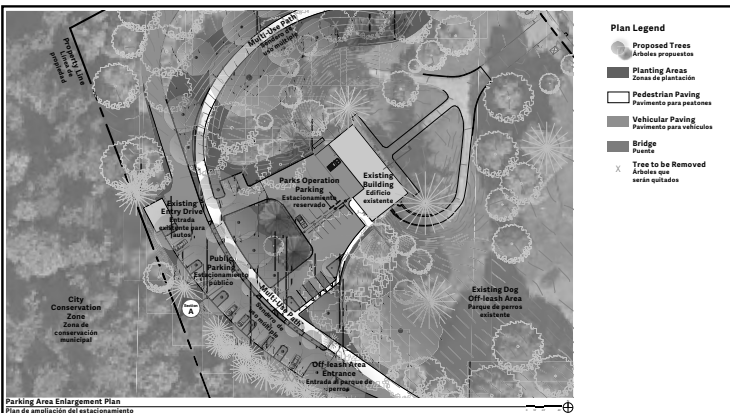
MAY, 2020  
MAYO, 2020



Willamette Greenway Trail  
BRIDGE OVER COLUMBIA BLVD.  
Willamette Greenway Sendero  
PUENTE SOBRE COLUMBIA BLVD.

PROJECT EXTENTS (F)  
Alcances del proyecto

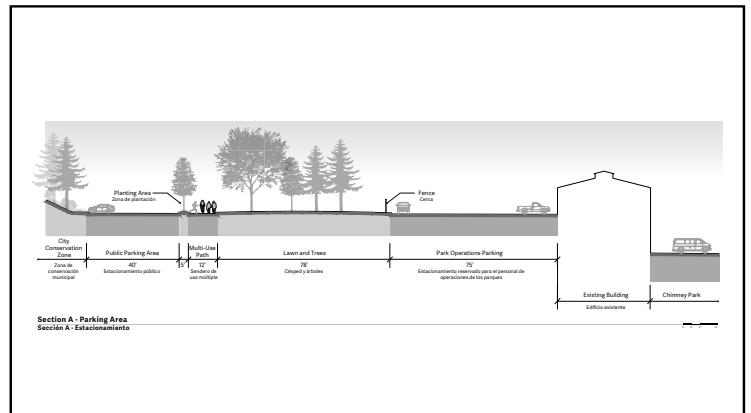
MAY, 2020  
MAYO, 2020



Willamette Greenway Trail  
BRIDGE OVER COLUMBIA BLVD.  
Willamette Greenway Sendero  
PUENTE SOBRE COLUMBIA BLVD.

CHIMNEY PARK ENTRY (G)  
Entrada al parque

MAY, 2020  
MAYO, 2020



Willamette Greenway Trail  
BRIDGE OVER COLUMBIA BLVD.  
Willamette Greenway Sendero  
PUENTE SOBRE COLUMBIA BLVD.

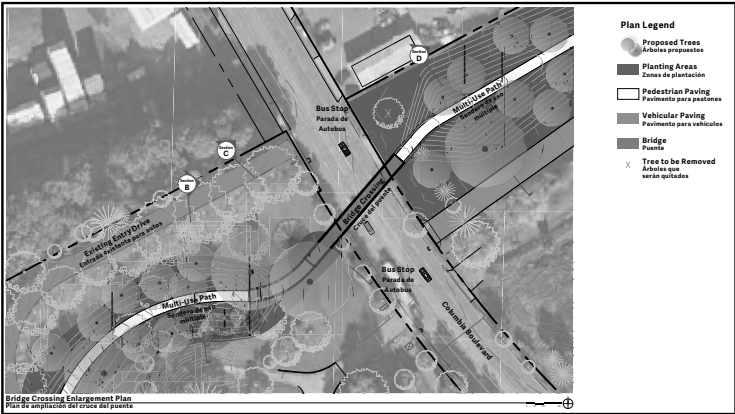
CHIMNEY PARK ENTRY (H)  
Entrada al parque

MAY, 2020  
MAYO, 2020





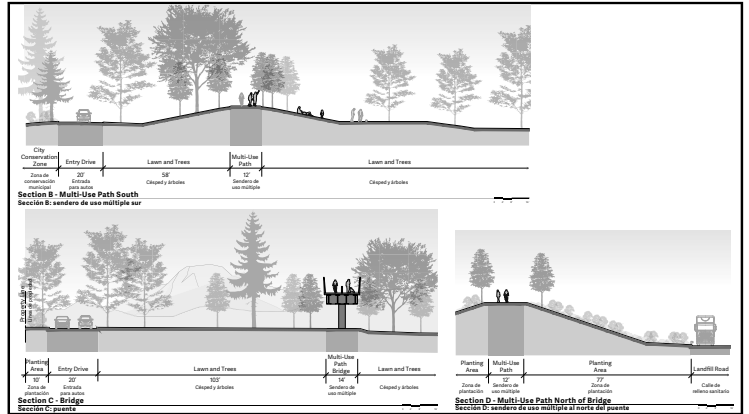
ATTACHMENT 2



Willamette Greenway Trail  
BRIDGE OVER COLUMBIA BLVD.  
Willamette Greenway Sendero  
PUENTE SOBRE COLUMBIA BLVD.

**TRAIL ALIGNMENT (I)**  
Alineación del sendero

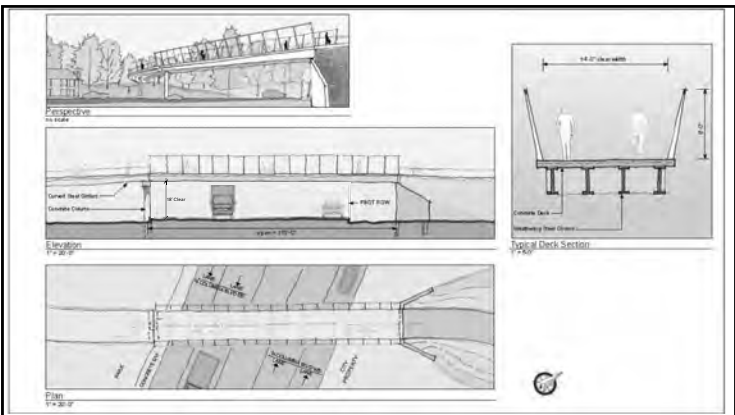
MAY, 2020  
MAYO, 2020



Willamette Greenway Trail  
BRIDGE OVER COLUMBIA BLVD.  
Willamette Greenway Sendero  
PUENTE SOBRE COLUMBIA BLVD.

**TRAIL ALIGNMENT (J)**  
Alineación del sendero

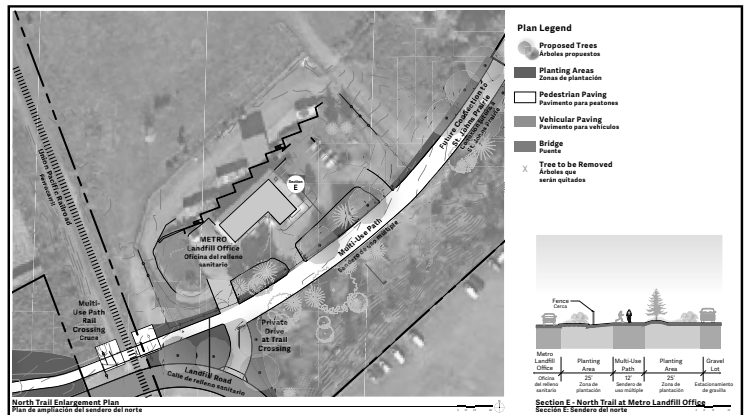
MAY, 2020  
MAYO, 2020



Willamette Greenway Trail  
BRIDGE OVER COLUMBIA BLVD.  
Willamette Greenway Sendero  
PUENTE SOBRE COLUMBIA BLVD.

**PREFERRED BRIDGE TYPE (K)**  
Tipo de puente preferido

MAY, 2020  
MAYO, 2020

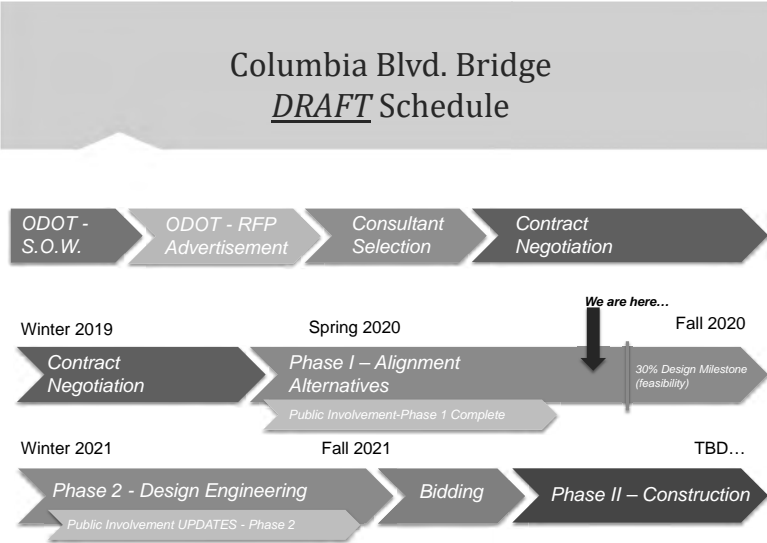


Willamette Greenway Trail  
BRIDGE OVER COLUMBIA BLVD.  
Willamette Greenway Sendero  
PUENTE SOBRE COLUMBIA BLVD.

**NORTH TRAIL (L)**  
Sendero del norte

MAY, 2020  
MAYO, 2020





### THANK YOU!

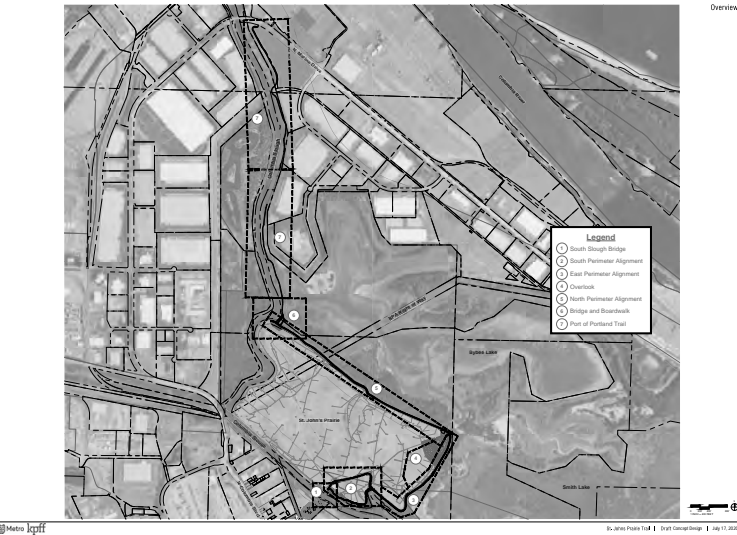
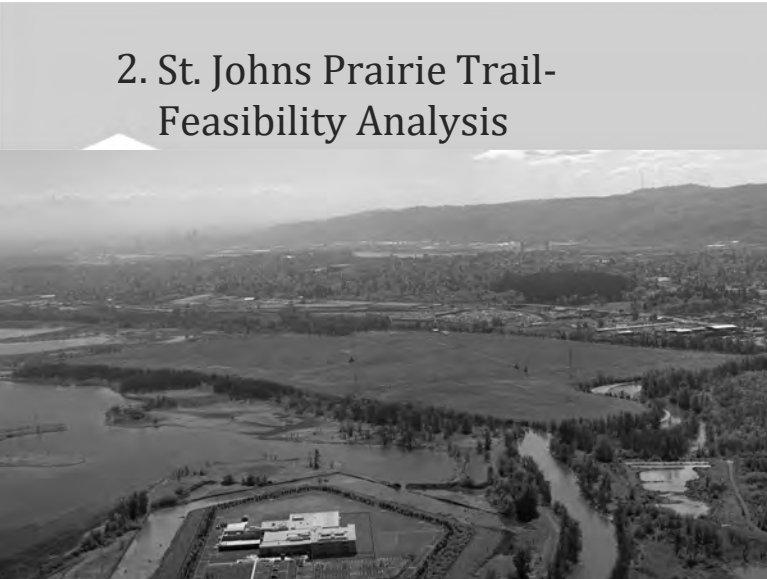
PLEASE SEND US YOUR THOUGHTS – <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/bridgeovercolumbia>  
FOLLOW THE PROJECT – <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/80088>  
MORE ABOUT METRO AND THE ST. JOHNS PRAIRIE  
<https://www.oregonmetro.gov/public-projects/st-johns-prairie-bike-and-pedestrian-trail>  
<https://www.oregonmetro.gov/news/st-johns-prairie-blossoms-former-landfill>  
<https://www.oregonmetro.gov/news/trash-treasure-seeding-change-st-johns-prairie>

### ¡GRACIAS!

POR FAVOR, COMPARTA SUS IDEAS CON NOSOTROS – <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/bridgeovercolumbia>  
SIGA EL PROGRESO DEL PROYECTO – <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/80088>  
MÁS INFORMACIÓN SOBRE METRO Y LA PRADERA DE ST. JOHNS  
<https://www.oregonmetro.gov/public-projects/st-johns-prairie-bike-and-pedestrian-trail>  
<https://www.oregonmetro.gov/news/st-johns-prairie-blossoms-former-landfill>  
<https://www.oregonmetro.gov/news/trash-treasure-seeding-change-st-johns-prairie>

Willamette Greenway Trail  
**BRIDGE OVER COLUMBIA BLVD.**  
Willamette Greenway Sendero  
**PUENTE SOBRE COLUMBIA BLVD.**

MAY 2020  
MAYO, 2020



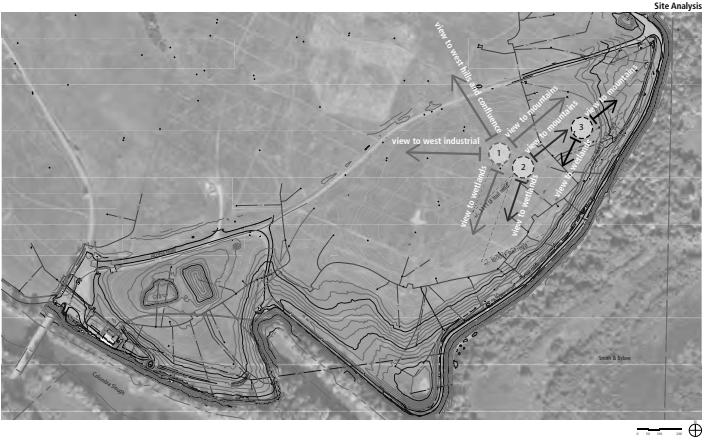
ATTACHMENT 2

St. Johns Prairie Overlook



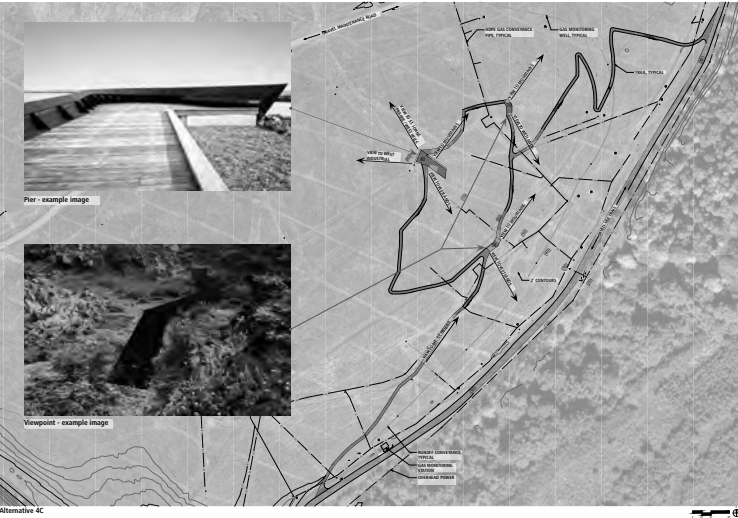
Mayer/Reed

St. Johns Prairie Trail | Concept Development | July 8, 2020



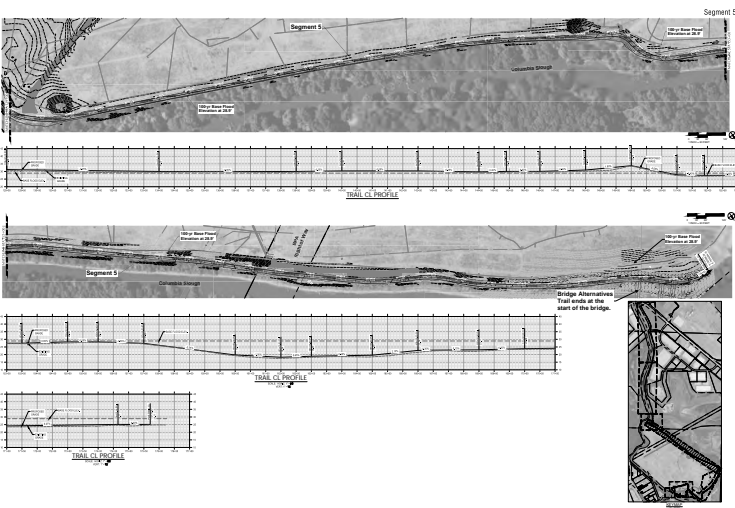
Mayer/Reed

St. Johns Prairie Trail | Concept Development | July 8, 2020



Metro Iqfif

St. Johns Prairie Trail | Concept Design | July 17, 2020

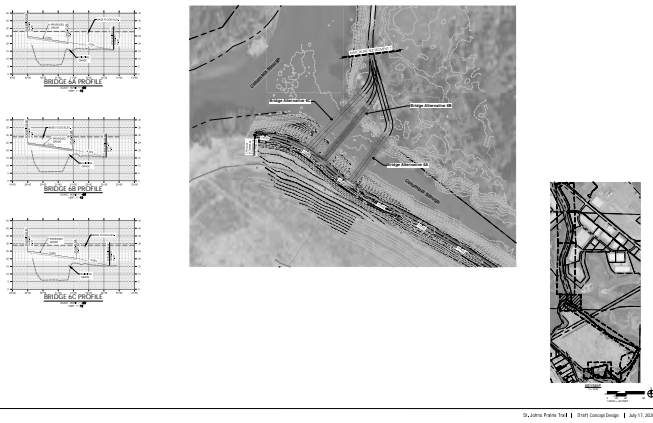


Metro Iqfif

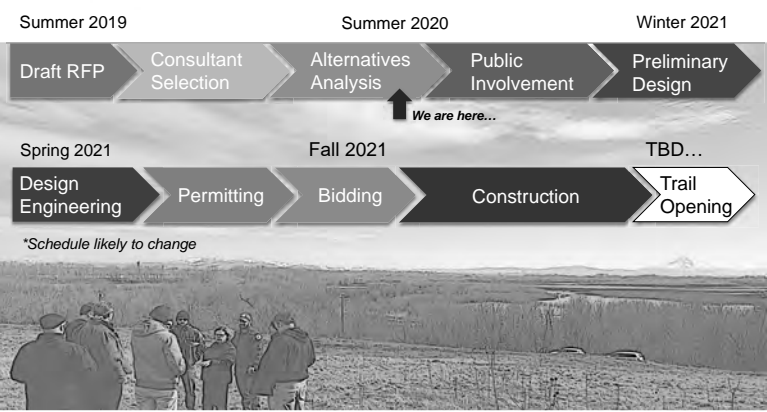
St. Johns Prairie Trail | Draft Concept Design | July 17, 2020

ATTACHMENT 2

Segment 6



St. Johns Trail Prairie  
*DRAFT* Schedule



Questions?

# ATTACHMENT 3

## Approved Smith and Bybee Restoration and Management Projects FY21

Project Name	Total Approved	Levy
Columbia Sedge meadow restoration	2500	1250
Columbia Sedge meadow restoration Phase II	5000	2500
Forested wetland Phase I	7500	3750
Forested Wetland Phase II	15000	7500
Forested Wetland Phase III	50000	25000
Ludwigia treatment trials	7000	7000
NAM&SB -Volunteer Planting Project	800	800
NAM&SB-Invasive Control	90000	45000
Smith and Bybee Wetlands Water and Channel management	10000	5000
St Johns Prairie Phase 1	2500	1250
St Johns Prairie Phase 2	20000	10000
St Johns Prairie Phase 3	150000	75000
St Johns Prairie routine veg management	17500	0
Streaked Horned Lark Habitat Plots	2500	2500
Water Control Structure Modification	1500	0

<b>Total</b>	<b>381800</b>
<b>Total S/B fund</b>	<b>177750</b>
<b>Percent S/B fund</b>	<b>46.6</b>

Habitat or Project Type	Budget
Sedge Meadow	7500
Forested Wetlands	72500
Prairie	172500
Weeds	97000
General Management	22300

## ATTACHMENT 3

Other Funding Sources
1250
2500
3750
7500
25000
0
0
45000
5000
1250
10000
75000
17500
0
1500