

PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA



August 14, 2023

6:00pm Public Meeting Session: Hybrid (Remote & In-Person)

Customer Service Center – 3050 N Delta Hwy., Eugene

Goodpasture Room

Members: Greg Hyde (Chair), Mike Allen (Vice-Chair), Julie Daniel, Timothy Foelker, Reilly Newman,

Darlene Raish, Richard Vasquez

PAC Meeting

- **I.** Introductions (5 min.)
- **II. Public Comment** (up to 10 min.)
- III. Assignment Review (5 min.)
- **IV.** Review of Meeting Summary All (5 min.)
- V. New Business (40 min.)
 - 1) Kristen Lee Climate Action Plan
 - 2) Olivia Duren The Freshwater Trust
- VI. Old Business (10 min.)
 - 1) Equity Survey
 - 2) Security Cameras at HBRA
- VII. Staff & Committee Updates/Reports (30 min.)
 - 1) Armitage Campground Expansion Update
 - 2) Levy Update
 - 3) USACE Lease Renewals Update
 - 4) Report from Michael Allen
- VIII. Open All (5 min.)
- **IX.** Operations Reports (5 min.)
- X. Meeting Wrap-up/Assignments (5 min.)
- XI. Adjourn

2023 Meeting Dates:

JANUARY 9	MAY 8	SEPTEMBER 11
FEBRUARY NO MEETING	JUNE 12	OCTOBER 9
MARCH 13	JULY NO MEETING	NOVEMBER 13
APRIL 10	AUGUST 14	DECEMBER 11

Lane County Parks Advisory

June 12, 2023

Meeting Summary

This written indexed summary of minutes is provided as a courtesy to the reader. The recorded minutes created pursuant to ORS 192.650(1) are the official minutes of this body under Oregon law.

The recorded minutes are available on the Parks Advisory Committee website: https://www.lanecounty.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=3585881&pageId=4279856

Members Present: Greg Hyde, Mike Allen, Darlene Raish, Julie Daniel, Riley Newman, Timothy Foelker

Members Absent: Richard Vasquez

Staff Present: Brett Henry, Ed Alverson, Kylee Tupes, Jodi Low

Guests Present: Commissioner David Loveall

Public Members: Please see the attached list

Meeting called to order at 6:04 PM by Greg Hyde

Introductions (00:00:00)

Public Comment (00:01:25)

- Members of Friends of Zumwalt Park attended the meeting to discuss the history of Zumwalt public access and stated their desire to keep Zumwalt a car-free park.
- Various parking ideas were discussed to allow for safer access to the park without blocking private driveways along Vista Drive.
- Any changes to the park will be discussed with input from the public.
- Greg Hyde mentioned that the Zumwalt Park is a good candidate for a Master plan.

Assignment Review

- Find out when Jodi needs an article from the PAC members
- Schedule a time for Jodi to come to a future meeting and how the PAC can communicate with her regularly
- Review verbiage on Lane County website for errors (main navigation menu) services
- Brett will put out a doodle poll to arrange a date for the PAC field trip
- Schedule with Kristin Lee a date for her to join a meeting
- Status of forming a taskforce for the covered bridges

Review of May Meeting Summary (01:19:31)

- Julie motioned acceptance of May Meeting Summary as written, seconded by Michael Allen.

New Business

- Rivers to Ridges Vision "Refresh" Report Ed Alverson (Please see Meeting Materials) (00:47:28)
- 2. Parking at Zumwalt Park (00:01:45)
- (Please see Public Comment)
- 3. Parks Quarterly eNewsletter Jodi Low (01:06:19)
- Arranging a time to collect pictures of PAC members for the upcoming eNewsletter release.
- 4. Army Corps of Engineers Properties Lease Renewals (01:20:04)
- Would like to renegotiate leases if the Corps is unwilling to transfer ownership of the properties.

Old Business

- 1. Holiday Farm Fire Recovery Forest Glen Park (01:21:24)
- Have received a grant to pay for the planning, looking for a grant to pay for the development
- 2. Equity Action Plan Public Transportation Options at HBRA (01:22:37)
- Working with Sasha Vartanian with Lane County Transportation, looking into a pilot program
- Add a bus stop within the park to shuttle visitors into the park.
- Fits climate action plan by reducing emmissions
- 3. PAC Field Trip (01:07:50)
- The field trip will be split into a two-part event. First field trip will be on July 1st at 9 AM.
- Members will be meeting at the Public Works building. Second field trip will be arranged at another date.

Staff & Committee Updates/Reports

- 1. Armitage Maintenance Shop Update (01:29:51)
- Waiting for permits before moving to the next step
- 2. HBRA Waterway Access Update (01:30:29)
- Joint permanent application was submitted with a cost estimate through the Oregon State Marine Board
- 3. Lane County Climate Change Action Plan (01:13:40)
- Michael Allen read a statement from Kristin Lee regarding the outline of the plan

Operations Report (01:32:10)

- Parks experienced a windstorm that maintenance crew is making headway cleaning up in multiple parks.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM

Lane County Parks Advisory Committee Meeting Public Comment Sign-In Sheet June 12, 2023

Name (PLEASE PRINT)	1	wish to speak
Michele O'Brien		
MARK BERUTERO		
Carisska Anthony		
(maybe) Janet Faris		
Mary Monette		
John Clark		
Paula Loftin		
Wende Hitchcock		
Tina McKenzie		
Melissa Urcinoli		
FinUncivali		
Therry Durant		
Chartes DUNN		
John Zuccous		
Bonnie Cauteristet	1000	CEC 1

Lane County Parks Advisory Committee Meeting Public Comment Sign-In Sheet June 12, 2023

Name (PLEASE PRINT)	I wish to speak
Elizabeth Ingranz	
Robert Ingram	
COLLEEN RAMEY	
Pat Shirty	
Patricia A Vollbrocht	O Grane Cha
Leresa Borever	
Jody Pottes	
Dorie Cummings + Bill	
Will Watson	√
JIII Howe	
JESSE DOBSON	V
Carolyn Allansmith	*
Macejan OlBrien	. 🗸
Christina McKenzie	
Chrystal Londer	4
Michele Clement	
Teresa Borener Borener	Person

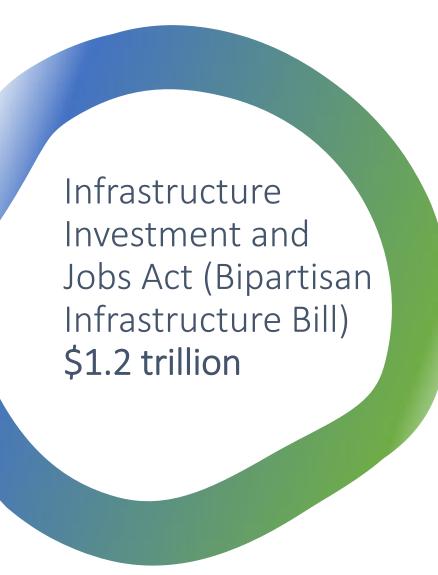
Climate Action Fund Development

Presentation for Lane County Parks Advisory Committee

August 14, 2023

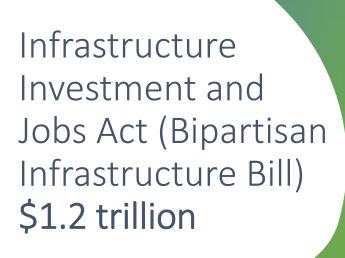


- Climate Plan provides a baseline
- Next Phase is to implement actions in the Plan
- Seize the opportunity to access
 Unprecedented levels of funding for
 Climate and other work
- Maximize our impact by collaborating as much as possible



60% Delivered Through States

- Oregon IIJA Funding:
 - \$1B for roads
 - \$200M for transit funding
 - \$268M for bridges
 - \$45M for transportation safety
 - \$52M for EV charging infrastructure
 - \$30M for bicycle and pedestrian projects
 - \$82M for transportation projects that reduce GHGs
 - \$94M to increase transportation resilience
 - \$100M for broadband buildout
 - \$5.6M for Oregon's State Energy Program
 - \$50M for grid resilience
 - \$20-\$27M annually for clean water infrastructure
 - \$24M annually for drinking water infrastructure
 - \$37M annually for lead service line replacement



IIJA funding not through States

- Transportation
- Broadband
- Water storage, etc.
- Climate, Energy and Environment
 - \$1B FEMA Hazard Mitigation
 - \$3.5M Flood mitigation
 - \$1.2M Brownfields remediation
 - \$550M for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants
 - \$550M for energy efficiency in schools
 - \$8B for clean hydrogen hubs
 - \$1B for community wildfire defense grants



- > Tax Credits
- **➢** Grants
- ➤ Direct Pay for non-profits/governments

Major Areas:

- Clean Energy Technologies
 - Grid investments
 - Clean vehicles and fuels
- Reducing Air Pollution
 - Environmental justice
- Energy Efficiency for Homes and Buildings
- Nature-based solutions
 - Agriculture
 - Rural areas
 - Lands and waters
 - Resilience
- Strengthening community resilience



- Waste Reduction grants
- Electric Vehicles and Infrastructure
- Wildfire hazard mitigation funding
- Building energy efficiency grants
- Resilience Centers
- Other Natural Hazard Mitigation projects



- Climate Pollution Reduction (EPA)
- Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (DOT)
- Composting and Food Waste Reduction (USDA)
- PROTECT (DOT)
- Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (FEMA)
- Battery Recycling (DOE)
- Ride and Drive Electric Workforce Development
- National Coastal Resilience Fund (NOAA)



- Natural and Working Lands Fund -\$10M
- Resilience Hubs \$10M
- Natural Disaster Fund \$35M
- Wildfire Mitigation and Response -\$10M
- Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program - \$6.5M
- Residential Solar Rebate Program -\$10M



Howard Buford Recreation Area: Riparian Reforestation Project Proposal

For the Lane County Parks Advisory Committee August 14, 2023

Olivia Duren
Olivia@thefreshwatertrust.org
Restoration Program Manager
The Freshwater Trust



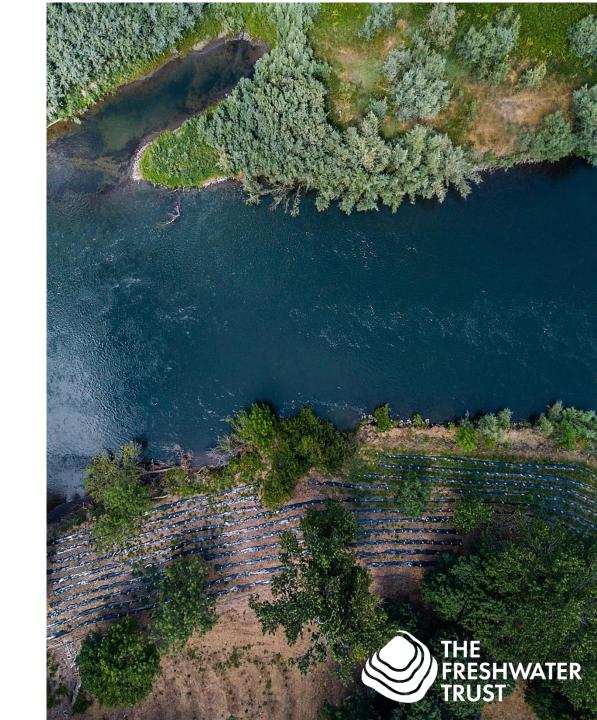
Shade program goals

- Plant and steward native riparian (streamside) trees and shrubs
- Improve water quality and wildlife habitat



Suitable project sites

- Shade program funding is from the Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission (MWMC) to use "shade credits" for its water quality compliance
- Good sites are suitable for growing tall trees on streambanks that will shade the river



Proposed project

- Recovers acres lost in riparian bottomland forest
- Supports Habitat Management Plan goals

Historic Condition in HBRA circa 1855 **Existing Condition in HBRA circa 2008** Desired Condition in HBRA circa 2035 7 7 0.7 South Bottomlands Management Unit/Stewardship Zone **Habitat or Land Cover** Upland Prairie Savanna - Good Condition Riparian Bottomland Forest 2: Mt Pisgah Arboretum Savanna - Fair Condition Forested Wetland 4: Western Uplands Savanna - Poor Condition 5: Southern Uplands Wet Prairie Water **Buckbrush Chaparral** Stewardship Facilities Upland Conifer Forest 7: Northern Forest Oak Woodland

Proposed project area: South Bottomlands (from HBRA Habitat Management Plan, 6/22/2018)

Proposed project

 Plant and maintain 3.1 acres of native riparian forest



Proposed project area in the South Bottomlands



Project actions

- Weed control, planting, and ongoing maintenance
- Funds pay for all implementation plus stewardship for 20 yrs after planting
- No cost share or work share



Native Douglas spirea is often very successful at riparian restoration projects

Project performance & stewardship

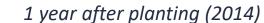


- Plantings must meet performance standards for a healthy forest
- Regular monitoring measures performance and identifies stewardship needs
- Commitment to consistent, ongoing stewardship for 20 years



Stewardship approach

- Integrated Pest Management (IPM) used to select the most effective method with lowest impact
- Limit herbicides to those found to not jeopardize salmon/sensitive aquatic species
- Minimize disturbance during bird nesting season
- Propose to contract Friends of Buford Park & Mt. Pisgah to lead implementation and stewardship









Protection easement

- Planting area protected by 21-yr easement
- Easement boundaries developed with County Parks staff
- Does not restrict access as long as plants can establish and grow
- \$350 per acre, per year payment



A happy 10-yr old white alder with its proud project manager at the Mill Race RM 2 project

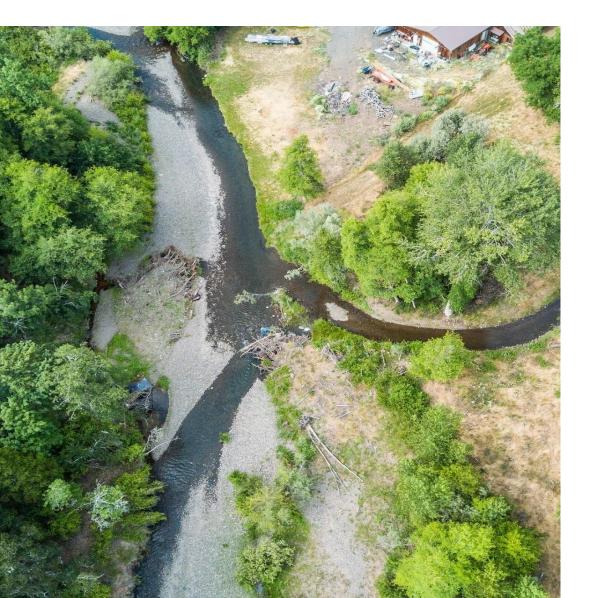
Additional benefits

- Project is synergistic with other conservation and restoration within HBRA
- Public benefit of experiential learning
- Forests reduce erosion, absorb excess nutrients, sequester carbon, suppress weeds
- No cost to the County; TFT and local implementation partners take on responsibility of management





Next steps



- Proposed timeline: initial weed control (site prep) late summer and planting this winter
- Request a recommendation that
 Board of Commissioners approve
 project at their August 22nd meeting
- References from other landowners available





AGENDA COVER MEMO

Memorandum Date: August 4th, 2023

Order Date: August 22nd, 2023

TO: Board of County Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: Lane County Public Works

PRESENTED BY: Dan Hurley

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: ORDER/ In the Matter of Authorizing the County Administrator to

Enter Into Agreements with The Freshwater Trust Regarding 21 and 22-Year Easements For Riparian Shade Plantings at Two County-

owned Parcels Along the Coast Fork Willamette River

I. MOTION

Move that the Board Order be approved authorizing the County Administrator to enter into agreements with The Freshwater Trust regarding 21 and 22-year easements for riparian shade plantings at two county-owned parcels along the Coast Fork Willamette River.

II. AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

The Board is being asked to approve an order authorizing the County Administrator to sign two property easements; totaling 6.1 acres (see attachments 2 and 3). The easements will allow The Freshwater Trust (TFT) to plant and maintain native shade producing riparian trees and shrubs on selected county owned lands along the Coast Fork Willamette River. The first easement, for a term of 21 years, will be 3.6 acres in Howard Buford Recreation Area (HBRA), along the right bank of the Coast Fork Willamette River. The second easement, for a term of 22 years, will be 2.5 acres on the right bank of the Coast Fork Willamette River on property that is part of the Lane County Road Maintenance Shop & Waste Management Transfer Station on Sears Road in Cottage Grove. Specific locations of the easements are identified in the easement documents (see Attachments 4 and 5). The differing terms of the easements are due to the timing of planting, HBRA in the winter of 2023-24, and the Sears Road site in the winter of 2024-25.

These easements will allow The Freshwater Trust to plant native trees and shrubs to provide "shade credits" to the Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission

(MWMC), which will be used for water quality permit compliance. The solar energy blocked by new tree canopy will be quantified as kilocalories and applied as an offset to the MWMC's thermal exceedance. The shade program is part of the MWMC's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, which was issued in November 2022.

The Freshwater Trust will be responsible for all of the costs involved in site preparation, installation, maintenance, and monitoring of the shade plantings. Lane County will receive an annual payment of \$350 per acre per year for the durations of the easements.

III. BACKGROUND/IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION

A. Board Action and Other History

In 2018, the Board adopted the Howard Buford Recreation Area (HBRA) Habitat Management Plan (HMP) as a refinement to the Lane County Rural Comprehensive Plan (RCP). The HMP identifies desired future habitat conditions for each part of the park, based on the park's conservation values, existing conditions, and potential habitat management treatments that could be applied. The HMP also identifies goals relating to Visitor Experience as a way of integrating habitat improvement and park visitation milestones. The HMP identifies "Riparian Bottomland Forest" as the desired future condition for the proposed riparian planting easement area in HBRA.

For the Lane County Road Maintenance Shop & Transfer Station property, no specific future use of the proposed easement area has been identified. The parcel is designated "PF-Public Facility" in the RCP. Nearly all of the easement area is located within the FEMA designated floodplain, and most of that is mapped by FEMA as floodway.

On August 14, 2023, the Lane County Parks Advisory Committee voted to recommend that the Board approve the HBRA riparian planting easement in HBRA. Both Road Maintenance and Waste Management managers have approved moving forward with the project at the Lane County Road Maintenance Shop & Transfer Station property, seeing no issues with restoration efforts nor access to the site.

B. Policy Issues

The MWMC operates through an intergovernmental agreement between Lane County, City of Springfield, and City of Eugene. Entering into easements to provide shade credits allows Lane County to support the operations of the MWMC.

C. Board Goals

Planting and maintaining native shade producing riparian trees and shrubs to provide shade credits for the MWMC is related to Strategic Priority #3 in the 2022-2024 Lane County Strategic Plan, specifically the goal to "maintain and

invest in resilient infrastructure..."

D. Financial and/or Resource Considerations

Entering into these easement agreements will provide a small financial benefit to Lane County Public Works, on the order of about \$2,135 per year based on a payment of \$350 per acre for 6.1 acres. A small amount of Public Works staff time is needed every year to coordinate the implementation of site preparation, installation, maintenance, and monitoring of the shade plantings. However, TFT will be responsible for implementing all of the on-the-ground actions.

E. <u>Health Implications</u>

This project will incrementally improve water quality in the Willamette River and improve habitat conditions on county-owned lands, but probably not to the degree of providing a significant benefit to public health.

F. Analysis

The Willamette River is listed as being water quality limited for mercury, bacteria, and temperature in Lane County. Shade plantings and associated riparian habitat restoration are one of the tools available to address high water temperature issues in the Willamette Basin.

Lane County Parks has limited funding for riparian and floodplain habitat restoration from the November 2022 Parks Levy. However, to maximize the benefit from available county resources, we look to other partners to leverage county resources and increase the benefit our work provides to the environment and to the public.

At the present time, there is no other funding available to conduct riparian habitat restoration on the Lane County Road Maintenance Shop & Transfer Station property.

Entering into easements with The Freshwater Trust will facilitate riparian habitat restoration that likely would not otherwise occur, at least in the near term.

G. Alternatives/Options

- 1) Adopt the Board Order to approve the easements and allow the riparian plantings to move forward.
- 2) Do not adopt the Board Order; proposed riparian plantings would not occur.

IV. RECOMMENDATION

Lane County Public Works recommends Option 1.

V. TIMING/IMPLEMENTATION

Initial work to prepare the sites for planting will begin as soon as possible once the

easements are signed. Planting could then begin this coming winter during the bare root planting season.

VI. <u>FOLLOW-UP</u>

None needed, unless the Board would like to receive a progress report once the plantings are completed.

VII. <u>ATTACHMENTS</u>

- 1. Board Order.
- 2. Riparian restoration easement for Howard Buford Recreation Area.
- 3. Riparian restoration easement for Lane County Road Maintenance Shop and Waste Management Transfer Station property on Sears Road.
- 4. Project proposal from The Freshwater Trust for riparian planting easement for Howard Buford Recreation Area.
- 5. Project proposal from The Freshwater Trust for riparian planting easement for Lane County Road Maintenance Shop and Waste Management Transfer Station property on Sears Road.

EXHIBIT B – IDENTIFICATION OF RIPARIAN LAND

Grantor grants to TFT an easement over a portion of its property located on Map Nos. 18-02-19-00-00100 and 18-02-19-00-02300 in Lane County, Oregon, as described in Exhibit A, consisting of approximately 3.6 acres of real property and more particularly described in the following property map boundaries.



EXHIBIT B – IDENTIFICATION OF RIPARIAN LAND

Grantor grants to TFT an easement over a portion of its property located on Map No. 20-03-26-00-00300 in Lane County, Oregon, as described in Exhibit A, consisting of approximately 2.5 acres of real property and more particularly described in the following property map boundaries.



BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMI	SSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON
ORDER NO:	In the Matter of Authorizing the County Administrator to Enter Into Agreements with The Freshwater Trust Regarding 21 and 22- Year Easements For Riparian Shade Plantings at Two County-owned Parcels Along the Coast Fork Willamette River
WHEREAS, COUNTY owns and mairontage on the Coast Fork Willamette River	nages the Howard Buford Recreation Area with river; and
	nages the site of the Lane County Road Maintenance ation on Sears Road property, with river frontage or
	water Management Commission has contracted with its to use for water quality permit compliance; and
	of the Howard Buford Recreation Area and Sears ent of shade producing native trees and shrubs; and
	ill pay Lane County the amount of \$350 per acre per ducing native trees and shrubs within designated 6.1 acres.
NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Collows:	County Commissioners of Lane County ORDERS as
easements that allow The F	two agreements that provide for 21 and 22-year reshwater Trust to plant, maintain, and monitoring n approximately 6.1 acres of COUNTY lands, as "B"; and
2. that the County Administrator	be delegated authority to sign both easements.
ADOPTED this day of	, 2023.
	Pat Farr, Chair Lane County Board of Commissioners APPROVED AS TO FORM



Parks Levy Community Survey

On November 8, 2022, Lane County residents voted to approve a 5-year local option levy that will provide over \$31 million in funding for improvements to Lane County Parks.

• Lane County is committed to ensuring all people have access to the information and support they need to achieve their full potential.

Survey Purpose: To receive community input on prioritizing projects that enhance equity at Lane County parks by removing barriers to accessing recreation opportunities.

 The survey is anonymous and optional but valuable and essential to get your input.





SHARE YOUR OPINION HERE!



Encuesta comunitaria de parques del condade de Lane

El 8 de noviembre de 2022, los residentes del condado de Lane votaron para aprobar un impuesto de opción local de 5 años que proporcionará más de \$ 31 millones en fondos para mejoras a los parques del condado de Lane.

 El Condado de Lane se compromete a garantizar que todas las personas tengan acceso a la información y el apoyo que necesitan para alcanzar su máximo potencial.

Propósito de la encuesta: Recibir comentarios de la comunidad sobre la priorización de proyectos que mejoran la equidad en los parques del Condado de Lane al eliminar las barreras para

 La encuesta es anónima y opcional, pero valiosa y esencial para obtener su opinión.





icomparte tu opinión aquí!

Lane County Parks Equity Survey

Purpose of Survey:

To receive community input on prioritizing projects that enhance equity at Lane County Parks by removing barriers to accessing recreation opportunities.

Background:

Identified as one of the three Strategic Lenses within the Lane County 2022-2024 Strategic Plan, the **Equity Lens** applies to all facets of services provided to the citizens of Lane County. **Equity** is achieved when everyone has access to the opportunities, tools, and support necessary to satisfy essential needs, advance their well-being, and achieve their full potential. Lane County is committed to ensuring all people have access to the information and support they need regardless of age, education, ethnicity, language, income, physical and cognitive limitations, and geographic barriers.

On November 8, 2022, the Lane County citizens voted to approve a 5-year local option levy that will provide over \$31 million in funding for improvements to Lane County Parks. This new funding source provides an opportunity to enhance equity within countywide park and recreation programs by removing barriers to access.

1. Demographics

Please select all that apply to you.

- o I live in a rural community in Lane County
- o I am over the age of 65
- o I identify as a member of a systemically marginalized community based on my race or ethnicity
- o I identify as a member of a systemically marginalized community based on my gender or sexual orientation
- I identify as someone that has experienced physical barriers to accessing Lane County Parks
- I identify as someone that has experienced cognitive barriers to accessing Lane County Parks
- I identify as someone that has experienced financial barriers to accessing Lane County Parks
- I identify as someone that has experienced cultural barriers to accessing Lane County
- None of the above describe

2. Which identified barrier has the greatest impact on your access to Lane County Parks?	
 Physical Cognitive Financial Cultural None of Above 	
3. Please rank projects under each category	
<u>Physical</u>	
 Having accessible water access Accessible or ADA-compliant playgrounds Inclusive playgrounds for the hearing or sight impaired Bathrooms designed for people of all abilities Parking lots designed for people of all abilities Reservable spaces designed for people of all abilities Park benches and seating designed for people of all abilities Trail systems designed for people of all abilities Access to all-terrain wheelchair rentals Cognitive 	
 Programming for children with cognitive disabilities Programming for adults with cognitive disabilities Multi-sensory play structures for children with sensory challenges Inclusive play structures designed for children with intellectual challenges 	
<u>Financial</u>	
 A public transit line that gives direct access to parks Volunteer hours in exchange of an annual park pass Borrowing parking passes at local libraries Programs to waive parking fees based on need Discounted or free parking for select dates throughout the year 	
<u>Cultural</u>	

• Clear messaging about the parks being an inclusive and safe space for all

• Bilingual signage, wayfinding, maps, websites, and other communication materials

• Hiring more diverse park staff

	More cult	ural programming
4		County Doube do you violt most often?
4.	which Lane	County Parks do you visit most often?
	0	Armitage
	0	Baker Bay
	0	Harbor Vista
	0	Mount Pisgah
	0	Orchard Point
	0	Richardson

• More recreation options (an example is having more spaces for group activities and

5. Is there a barrier or are there barriers to access not listed above?

gatherings)



LANE COUNTY, OREGON

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PARKS DIVISION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (FOR ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION)

HBRA VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SOLUTIONS

PROPOSALS DUE:

5:00 PM PST September 8, 2023

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

1. INVITATION TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS

Lane County will receive proposals for the Request for Proposals (RFP) for:

HBRA Video Surveillance Solutions

Until:

5:00 PM PST, September 8, 2023

Submitted to:

Brett Henry, Parks Division Manager, brett.henry@lanecountyor.gov.

Briefly, the work of the RFP includes providing and installing a video camera surveillance system at Howard Buford Recreation Area including system configuration, maintenance, and technical assistance. The contract will be for a 5-year period from October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2028 with installation of cameras occurring by November 30, 2023.

Proposals properly submitted and received will be opened immediately following the time proposals are due, and a list of the names of persons submitting proposals will be promptly sent to all such proposers, along with such other information as the public officer considers appropriate at the time.

To be considered, proposals must be submitted electronically in accordance with <u>all</u> the following instructions:

- 1. Proposals must be submitted as an attachment to an email, submitted to the email address stated above,
- The subject line of the email must clearly identify the submission as a response to this specific RFP,
- 3. Unless otherwise stated in the Proposal Requirements, proposal documents may be submitted <u>in PDF format only</u>, and
- 4. Proposals must not include .zip files, and cannot be more than 30 megabytes in size.

Interested parties may download a complete set of RFP documents from the Lane County Procurement & Purchasing webpage at: www.lanecounty.org/bids.

The County may issue an addendum to modify or add to the terms of the RFP, or to change the time or date for submission of proposals. Any such addendum will be posted and may be downloaded from the Procurement & Purchasing webpage in the same location as the RFP posting. Each proposer is responsible to verify for itself if any addendum has been issued prior to submission of its proposal; the County is not responsible to notify individual prospective proposers of the issuance of an addendum. The requirements or clarifications contained in any addenda issued must be included in the proposals received and will become part of any resulting contract.

The County may reject any proposal not in compliance with all prescribed proposal procedures, requirements, rules, or laws, and may reject for good cause any and all proposals upon the County's finding that it is in the public interest to do so.

2. PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

- 2.1 Proposal Preparation. Proposers are responsible to read and understand all portion of the solicitation documents, including attachments and addenda, if any, and to include all requirements in their proposals. To be responsive, proposals must be made in writing, and address the background, information, questions, criteria, and requests for information contained in the RFP. Proposals must be submitted in the required form and containing all required documents and responses, be signed by the proposer or its authorized representative, and submitted in the manner and number described in the Invitation to Submit Proposals.
- **2.2 Proposals Subject to Oregon Public Records Law.** Proposals submitted in response to this RFP become public records under Oregon law and, following contract award, will be subject to disclosure to any person or organization that submits a public records request. Proposers are required to acknowledge that any

proposal may be disclosed in its entirety to any person or organization making a records request, except for such information as may be exempt from disclosure under the law.

Each proposer must clearly identify all information included in its proposal that is claimed to be exempt from disclosure. If the County receives a records request, including subpoena, covering information the bidder believes is covered by an applicable public records exemption, it is the proposer's responsibility to defend and indemnify the County for any costs associated with establishing such an exemption.

2.3 Proposal Submission. Proposals must be received by the time and date stated for receipt in the Invitation to Submit Proposals. To be considered, proposals must be submitted in the form and manner stated in the Invitation for Proposals, complete with a Proposer's Statements & Certifications Form signed by the proposer or its authorized representative, responses to all criteria and requirements included in the RFP, other documents required to be submitted, if any, and contain the number of copies required.

By submitting a proposal, proposer acknowledges that the proposer has read and understands the terms and conditions applicable to this RFP, and accepts and agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions of the contract, including the obligation to perform the scope of work and meet the performance standards.

2.4 Correction, Withdrawal, and Late Submissions. A proposer may withdraw its proposal at any time prior to the deadline set for receipt of proposals, by email to the person identified for receipt of proposals, and may submit a new sealed proposal in the manner stated in the Invitation to Submit Proposals. The County will not consider proposals received after the time and date indicated for receipt of proposals. A proposer may not modify its proposal after it has been deposited with the public officer, other than to address minor informalities, unless the proposal is withdrawn and resubmitted as described above.

3. CLARIFICATION OR PROTESTS OF SOLICITATION DOCUMENTS

3.1 Clarifications. If a proposer finds discrepancies or omissions in the RFP documents, or is in doubt as to their meaning, the proposer must immediately notify the public officer designated for receipt of proposals or other person identified for submission of questions.

If the public officer believes a clarification is necessary, an addendum will be issued in writing not less than 48 hours prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals, and available on the County's Procurement & Purchasing webpage listed above. The addendum may postpone the date for submission of proposals. The requirements or clarifications contained in any addenda so issued must be included in the proposals received and will become part of any resulting contract.

The apparent silence of the solicitation documents regarding any detail, or the apparent omission from the RFP of a detailed description concerning any point, means that only the best commercial or professional practice, material, or workmanship is to be used.

3.2 Protest of Solicitation Documents. A prospective proposer may protest the competitive selection process or provisions in the RFP documents if the prospective proposer believes the solicitation process is contrary to law or that a solicitation document is unnecessarily restrictive, legally flawed, or improperly specifies a brand name pursuant to the requirements of ORS 279B.405(2). Any written protest must be submitted to the public officer identified for receipt of proposals in the Invitation to Submit Proposals not less than 10 days prior to the deadline for submission of proposals.

Lane County will consider the protest if the protest is timely filed and contains <u>all</u> the following items:

- Sufficient information to identify the solicitation that is the subject of the protest;
- The grounds that demonstrate how the procurement process is contrary to law or how the solicitation document is unnecessarily restrictive, is legally flawed or improperly specifies a brand name:
- Evidence or supporting documentation that supports the grounds on which the protest is based; and
- The protest must state the changes to the procurement process or the solicitation document that the prospective proposer believes will remedy the conditions upon which the protest is based.

If the protest meets these requirements, the County will consider the protest and issue a decision in writing. If the protest does not meet these requirements, the County will promptly notify the prospective proposer that the protest is untimely or that the protest failed to meet these requirements and give the reasons for the failure. The County will issue its decision on the protest not less than 3 business days before proposals are due, unless a written determination is made by the County that circumstances exist that justify a shorter time limit.

4. OPENING OF PROPOSALS

- **4.1 Proposals Held Until Time for Opening.** The County will not examine any proposal prior to opening. The public officer designated for receipt of proposals may, as time allows, verify that the response document(s) attached to a submission was received intact, and may, but is not required to, notify a proposer that an emailed submission was received in a defective form.
- **4.2 Late Submissions.** Any proposal or modification received after the designated deadline will not be opened or considered.
- **4.3 Inspection of Proposals Submitted.** The proposals submitted will be open to public inspection after the issuance of notice of intent to award, with the exception of any information covered by an exemption to disclosure.

5. PROPOSAL EVALUATION AND AWARD

- **Responsiveness.** Proposals will be reviewed by the public officer for responsiveness to the minimum requirements established by the RFP, which include at a minimum, but are not limited to:
 - Submission of a completed Proposer Statements & Certifications Form in the form included as Attachment C.
 - Compliance with proposal procedures, public contracting laws, and the requirements of the Lane Manual
 - Application of any applicable preferences for goods and services that have been manufactured, produced, or performed in Oregon (ORS 279A.120), resident bidders (ORS 279A.120), recycled materials (ORS 279A.125), or printing performed within the State (ORS 282.210).
- **5.2 Proposal Evaluation.** The County will make the contract award based on the responsiveness of the actual proposals received to the requirements established in Attachments A and B, considering price, qualifications, experience, resources, proposed services, proposers' past record of performance for the County, and other factors identified in the RFP, as well as responses received from references, interviews, and follow-up questions, if any.

Each proposal will be evaluated by the evaluation committee on the basis of the process and scoring established in Attachment D. Based upon evaluation of the submitted proposals, the evaluation committee may choose to conduct interviews with two or more proposers with the highest-scored proposals. Interviews may include a presentation by the proposer and questions regarding the proposal and services to be provided. Specific criteria for selection interviews, if any, will be distributed at the time interviews are scheduled.

In evaluating the proposals and selecting a contractor, Lane County reserves the rights to:

- Reject any and all proposals,
- Issue subsequent Requests for Proposals for the same or similar goods or services,
- Not award a contract for the requested services,
- Waive any irregularities or informalities,
- Accept the proposal which the County deems to be the most beneficial to the public and Lane County,
- Negotiate with any proposer to further amend, modify, redefine or delineate its proposal,
- Negotiate and accept, without re-advertising, the proposal of the next-highest scored proposer, in
 the event that a contract cannot be successfully negotiated with the selected proposer, which may
 occur prior to the time a final recommendation for award is made for executive approval, and

- Further question any proposer to substantiate claims of experience, background knowledge, and ability.
- 5.3 Mistakes in Proposals. Minor informalities may be waived. Mistakes discovered after opening where the intended correct statement or amount is clearly evident or properly substantiated may be corrected. Where the intended correct statement or amount is not clearly evident or cannot be substantiated by accompanying documents, and where the statement or amount is material to determining compliance with the minimum requirements of the RFP, the proposal may not be accepted. The County reserves the right to waive technical defects, discrepancies and minor irregularities, and to not award a contract when it finds such action to be in the public interest.
- 5.4 Notice of Award. The County will provide written notice of its intent to award to a given proposer or proposers at least 7 days before the award, unless the County determines that a shorter notice period is more practicable. Unless otherwise stated in the RFP documents, the Notice of Intent to Award will be given by posting the notice on the Procurement & Purchasing webpage in the same location as the RFP posting.
- 5.5 Protest of Intent to Award. Any proposer that submitted a proposal for the RFP and is not recommended for award may protest the County's recommendation for award. To be considered, the protesting proposer must be eligible to be awarded the contract in the event that the protest is successful. Determination on protests will be made by the decision maker, either the Board or the County Administrator, depending upon which has authority to execute the contract under County rules. To be considered, a protest must be submitted in writing and received within 7 calendar days after the Notice of Intent to Award is posted, and must contain the grounds for the protest in accordance with Lane Manual Chapter 20.730.
- 5.6 Rejection of Proposals. If all proposals are rejected, new proposals may be called for in a new solicitation, or the proposals received may be considered with an opportunity for supplemental submission from those proposers that submitted proposals, if the County finds that it is unlikely that re-advertising would lead to greater competition. The public officer is delegated the authority to reject all proposals, prepare findings of best interests, and provide written notice of rejection of all proposals.

ATTACHMENT A – SCOPE OF SERVICES REQUIRED

County is requesting proposals from qualified firms interested in providing Outdoor IP Security Cameras, Camera Mounting Hardware, a Network Voice Recording (NVR) System, NVR Software, a Video Management System, Support, Maintenance, Warranty, Cabling and Training. This system will replace our current CCTV system at the HPD.

Project location: 34901 Frank Parrish Rd, Eugene, OR 97405. Main parking lot and access road north of Mount Pisgah Arboretum. See Attachment G – Project Map for the three designated camera locations.

Technical Specifications

- 1.1 Capacity and Scalability: The surveillance solution should be expandable beyond current project needs and be capable of handling 12 or more cameras within the Howard Buford Recreation Area. Preference will be given to proposals that demonstrate the ability to scale beyond 12 cameras and include other parks within the County.
- 1.2 **Outdoor Cameras:** All outdoor cameras should be vandal proof and anti-vibration compliant and should have the following specifications at a minimum:
 - Full High Definition (FHD)
 - IP66 Rating to protect against dust and environmental elements
 - IK10 rating for vandal resistant housing
 - Infrared Illumination for night visibility
 - Defocus Detection
 - View DR (120dB) for areas that have lighting differences
 - Capability to produce 30 FPS or more
 - Image stabilizing to reduce blurring
 - Day/Night capability
 - Pan, Tilt, Zoon (PTZ) capability
 - Must have tamper detection
 - Must have motion detection
 - Capability to record audio
 - County to provide and install poles at designated camera locations
 - County to provide 120v power at camera locations
- 1.3 Video Management System: The proposed solution should describe the administration/management interface that will be used. Preference will be given to proposals that demonstrate systems that are easy to use, that have the option to integrate with Active Directory, have an HTML client, can record on alarm, support remote and offsite access, and have the option to search by thumbnails. Additionally, the system must be able to do the following:
 - Provide multiple levels of administrators that will have varying roles in the system
 - Provide email notification of critical system events
 - Store 8TB or more
 - Provide video monitor
 - View live video and review historical video up to 1 month
 - Control PTZ and view live video remotely
- 1.4 **Support and Maintenance:** The County requires 5-years support and onsite support with the option to continue annual support after the 5-year period has ended. All products must come with a 5-year warranty.
- 1.5 Engagement Methodology: County is looking for a turn-key solution. The vendor will be responsible for any camera hardware, any necessary cable runs, wireless connectivity to County provided internet source, as well as installation of networking equipment at designated space within Mt. Pisgah Arboretum Office. The vendor will be responsible for coordinating and configuring the networking equipment to work with the County's Network Administrator and internet provider.

ATTACHMENT B – REQUIRED ELEMENTS OF PROPOSALS

- 1. PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS AND FORMAT.
 - **1.1 Documents to be Submitted.** The proposal submitted must include all the following:
 - Responses to each of the required items stated under 1.2 below,
 - A completed and executed Proposer Statements and Certifications form, and
 - A statement of any exceptions taken to the requirements of this RFP.
 - **1.2** Format Requirements. The proposal submitted must be in compliance with the following rules:
 - Be in the order and numbering requested,
 - Be submitted in the form and within the limitations stated in the Invitation to Submit Proposals,
 - Contain primary text and headings in not less than 10 point type (with smaller text acceptable in notes, graphs, requested tables, and images), and
 - Be limited 20 pages, nominal 8.5" x 11" size. Pages used for a cover letter (which may not exceed two pages), section dividers, resumes, and exceptions are not included in the page limit.
- 2. REQUIRED RESPONSE CRITERIA. The proposal must address each of the following:
 - 2.1 Qualifications and References. A brief outline of the vendor company and services offered, including:
 - Full legal name of the company
 - Year business was established
 - Number of people currently employed
 - An outline of the product line-up and/or services they currently support.
 - A description of geographic reach.
 - References: Contact information for three references from projects similar in size, application, and scope and a brief description of their implementation.
 - **2.2 Methodology.** Provide a detailed description of the approach and methodology to be used to accomplish the Scope of Services Required including:
 - List of products including any cameras, mounting hardware, cabling, wireless connections, recording devices, monitors, storage devices, etc.
 - List of any software and subscriptions required.
 - General system capability, operation, and management.
 - System expandability and scalability.
 - Extended support, maintenance, and the average response time for a support request.
 - Warranty terms for products and installation.
 - Proposed Project Schedule.
 - Operator, administrator, and end user training.
 - **2.3 Budget & Estimated Pricing.** Provide a five (5) year cost summary including hardware, software licensing, installation, maintenance, documentation & training, project management, and miscellaneous expenses.

ATTACHMENT D – SELECTION PROCEDURE AND SCORING

1. **SELECTION COMMITTEE.** The Selection Committee will be comprised of:

Brett Henry, Lane County Parks, Parks Division Manager Todd Bowen, Lane County Parks, Parks Maintenance Supervisor Bjorn Carlson, Lane County Parks, Parks Business Operations Supervisor Brad van Appel, Mount Pisgah Arboretum, Executive Director

- 2. **EVALUATION PROCESS.** The selection process for this RFP will include the procedures checked here:
 - Will include evaluation and scoring of initial proposal
 - Will Not include interviews of top-scored proposers
 - Will Not include a requirement for additional questions and responses from top-scored proposers
 - Will Not include competitive negotiations with top-scored proposers

Notwithstanding the selection procedures identified above, the County reserves the right to terminate the evaluation process after completion of any procedural stage when, in the County's sole opinion, further evaluation procedures are not required for the County to identify the proposer whose offer will best suit the interests of the County.

3. PROPOSAL SCORING. The County will score proposals according to the following criteria:

	Criterion	Points
1.	Capability of vendor to provide surveillance solution.	15
2.	Capability of vendor to provide all necessary equipment (cameras per specifications, mounting hardware, cabling, wireless connectivity, recording & storage devices).	15
3.	Ability to provide onsite support and maintenance in a timely manner.	10
4.	Warranty of equipment and installation (5-year minimum).	5
5.	Ease of operations, management, and support of the surveillance solution.	20
6.	Capability of vendor to provide administrator and/or end user training.	15
7.	Cost effectiveness of the proposed solution.	20
	Total Possible Points	100

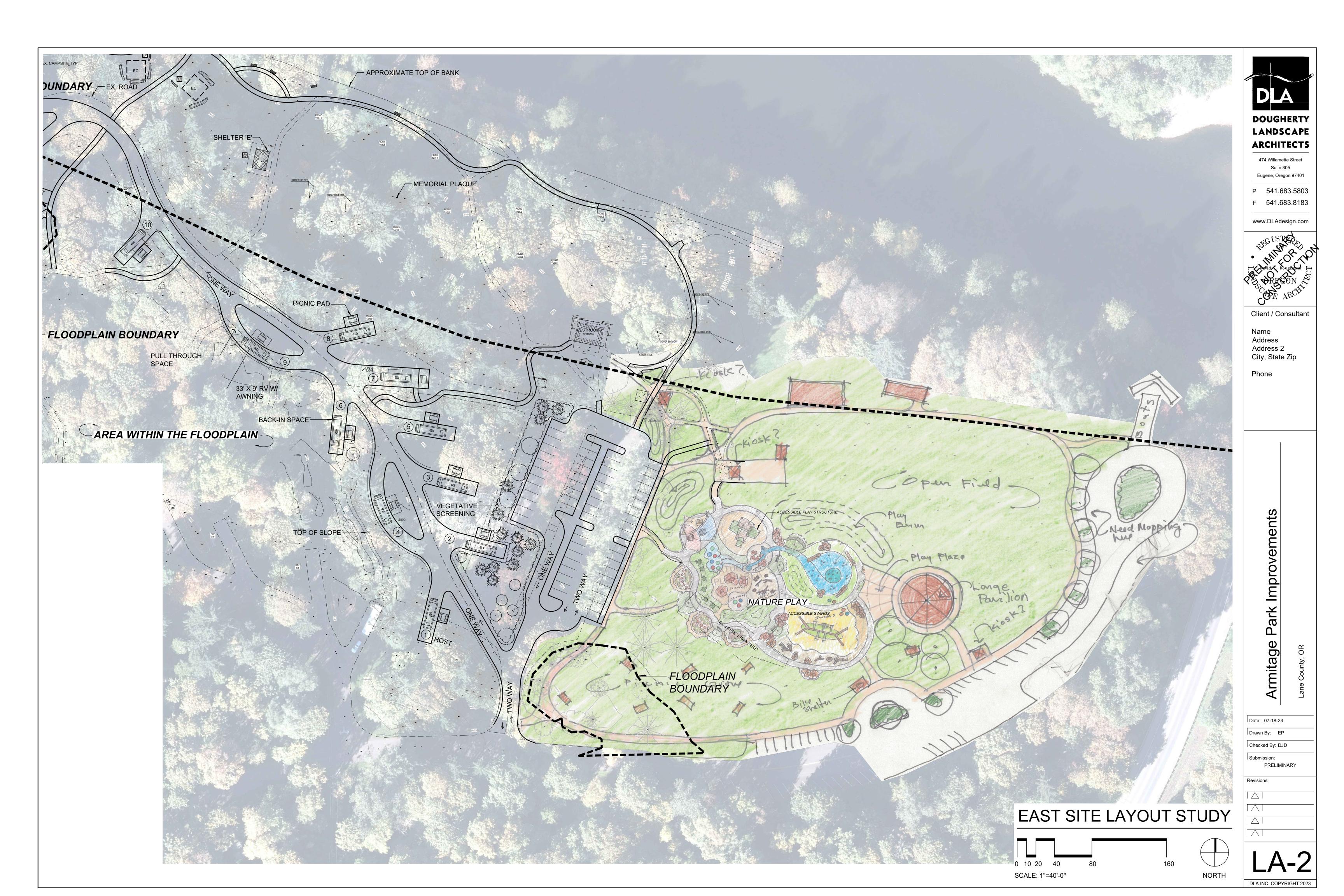
ATTACHMENT E – SAMPLE CONTRACT AND INSURANCE REQUIRED

1.	CONTRACT FORM. The contract resulting from this RFP will be prepared using the standard Lane Country
	contract form checked here. The County's standard contract forms may be downloaded from the Lane County
	Procurement & Purchasing webpage at: www.lanecounty.org/bids.
	A-1 Goods and/or Services Contract form
	A-3 Professional (non-design) Services Contract form
	Other contract form included with this RFP

- **2. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS.** The insurance requirements for the contract resulting from this RFP will be as stated on the following page, "ATTACHMENT F INSURANCE COVERAGES REQUIRED".
- 3. PROPOSER COMMENTS ON CONTRACT FORM AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS.

Any proposer may take exception to conditions in the County's contract form and insurance requirements by including such exceptions and any proposed changes with the proposal submitted.

The County will consider any proposed changes, inclusions, or exclusions in determining proposal responsiveness or in scoring the proposal.









Memorandum Date: August 11, 2023

Board Meeting Date: August 29, 2023

TO: Board of County Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

PRESENTED BY: Brett Henry, Parks Division Manager

Latiffe Amado, Equity Manager

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: STAFF REPORT/ Lane County Parks Local Option Levy Update

I. MOTION

None. Discussion only.

II. AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

The purpose of this Board Session is to: (1) present a background of the process that led to the passage of the five-year Lane County Parks local option levy, (2) provide an update on planning and equity initiatives associated with the levy, and (3) present the criteria that will be used to prioritize the levy capital projects.

III. BACKGROUND/IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION

A. Board Action and Other History

On October 12, 2021, the Phase One Facility Condition Assessment Report conducted by Faithful & Gould, Ltd. was presented to the Board of County Commissioners (Board). The assessment included the four parks (Armitage, Baker Bay, Orchard Point, and Richardson) with the highest amount of built infrastructure within the park system. The findings from the first report indicated that the total capital needs of these four parks over a ten-year period with no capital investments was \$27,166,000.

On October 19, 2021, the Lane County Parks Funding Task Force Report was presented to the Board. A Task Force assigned by the Board researched and outlined three Funding Alternatives to address the growing deferred maintenance backlog, bolster park maintenance and operations, and ensure a path towards long-term financial stability. The preferred Funding Alternative (Alternative A – Traditional Funding Strategy) was recommended in the report by the Task Force. This Alternative included a \$6-million five-year local option levy and \$500,000 in annual General Fund support from the County. Additional recommendations in the report included: (1) financial support from the County to the Parks Division for design engineering and feasibility studies to address failing infrastructure at three parks included in the Phase One Facility Condition Assessment, (2) matching dollars from the County for grants that fund Special Projects that generate revenue, (3) implementation of cost saving measures by Parks staff, (4) development of a public awareness campaign by Parks staff to inform the value of services provided by the parks and progress made toward restoring the parks, and (5) a commitment by the County to provide funding for a second Facility Condition Assessment.

On February 1, 2022, the Lane County Parks Funding Implementation Work Plan was discussed with the Board. The Work Plan outlined the tasks planned in the months prior to the placement of a local option levy on the November 8, 2022 general election ballot. On April 26, 2022, the Phase Two Facility Condition Assessment Report conducted by Faithful & Gould, Ltd. was presented to the Board. The second assessment included thirteen additional parks: Archie Knowles, Bender Landing, Camp Lane, Farnham Landing, Harbor Vista, Hendricks Bridge, Howard Buford Recreation Area, Linslaw, North Jetty, Perkins Peninsula, Triangle Lake, Westlake, and Zumwalt. After assessing the condition of these additional parks, the amount of funding needed to address the deferred maintenance backlog is now more definitive with a more firm deferred maintenance target for the entire park system. The report gave a summary of the condition of the park assets and a cost estimate to replace or repair damaged infrastructure to a level that is safe to the public and functional to the operation of the facility. The findings indicated that the assessed parks were in variable condition from "Good" to "Very Poor" according to the Facility Condition Index (FCI) and the total capital needs of the thirteen parks over a tenyear period with no capital investments was \$11,314,492.

On June 21, 2022, a consultant from the polling firm FM3 Research presented the results of a recent poll of likely Lane County voters. Polling showed that approximately 61 percent of respondents would be likely to support a five-year operating levy at 16 cents per one thousand dollars assessed property value, approximately 35 percent would be opposed, and the remainder – under 5 percent – were undecided. The Board gave direction to pursue plans toward a local option levy, indicating support for "Alternative A – Traditional Funding Strategy" as recommended in the 2021 report from the Parks Funding Task Force. This alternative included a five-year \$6-million local option levy.

On July 19, 2022, Public Works and Parks Division staff presented a list of special projects that would be funded by the levy for Board feedback. The levy funding plan for Lane County Parks included \$5-million in special projects specifically to expand recreational

offerings, enhance safety and security at Lane County parks, and create new opportunities that include conservation and education programming.

On August 2, 2022, the Board established an explanatory statement committee comprised of three community members. The committee was charged with writing an explanatory statement that was on the November 8, 2022 election ballot..

On August 9, 2022, the Board voted to approve Board Order 22-08-09-07 which gave authority to include a five-year local option levy on the November, 8, 2022 ballot for investments in Lane County parks, water access, and restoration of natural areas.

B. Policy Issues

The 2018 Lane County Parks & Open Space Master Plan (Master Plan) adopted on December 18, 2018 by the Board identified, *Create Vibrancy*, as a core goal to "reinvigorate and revitalize targeted parks as thriving, family-friendly outdoor activity hubs through redesign, renovation, and programming to help position Lane County as the best county for outdoor recreation and play." *Strategy 3.1* under this goal instructs the county to "follow Master Plan recommendations to invest in targeted parks to enhance their function as community recreation destinations."

The Master Plan also identified the core goal of *Generate Economic Vitality* by "creat[ing] a strategic and holistic park management approach that balances local/site needs with opportunities to create economic benefits or to generate revenue to re-invest in parks." *Strategy 4.2* under this goal recommends "establish[ing] a Lane County parks advocacy [group] that can advocate for parks funding, conduct campaigns, apply for grant funding, and receive donations for Lane County Parks." *Strategy 4.5* under this core goal suggests "develop[ing] additional resources and funding for Lane County Parks by explor[ing] new sources of stable long-term operational funding, such as operating levies or utility fees, general fund monies, or increasing the percentage of funding received from the transient room tax, car rental tax or other funding sources." *Strategy 4.12* recommends "support[ing] local and citizen-led efforts to bring additional funding resources to parks in Lane County."

Stable funding is essential to implement the core Master Plan goal of *Protect Resources* by "sustain[ing] and protect[ing] unique county assets, cultural and natural resources as our legacy for future generations." *Strategy 5.1* under this core goal recommends "increase[ing] Lane County investment in park maintenance and natural resource stewardship to protect cultural and natural assets." *Strategy 5.9* suggests "invest[ing] in protecting and enhancing Lane County's natural areas while providing compatible public access for recreation."

Goal six in the Master Plan is *Nurture Our Values*. This goal implores Lane County to "emphasize our diverse, natural character and make high impact, low-cost moves to maintain sites, sustain infrastructure and improve the quality, safety, and attractiveness

of park amenities, landscaping and recreation facilities." *Strategy 6.11* recommends the county "consider long-term funding for maintenance and capital improvements if opportunities arise that are consistent with Master Plan goals or generate a profit that can be reinvested in [individual] site[s] and other County parks."

C. Board Goals

The Lane County local option levy supports the <u>2022-2024 Lane County Strategic Plan</u> under <u>Strategic Priority 2</u>: <u>Vibrant Communities</u>. "Invest in Lane County residents by fostering engaged communities with affordable housing options, equitable opportunities, economic vitality and a healthy environment." Under Objective B, "Focus on the intersection of economic development, equity and the environment as we look to achieve a viable, fair and livable community" it is recommended that the Parks Division Manager lead the initiative to "implement strategies from the Parks Funding Task Force to provide sustainable funding for parks."

D. Finance and/or Resource Considerations

Summary of the Funding Decline of Lane County Parks

During the heyday of the timber industry in the 1950s through the 1970s, Lane County Parks operated with a robust budget that adequately funded the parks system through a timber revenue allocation, the County's general fund, an allocation of the gasoline tax, and state and federal grants. By the middle of the 1970s, the Parks Division was staffed by more than 35 full-time employees. When the 1980s began, the Parks Division had acquired more park facilities than could be adequately maintained. In 1982, the economic recession decimated the County's general fund forcing a temporary closure of the park system. In 1983, a 5% car rental tax was dedicated to the operation and development of the parks system which enabled the parks to re-open to the public. By the 1990s, the Parks Division no longer received general fund support. So, to become more selfsustaining, the primary source of revenue became user-fees (camping, moorage, facility rentals, and parking fees). By 2021, the Parks Division was operating under a user-fee based funding model with an operating and capital budget of approximately \$4-million to fund the operation and maintenance of sixty-eight parks and open spaces that total over 4,400 acres. The Parks Division employed a maintenance staff of seven full-time employees in charge of maintaining five campgrounds with 227 RV campsites, 3 marinas with 400 slips, and 33 public boat ramps. Over the past 30-years, the user-fees generated were inadequate to keep up with the maintenance, capital, staffing, and resource management needs of the park system. Consequently, maintenance was often postponed due to insufficient financial resources creating a multi-million-dollar backlog of deferred maintenance.

Deferred Maintenance Backlog

In 2021, two Facility Condition Assessments (FCAs) were conducted within the parks system. The assessments identified and prioritized the deferred maintenance backlog of the seventeen parks that contained the greatest amount of aging infrastructure. The

findings from the FCAs indicated \$22-Million in immediate capital needs within the following parks: Archie Knowles, Armitage, Baker Bay, Bender Landing, Camp Lane, Farnham Landing, Harbor Vista, Hendricks Bridge, Howard Buford Recreation Area, Linslaw, North Jetty, Orchard Point, Perkins Peninsula, Richardson, Triangle Lake, Westlake, and Zumwalt. Without sufficient funding for operations, maintenance, and capital projects, the Parks Division cannot generate enough funding needed to address the backlog of deferred maintenance.

Lane County Parks Funding Task Force

On July 9, 2019, the Lane County Parks Funding Task Force was established through Board Order 19-07-09-09. The eleven-member Task Force composed of citizens from each geographic region within Lane County was assembled to research and recommend sustainable funding sources for Lane County Parks. Between February 2020 and July 2021, the Task Force met a total of ten times. A number of funding sources were investigated by the Task Force with the lens of identifying a nexus between the funding sources and funding categories. The following funding categories were identified as essential in order of importance: maintenance and operations, deferred maintenance, conservation and stewardship, environmental education programming, and revenue generation. Sustainable funding for park maintenance and operations and deferred maintenance were recognized by the Task Force as the two most essential funding priories. Under these funding categories (park operations and maintenance & deferred maintenance), the following revenue sources were investigated: a utility fee or tax, a county service district, a local-option levy, an increase in transient room tax (hotel tax), solid waste fees, and public/private partnerships. Additionally, general obligation bonds, capital serial levies, timber sales, and grants were investigated to support deferred maintenance. The preferred Funding Alternative (Alternative A – Traditional Funding Strategy) was recommended in the October 19, 2021 report from the Lane County Parks Funding Task Force to the Board. The recommended funding plan included a \$30-million five-year local option levy. The proposed levy budget was designated to support the following funding categories: park operations and maintenance, deferred maintenance, conservation projects, educational programming, revenue generation projects, and special projects.

Public Polling

Following the Parks Funding Task Force recommendations, the Parks Division met with the Board a total of four times as the Division was investigating the merits of a five-year levy. Of note, on June 21, 2022, a public polling firm presented a county-wide survey to the Board that indicated 61% of respondents would likely support a five-year operating levy at a rate of 16 cents per one-thousand dollars assessed property value. Additionally, the Board gave direction to pursue plans toward a five-year \$30 million local option levy and indicated support for the funding plan recommended in the 2021 Parks Funding Task Force Report.

Feedback from the Community Engagement Meetings

Lane County Parks hosted four regional community engagement meetings during the month of May 2022. The meetings were held at four pre-selected regions within Lane County (Eugene/Springfield Metro Area Region - Eugene, McKenzie River Corridor Region - Leaburg, Coastal Region - Florence, & the Southern Region - Cottage Grove) to ensure opportunity for equitable participation. All community meetings were well attended with over one-hundred attendees that provided feedback on three questions that were referenced from the strategies of the 2018 Lane County Parks & Open Spaces Master Plan.

The following questions were asked at each community meeting:

- (1) What are some enhancements to the region's parks that would improve accessibility?
- (2) Which recreational features are most desirable within the region's parks?
- (3) What educational elements would enhance the visitor experience within the parks?

The feedback received from the community meetings informed the make-up of the levy projects. These projects contain elements that enhance park accessibility, recreation opportunities, and educational programming (cultural, environmental, and nature-based). Notable park accessibility improvements suggested by the meeting participants included adding ADA (American Disability Act) compliant restroom facilities along with ADA compliant park infrastructure along waterways and trails. Also, installing handicap accessible playground equipment or all-inclusive playgrounds were noted by several participants. Recreational enhancements included the desire for regional pickleball facilities at all four regions within the County with the strongest support shown at the Eugene/Springfield Metro Area regional meeting. An interconnected regional trail system over land and water for hikers, bikers, and watercraft was also frequently mentioned. Other notable recreational features suggested by the participants were adding more recreational vehicle and tent camping opportunities and off-leash dog areas, events that enhance local tourism and generate revenue, and designing parks to enhance wildlife viewing like birding. Educational and interpretive programming of local wildlife (especially birds), memorializing the cultural history of Native Americans who first settled Lane County, and providing more partnership programs that engage area youth were advocated at the Southern Region community engagement meeting.

Deferred Maintenance Projects Prioritization

The deferred maintenance deficiencies identified in the two Facility Condition Assessment Reports were ranked by Lane County Parks' staff by utilizing the following criteria: urgency (high, medium, low), importance (high, medium, low, no importance), and condition (good, fair/good, fair, poor/fair, poor). After ranking the deficiencies, the allocations were grouped into three broad priorities (high, medium, low) under each of the seventeen parks assessed. Additionally, the thirty-three boating facilities managed and operated by Lane County Parks were evaluated by staff for their condition (good, fair, poor) and usage (high, medium, low). Utilizing the Parks Funding Task Force recommendation of a \$3-million annual allocation over five years for deferred maintenance projects, the target was \$15-million over the lifespan of the levy.

The deferred maintenance project areas were divided into six categories with each having a funding allocation. The project areas were restrooms, day-use shelters, paving and curbs, site utilities, other features/improvements, and waterway access. The allocations ranged from a total of nearly \$6.8-million dedicated to paving of parking lots and roads to over a \$1-million designated to improving waterway access at the County boating facilities. It was determined that that levy package should support three boating facility improvement projects through the Oregon State Marine Board Facility Grant Program. The Facility Grants require a 25% County cash match, so an investment of \$100,000 over the five-year lifespan of the levy was added to the total deferred maintenance allocation.

5-Year Local Option Levy Budget

On July 19, 2022, a revised funding plan was presented to the Board. The levy budget was refined after obtaining feedback from the community engagement meetings, stakeholder interviews, the findings from the public polling survey, and prioritizing deferred maintenance projects identified in the Facility Condition Assessment.

The revised levy budget included an allocation of: (1) \$14-million for park amenities identified in the Facility Condition Assessments, (2) \$11.5-million for enhanced operational support, (3) \$5-million in special projects to expand county-wide recreational opportunities, enhance safety and security at Lane County parks, and provide habitat restoration, and (4) \$1-million in enhanced environmental stewardship and educational programming. Also, a portion of the funding was allocated for collaborative projects with other governmental agencies and organizations within the county.

November 2022 Election Results

The Lane County Parks five-year local option levy (Measure 20-335) was approved by 60.05% of Lane County voters. The local option levy will infuse the Parks Division with an estimated \$31,383,953 in funding from property taxes over a five-year period from 2024-2028. Additionally, with the passage of the five-year levy, an estimated 63% of the identified deferred maintenance will be reduced at the referenced parks by 2028. Since the property tax revenue will not be collected until the end of 2023, planning and prioritization of upcoming projects is underway in preparation for when the revenue is available.

Equity Survey and Removing Barriers to Accessing Lane County Parks

Identified as one of the three Strategic Lenses within the <u>Lane County 2022-2024</u> Strategic Plan, the "Equity Lens" applies to all facets of services provided to the citizens of Lane County. Equity is achieved when everyone has access to the opportunities, tools, and support necessary to satisfy essential needs, advance their well-being, and achieve their full potential. Lane County parks is committed to ensuring all people have access to

parks and recreation programing regardless of age, education, ethnicity, language, income, physical and cognitive limitations, and geographic barriers. The 5-year levy provides an opportunity to enhance equity within Lane County parks and recreation programs by removing barriers to access. A public survey will be distributed online through December 2023 to receive community input on prioritizing projects that enhance equity. For the purpose of the survey, barriers to access to parks were defined through four categories: physical, cognitive/neurodivergent, financial, and cultural.

- Physical barriers occur when park infrastructure lacks the accommodations for people who have physical limitations. For example, a restroom without a handicap accessible ramp or a trail that is inaccessible to people with physical limitations. Over the next five years, Lane County Parks will implement an Americans with Disabilities (ADA) transition plan based off an ADA assessment of park infrastructure. This assessment will also include accommodations for the hearing and sight impaired.
- <u>Cognitive and neurodivergent barriers</u> occur within parks when infrastructure is not designed for people whose cognitive behaviors and thought patterns fall outside of neurotypical patterns. For example, designing a sensory-rich playground is essential for preventing sensory overload or under-stimulation for many neurodiverse children.
- <u>Financial and socioeconomic barriers</u> occur when parks and recreational
 programming are not within close proximity of lower-income neighborhoods or
 communities. For example, the distance of a park or recreational program from a
 lower-income household may prevent access especially if there are no alternative
 forms of public transportation available. Likewise, the affordability of parking fees or
 cost of recreational programming is recognized as an obstacle to accessing these
 spaces and educational opportunities.
- <u>Cultural barriers</u> occur in parks when there is a lack of representation or influence from all races and cultures within the community at-large that a public space serves. For example, the language on signage and the cultural representation of park staff set the tone for a sense of belonging and provide a welcoming experience which is universal to the well-being of everyone.

IV. <u>TIMING/IMPLEMENTATION</u>

Prioritizing the Levy Projects

The Parks Division hired Sr. Consultant Bob Keefer from the Special Districts Associated of Oregon to assist with prioritizing capital projects associated with the passage of the local option levy. Mr. Keefer, in consultation with the Parks Division, developed a set of criteria to prioritize the levy projects. The criteria were developed from reviewing the proposed levy projects list, the 2018 Lane County Parks & Open Space Master Plan, and the 2021 Parks Funding Plan.

- 1. <u>Health and Safety</u> Projects that assure the health and safety of park visitors should be the priority. Projects under this category include primarily those associated with replacing or upgrading utility systems (potable water, wastewater, stormwater, electric service, lighting, etc.) and other infrastructure like park roads and parking lots. Pedestrian access improvements should also occur (sidewalk and bridge repairs or replacements, boat dock transition points) under this criterion. Many of the utility type projects are already funded as part of ARPA. However, each park should be evaluated to determine if there are critical improvements needed to protect visitors and staff from injury and/or sickness.
- 2. <u>Protect and Maintain Structures</u> Projects that ensure that a built facility is safe and operational for the long-term is a wise investment. Many of these projects may be considered preventative maintenance such as replacing roofs, re-decking boarding floats, installing new plumbing fixtures, and replacing or refurbishing restroom stalls. These types of capital repair projects enhance the user experience and assure the longevity of the structure.
- 3. Improve First Impression The Parks Division will remain dependent upon user fees to support its operation. As such, a priority must be given to projects that make a good first impression on visitors. Project examples include improved landscaping, additional lighting, irrigated turf, new and consistent signage, and installation new or refurbished picnic tables and benches. These types of projects demonstrate to the public that their property tax dollars are being spent on tangible items that they can see and experience. Another reason to prioritize these types of projects is that the county is competing with other recreation providers for visitors. If other recreation providers provide a better product for less or a similar amount of money, the county will lose out in much needed revenue and visitation. You only have one chance to make a good initial impression. Well maintained aesthetically pleasing entry points into the parks will be noticed more by the public than all the other improvements that are made with the levy funds.

- 4. <u>Improve Access including ADA requirements</u> Consistently during the last year, the county has made improved accessibility a major emphasis of the need for additional funding. It is important that the ADA assessment is completed in the first year of the levy. Once completed, projects should be initiated and completed that will improve accessibility to any built structure in the system. Emphasis should also be given to projects that provide opportunities for those with limited mobility to gain access to natural areas, waterways, recreation facilities and restrooms. The North Jetty Park improvement project should include ADA access to the beach.
- 5. Protect and Enhance Natural Habitats As supported by the parks funding task force and both public opinion surveys, projects that focus on protecting and enhancing natural habitats are also considered a high priority. Specific funds within the levy have been set aside for this type of work. Again, I would focus efforts on projects that are highly visible, especially those at HBRA and Fern Ridge Reservoir. Partnering with the McKenzie River Trust on projects along the McKenzie River would also be advantageous.
- 6. Develop Facilities to Generate Revenue To help support financial sustainability of the park system, I recommend that the county make strategic investments in net revenue generating projects. As the parks funding task force recommended investments in additional camping facilities should be a priority. You have already taken the initial planning steps to expand the Armitage Park campground. Strong consideration should be given to improving and expanding camping opportunities at Baker Bay where utilities are readily available, and camping has occurred on the site for over 50 years. I would also recommend that you brokerage deals with the USFS and USACE to manage campgrounds close to other county parks and operations. Other revenue generating projects would include restoration of Camp Lane as a destination for weddings, family reunions, and special events, and installation and improvements to group picnic facilities, especially shelters.
- 7. Improve Support Facilities Having adequate support facilities for maintenance staff, equipment, and supplies is necessary if the park maintenance staff is going operate efficiently and effectively. Reducing "windshield" time by locating satellite shops in regions throughout the county should be a priority. The possibility of co-locating with other agencies (e.g., Lane County Road Maintenance shops, USFS in Cottage Grove) should be considered. With that said, improving support facilities should be less of a priority than providing improvements to parks, especially projects that a focused on the health and safety of park visitors.

V. FOLLOW-UP

It is anticipated that an additional four sessions will be scheduled with the County Board of Commissioners over the next two years.

- December 2023 Board of County Commissioner Meeting
 - o Present results of the Equity Survey. Provide a list of levy projects planned for 2024.
- March 2024 Board of County Commissioner Meeting
 - o Present an update on the progress of planned levy projects for 2024.
- June 2024 Board of County Commissioner Meeting
 - o Present an update on the progress of planned levy projects for 2024.
- November 2024 Board of County Commissioner Meeting
 - o Present an update on the progress of planned levy projects for 2024.
 - o Provide a list of levy projects planned for 2025.

VI. ATTACHMENTS

- (1) 5-Year Local Option Levy Budget
- (2) Equity Survey Flyer
- (3) Equity Survey



US Army Corps of Engineers Leases with Lane County Parks

Meeting Attendees: Lane County: Dan Hurley, Jim Chaney, Brett Henry, Bjorn Carlson USACE: Erik Petersen, Matt Bahm, Christie Johnson, Sara Emrick

Army Corps of Engineers Leased Properties Expiration Dates:

Baker Bay: expires February 28, 2024 Orchard Point: expires June 30, 2024

Perkins Peninsula: expires December 31, 2023

Richardson: expires June 30, 2024 Zumwalt: expires March 31, 2024

Agenda Items:

1. Introductions

- 2. Facility Condition Assessment
- 3. American Rescue Plan Act & Local Option Levy
- 4. Review of Leases
- 5. Next Steps

Lane County Parks Operations Report June/July 2023



Coastal Zone

- Irrigation repairs at Camp Lane
- Cleaned up downed trees at Harbor Vista Park
- Field mowing at Konnie Memorial Park
- Repaired water damage at Camp Lane
- Striped parking lots at multiple parks
- Posted fire restrictions

Valley Zone

- Utility potholing at Richardson, Orchard Point, & Baker Bay parks (ARPA)
- Installed water tank sensors and security locks at Richardson Butte
- Fee machine repairs at Baker Bay Park
- Posted fire restrictions
- Replaced two water valves at Armitage Park (ARPA)
- Repainted Hendricks Bridge interior restroom
- Painted day-use restrooms at Baker Bay
- Cleaned up Lowell Covered Bridge and painted restroom at wayside