



# PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA



December 18, 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

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## 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** (10 min.)
  - 1) Mike Allen Second Term Application
  - 2) 2023 Accomplishments & 2024 Goals
- VI.     **Old Business** (20 min.)
  - 1) New Parks Division Employees
- VII.    **Staff & Committee Updates/Reports** – (20 min.)
  - 1) Quarterly Levy Update to Board of Commissioners (full packet & presentation slides)
  - 2) Year-End Maintenance Report
  - 3) 3-Mile Prairie
- VIII.   **Open** – All (5 min.)
- IX.     **Operations Report** - (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 20
APRIL 10	AUGUST 14	DECEMBER 18

Lane County Parks Advisory

November 20th, 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:

Members Present: Mike Allen, Timothy Foelker, Julie Daniel

Members Absent: Greg Hyde, Darlene Raish, Reilly Newman, Richard Vasquez

Staff Present: Brett Henry, Kylee Tupes, Ed Alverson

Guests Present: Stephen Lawn.

**Meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM**

**Introductions (00:00:00)**

**00:01:56 Public Comment**

- None

**00:02:06 Assignment Review**

- Keep covered Bridge Task force Subcommittee on the Agenda, will be covered under Old Business.
- Keep Three-Mile Prairie on the agenda and change wording in October minutes to reflect that.
- Strategize on dog off-leash access within Lane County Parks. Scheduling a meeting to discuss off-leash dogs at Howard Buford Recreation Area.
- Request Jodi Low to report on stewardship for volunteers
- Get input from Kristen Lee on electric vehicle grants.

**00:05:00 Review of Meeting Summary**

- Mike Allen formally adopted the October minutes.
- Change spelling of Stephen Lawn's last name in October PAC meeting minutes.

**00:06:20 Three-Mile Prairie (Three-Mile Prairie moved from Staff Updates to beginning of agenda)**

- Ed Alverson connected with Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative and had a work party on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Another volunteer work party scheduled for Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10am-12pm.
- Ed Alverson and Brett Henry discussed the removal of abandoned camps and trash. Mr. Henry received an update from Park Lead, Dan Anderson on campsite clean-up.
- Tim Foelker expressed concern for hazardous materials within abandoned camps and the possibility of it leeching into the ground.

**00:20:50 New Business**

**1) Capital Improvement Plan**

- Mr. Henry presented FY 25-29 Capital Improvement Plan.

**00:26:05 Old Business**

**1) Covered Bridge Task Force Subcommittee**

- Mr. Henry has made significant progress with Legislative Representative Alex Cuyler in the possibility of adding a new clause into ORS 368.705 County Road Fund; use of funds.

**2) Parks Superintendent (00:33:21)**

- New Parks Superintendent Steve Rafuse is set to start January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**3) Parks Planner (00:34:14)**

- New Parks Planner Rebecca Shepard is set to start December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**4) Campground Host Coordinator**

- Interviews for Campground Host Coordinator were held the week of November 13<sup>th</sup> and Parks is ready to offer the position to a candidate.

**00:38:22 Staff & Committee Updates/Reports**

**1) Quarterly Levy Update to Board of Commissioners**

- Mr. Henry will provide an update to the Board of Commissioners on Levy progress. He will explain criteria used to prioritize projects and what projects are planned for Calendar Year 2024.
- Mr. Henry will also focus on equity and sustainability lenses within levy projects during his update.

**2) Armitage Maintenance Shop Update (00:46:08)**

- Received and invitation for a bid that closed and waiting on contract signature to begin building.

**00:48:45 Open**

- No Open Items Presented

**00:49:06 Natural Areas Operations Report**

**1) HBRA Prescribed Fire**

- Mr. Alverson presented his Natural Areas Report
- Successful Rx Fire year with five burn units & 127 acres completed this year

- Wildflower display should be excellent next spring

## **2) Eagle Rock Park**

- Design workshop in September with National Park Service
- Site Plan & Report should be available this winter
- Covered shelter from FEMA funding was designed & will be first rebuild

### **00:57:00 Meeting Wrap-Up/ Assignments**

- Jodi will contact Julie Daniel for volunteering opportunities to pick up trash
- Update status of electric vehicle infrastructure grant
- Update status of Three-Mile Prairie clean-up
- Mike Allen's term ends soon and he is interested in a second term

### **1:00:24 Adjourn**

DRAFT



## Lane County CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPLICATION

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<b>APPLICANT'S NAME AND CITY:</b> Michael Allen		<b>DATE:</b> 12-11-2023
<b>NAME OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE:</b> Parks Advisory Cpmmittee	<b>PLEASE CHECK ONE:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> New Applicant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reappointment	

1. Give a brief description of the experience or training that qualifies you for membership on this advisory committee (If you wish, you may attach a resume or other pertinent material).

Former member of Parks Master Plan Task Force; host/interpreter at National and State parks (six years), and Harbor Vista Park (1 year); founder of Friends of Harbor Vista Park; served on the Lane County Parks Advisory Committee for the last four years, currently the vice chair; served on numerous boards and committees

2. Why do you want to become a member of this committee, and what specific contributions do you hope to make?

Having helped develop the Parks Master Plan with an emphasis on education, I see the PAC as a valuable and important committee to oversee its implementation. Now that we have passed the levy I want to be part of overseeing the funded projects that will enhance our County park system. Also, I can represent interests of the Coastal District.

3. List the community concerns related to this committee that you would like to see addressed if you are appointed.

I would like PAC to develop partnerships with coastal assets, attain oversight of the North Jetty Park and to develop access to and protection of undeveloped parks such as Three Mile Prairie. I would like to see close connections between Friends groups and the volunteer coordinator. I would like to continue as liaison between the PAC and Lane County to address climate change.

4. Briefly describe your present or past involvement in relevant community groups. (Having no previous involvement will not disqualify you for appointment.)

Adopted the North Jetty Beach with SOLVE; removed invasive plants with Save the Oregon Dunes; provided educational programs and interpretive signs for Friends of Harbor Vista Park. My wife Pat and I participate in the City of Florence's Adopt a Street Program and adopted the city's Hurd Memorial Park.

5. Lane County is committed to reflecting diverse cultures on its boards/committees and does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, religion, language, ethnicity, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expressions, veteran's status, or political beliefs in employment or in admission, treatment, or participation in its programs, services, and activities. If selected, how would you contribute to this effort?

I bring diversity to the PAC for the following: senior status in my community; substitute teacher with K-12 students; veteran of service in USNR; advocate for disability rights; past member of Colorado Developmental Disability Planning Council (6 years), served as chair and vice-chair





## Lane County CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPLICATION

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6. Are you currently serving on any Advisory Boards or Committees? If so, which ones?

Superintendent's Policy Advisory Committee for Siuslaw School District, PTA, Elders Climate Action-Oregon Chapter. Parks Advisory Committee

7. Are you employed by, have any business, contractual arrangements or family connections with programs having contractual agreements with the County or that might be within the purview of the committee on which you are seeking appointment? (If there is a change in your circumstances, please advise the staff for the committee within 30 days.)

☒ No ☐ Yes Specify:

8. How did you learn about this vacancy? ☐ Newspaper ☐ Word of mouth ☒ Other:

9. In which County Commissioner District do you reside? Please check one:

☐ Unsure ☒ West Lane County ☐ Springfield  
☐ South Eugene ☐ North Eugene ☐ East Lane County

*The Board of Commissioners has adopted the following policy on reappointments\*:*

- a. Members of County advisory groups will serve a maximum of two consecutive terms when term lengths are three or more years in length.*
- b. The deadline for incumbent applications will be the same as the deadline for new applications.*

*\* Unless waived by the Board.*



# Lane County CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPLICATION

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**Please Print**

Name: Allen Michael  
(Last) (First)

Preferred Salutation: ☒ Mr. ☐ Ms. ☐ Mx. ☐ Dr. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: [REDACTED] Florence 97439  
(Street) (City) (Zip)

Home Phone: [REDACTED] How Long Have You Lived in Lane County? 9 Years 10 Months

Occupation: retired Place of Employment: n/a

Business Address: n/a Business Phone: n/a

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED] Fax: none

**NOTE:** Information in this box consisting of home addresses and phone numbers may be exempt from disclosure per ORS 192.502(3).

## OPTIONAL INFORMATION

Lane County is required under state and federal guidelines to identify applicants by ethnicity, race, gender and age. Supplying this information will also assist Lane County in evaluating its Diversity Implementation Plan to achieve more diversity on its advisory committees. Providing this information will not adversely affect your opportunity to serve on this committee or board and this information is processed separately from the application. Completion of this section is entirely voluntary and remains confidential.

Please check all boxes that apply:

Gender:

- ☒ Male ☐ Female ☐ Trans-Male  
☐ Trans-Female ☐ Gender Non-Conforming ☐ Non-Binary  
☐ Other

Ethnicity:

- ☐ Hispanic/Chicanx/Latinx  
☒ Non-Hispanic/Chicanx/Latinx

Race:

- ☐ Asian American ☐ American Indian/Alaska Native ☐ African American  
☐ Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander ☒ White

☒ Disability: \*Type: Osteoarthritis of knee

\*This information is used to ensure there is reasonable accommodation and representation on advisory boards.

Is your age over 40? ☒ Yes ☐ No



**Lane County  
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
APPLICATION**

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*Lane County does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, religion, language, ethnicity, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expressions, veteran's status, or political beliefs.*

Signature of Applicant Michael Allen Date: 12-11-2023

*Except as noted above, all information provided as part of this application is a public record subject to disclosure.*

**Please Return to: Lane County Administration  
Public Service Building  
125 East 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Eugene, OR 97401**

**NOTE:** If you are not selected at this time, your application will be kept on file for 12 months from the date it was received and will be reconsidered as vacancies occur.



## **Lane County Parks Advisory Committee**

### **2022 Accomplishments**

- Continued implementing the Large Event Oversight process.
- Filled PAC vacancies. Recommended appointment of Timothy Foelker (District 1) & Richard Vasquez (District 5) to first terms.
- Continued to identify and support efforts to secure sustainable funding for the park system. Two PAC members (Kevin Shanley & Jim Mayo) served on Parks Funding Task Force.
- Provided key support for the successful passage of 5-year local option levy on the November 2022 ballot.
- Continued to receive presentations and provide recommendations to the Board of Commissioners regarding park acquisitions, maintenance agreements and lease arrangements (e.g. North Jetty Park).
- Reviewed and commented on plans for the Armitage Campground Expansion project.
- Reviewed and commented on the Facilities Condition Assessment with the goal of reducing the backlog of deferred maintenance.
- Reviewed and commented on plans for the use of American Rescue Plan Act funding for evaluating and improving the water and sewer infrastructure at Armitage, Baker Bay, Orchard Point, and Richardson parks.
- Reviewed and commented on plans for the construction of three cabins at Harbor Vista Park.
- Worked with Parks staff with the implementation of the Parks Master Plan through Action Plans. Three Action Plans were selected as priorities: improve park accessibility, establish a Water Trail, & improve park entrances.
- Reviewed and commented on implementation of the HBRA Habitat Management Plan (projects: Eastern Uplands, Ponderosa, and Coast Fork Trail).
- Evaluated future use of and access to Three Mile Prairie. Mike Allen met with Florence Public Works Director to explore support from the City of Florence.
- Reviewed and endorsed the Lane County Community Climate Resilience Plan – Phase 3 of the Climate Action Plan. PAC member Mike Allen served as a liaison and presented the endorsement to the Board of Commissioners that unanimously adopted the plan.
- Participated in a field trip to Harbor Vista Park, North Jetty Park, & Three Mile Prairie.

## **Lane County Parks Advisory Committee**

### **2023 Goals**

- Support Parks staff with the implementation of the 5-Year Levy, which will reduce the maintenance backlog and supplement significant capital and operational improvements.
- Continue searching for additional sustainable funding opportunities and support the renewal of the local option levy.
- Support development of a Business Plan with a marketing/branding strategy and an Economic Impact Analysis to determine long-term sustainability of the parks system.
- Support staff in their efforts to streamline park operations and services to best suit community needs.
- Support staff's efforts to determine the carrying capacity of the parks system. Limited financial resources and a large geographic footprint have resulted in a less than ideal service level.
- Support staff and community partners in identifying sustainable funding sources for capital improvements and long-term maintenance of the "off-line" covered bridges.
- Support an annual review of Parks Fees with a consideration for charging out of state camping fees and reducing the number of parks that require a day-use parking pass.
- Support staff's efforts to address the failing water and sewer infrastructure identified in the Facility Condition Assessment.
- Support development of a Preventative Maintenance & Asset Management Program as recommended by the Facilities Condition Assessment.
- Support Parks staff with the implementation of the HBRA Habitat Management Plan.
- Support investigation and evaluation of the off-leash dog rules/policy at Howard Buford Park through a collaborative public process.
- Support Parks staff with the Armitage Campground Expansion project.
- Participate in a Park tour/field trip.
- Support the Adopt-a-Park volunteer program.
- Receive an update on the McKenzie Fish Hatchery Discovery Center project.
- Support a long-term lease agreement with the Department of State Lands for the North Jetty property.
- Support increased security and safety at County Parks.
- Continue to implement the Master Plan through the execution of Action Plans.
- Explore a non-profit parks foundation.
- Support implementation of the Lane County Climate Action Plan.
- Evaluate regional trail opportunities. Support the execution of a Regional Trail Master Plan.
- Support enhancing accessibility (cultural & physical barriers) of facilities at County parks (includes trails).
- Evaluate limited public access to Three Mile Prairie.



Memorandum Date: November 15, 2023

Board Meeting Date: December 5, 2023

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TO: Board of County Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

PRESENTED BY: Brett Henry, Parks Division Manager

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

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I. MOTION

None. Discussion only.

II. AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

The purpose of this Board Session is to: (1) provide the Board with a review of the criteria utilized to prioritize levy capital projects, (2) explain the methodology for creating a project dashboard or “smartsheet” to track multiple projects, and (3) discuss planned improvements for calendar year 2024.

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. 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 ten-year 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 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.

On November 8, 2022, the Lane County Parks five-year local option levy (Measure 20-335) was approved by 60.05% of Lane County voters.

On August 29, 2023, the Parks Division presented the first levy update to the Board. The Parks Division Manager presented a background of the process that led to the passage of



the five-year Lane County Parks local option levy, provided an update on planning and equity initiatives associated with the levy, and presented the criteria that will be used to prioritize the levy capital projects.

## 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 “re-invigorate 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 recommended “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 recommended “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 2022-2024 Lane County Strategic Plan under Strategic Priority 2: Vibrant Communities. “Invest in Lane County residents by

fostering engaged communities with affordable housing options, equitable opportunities, economic vitality and a healthy environment.”

D. Finance and/or Resource Considerations

Lane County Parks – 2021 Operating Budget

Since the 1990s and prior to the passage of the 2022 Local Option Levy, the Parks Division no longer received general fund support. Consequently, the primary source of revenue became user-fees (camping, moorage, facility rentals, and parking fees) with a goal of becoming more self-sustaining. 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 5 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 seventeen 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 could not generate enough revenue needed to address the backlog of deferred maintenance.

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 \$6.5 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 a minimum of 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. By the end of 2028, after the completion of the levy projects, the \$22 million deferred maintenance backlog will be reduced by an estimated 83% in tandem with the \$4.3 million received from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021. The ARPA funds are dedicated to replacing the underground utilities at four parks: Armitage, Baker Bay, Orchard Point, and Richardson.

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.

#### IV. TIMING/IMPLEMENTATION

##### 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. This criteria was presented to the Board in August 2023.

1. Health and Safety – 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. **Protect and Maintain Structures** – 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. With only 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. **Improve Access including ADA requirements** – 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. For instance, 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 were designated for stewardship. Focusing on projects that are highly visible, especially those at HBRA, and Fern Ridge Reservoir. Partnering with other organizations such as the McKenzie River Trust on projects along the McKenzie River is a priority.
6. **Develop Facilities to Generate Revenue** – Make strategic investments in net revenue generating projects to help support the financial sustainability of the park system. As the Parks Funding Task Force recommended, investments in additional camping facilities should be a priority. 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. Other revenue generating projects include restoration of Camp Lane as a destination for weddings, family reunions, and special events. Also, the installation and improvements to group picnic facilities, especially shelters are an opportunity to enhance revenue.

7. Improve Support Facilities – Having adequate support facilities for maintenance staff, equipment, and supplies is necessary if the park maintenance staff is going to 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., USFS in Cottage Grove) is a consideration. With that said, improving support facilities should be less of a priority than providing improvements to parks, especially projects that are focused on the health and safety of park visitors.

### Project Tracking

The framework for project delivery involves six stages. The first stage is “Site Planning” which includes: the project justification, a maintenance plan, identification and assignment of the project team (which includes a project manager who assigns the roles and responsibilities of each team member), the budget, timeline, inter-agency coordination, external partner coordination, public engagement, tribal engagement, natural and cultural resource protection, and conceptual design. The second stage is “Project Development” which includes permitting, design, and engineering. The third stage is “Construction” where procurement, contracting, and oversight are tracked. The final two stages are “Project Close Out” and “Operationalize”. The framework for each project will be contained within a shared “smartsheet” or Levy Project Dashboard that tracks progress of each project. A Project Tracker Spreadsheet (see *Exhibit A*) will be developed for input into the eBuilder software program. Each of the six stages will require review and approval by the Division Manager.

### Planned Levy Projects

The property taxes will not be in the levy operating fund until December 2023, since the taxes are not levied until November 2023. Consequently, levy projects are scheduled to commence at the beginning of 2024. The 2024 projects will include: (1) setting up an annual audit of the levy budget, (2) procuring an ADA Assessment & Transition Plan for Lane County Parks, (3) fulfilling the cooperative project obligations with other organizations and agencies, (4) addressing immediate safety concerns identified in the Facility Condition Assessment (FCA), (5) procuring a contract for park security, (6) design and permitting for a waterway access project, and (6) planning and permitting of planned capital projects. *Exhibit B* lists the planned capital projects identified in the 5-Year Levy Budget. These projects primarily address the identified deferred maintenance backlog. An inventory from each park was conducted by Parks Division staff where every asset identified in the FCA deferred maintenance report was prioritized.

The project prioritization followed the seven criteria in combination with notes that identify removing, repairing, renovating, replacing, or re-evaluating the asset. For example, the FCA listed a campground restroom in poor/fair overall condition. This does not necessarily require that the restroom is slated for replacement in entirety. In this case, upon further inspection, it was noted that the plumbing fixtures and skylight inside the restroom were replaced in 2022. However, the roof will need new shingles, gutters and downspouts and the ceramic wall tiles require replacement. Habitat stewardship and habitat restoration projects in partnership with local organizations like the Friends of Buford Park are scheduled in 2024. This will include leveraging existing fuel reduction funding received from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for prescribed fire and the removal of invasive species at parks in each region of the county. Cooperative projects with organizations that oversee parks damaged in the Holiday Farm Fire will begin in 2024. These include: the McKenzie River Discovery Center at site of the Old McKenzie Fish Hatchery, the Blue River Park District, and the McKenzie River Trust who manages the Finn Rock Reach property on the banks of the McKenzie River.

Results from the Equity Survey will be evaluated in January and applied to the project schedule with the goal of universal accessibility to reduce the equity barriers identified in the survey results. In addition to the ADA transition plan, an asset management dashboard will incorporate a geospatial equity layer with census data to identify inequities in services and barriers to park access in each geographic region of the county. Planned trail improvements will include eliminating identified barriers on trails and a second universally accessible trail loop will be completed at Howard Buford Park.

A sustainability lens will be incorporated in the planning stage of each project. Sustainable design that minimizes disturbance of the landscape and natural resources is a priority. The Parks Division will work closely with the Waste Management Division to include sustainable practices within the scope of all construction projects. The goal is to reduce the amount of construction material in local landfills. Sustainable construction practices include the use of recycled or recyclable building materials, local products that require less transportation, and a partnership with Bring Recycling to reduce disposal through repurposing materials.

## V. FOLLOW-UP

It is anticipated that an additional four sessions will be scheduled with the County Board of Commissioners in 2024.

- January/February 2024 – Board of County Commissioner Meeting
  - Present results of the Equity Survey. Provide a list of levy projects planned for 2024 and beyond.
- March 2024 – Board of County Commissioner Meeting
  - Present an update on the progress of planned levy projects. This update will include a communication plan with the public.

- June 2024 – Board of County Commissioner Meeting
  - Present an update on the progress of planned levy projects.
- November 2024 – Board of County Commissioner Meeting
  - Present the annual report.
  - Provide an updated list of levy projects planned for 2025 and beyond.

VI. ATTACHMENTS

Exhibit A: SAMPLE Project Tracking Spreadsheet

Exhibit B: Lane County Parks Local Option Levy Budget

December 5, 2023

LEVY  
QUARTERLY  
BOARD  
UPDATE



Lane County  
**Parks**  
2022



# BOARD UPDATE DECEMBER 2023

Levy Budget & Project Categories

Prioritizing Levy Projects

Tracking Projects

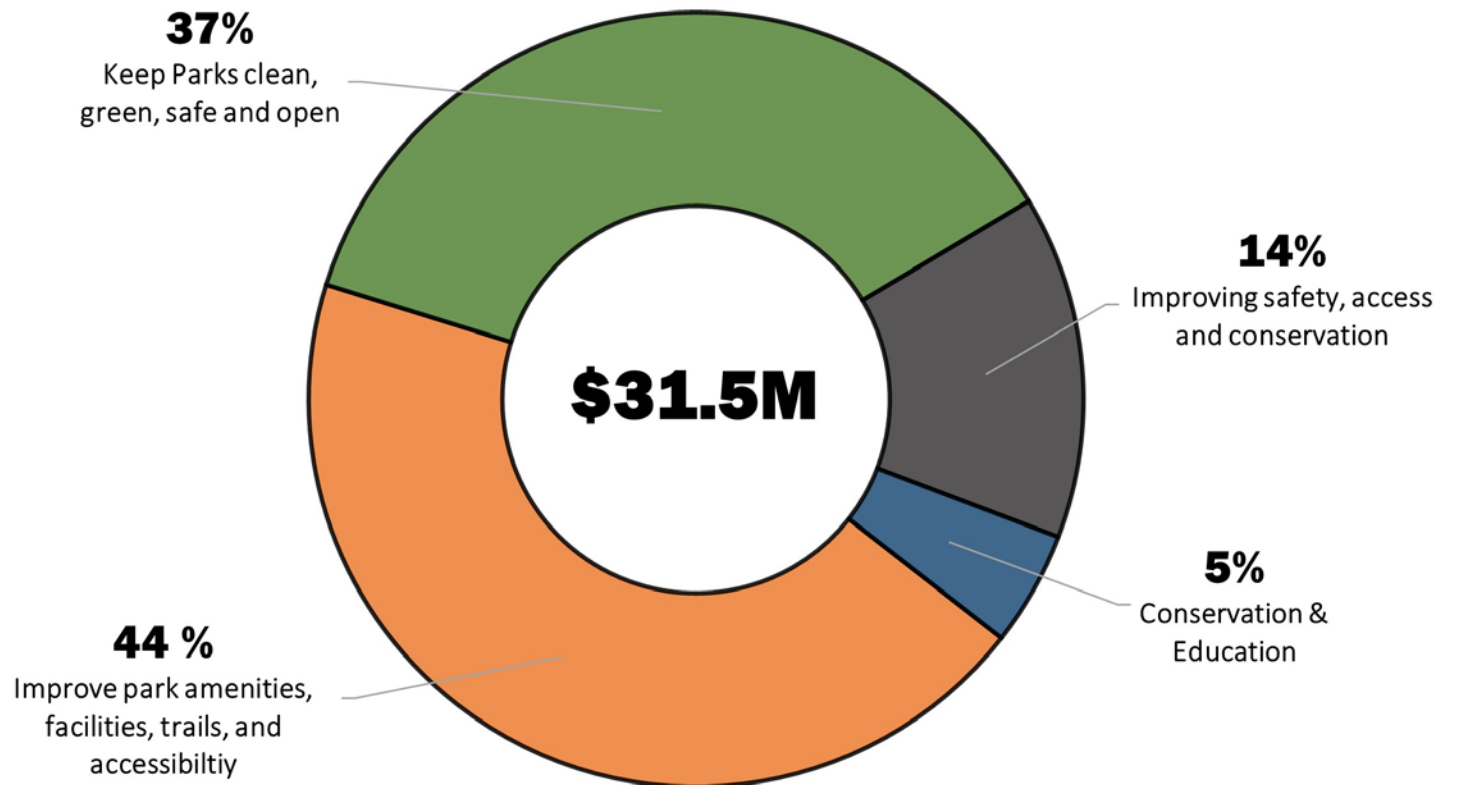
Applying Sustainability

Applying an Equity Lens

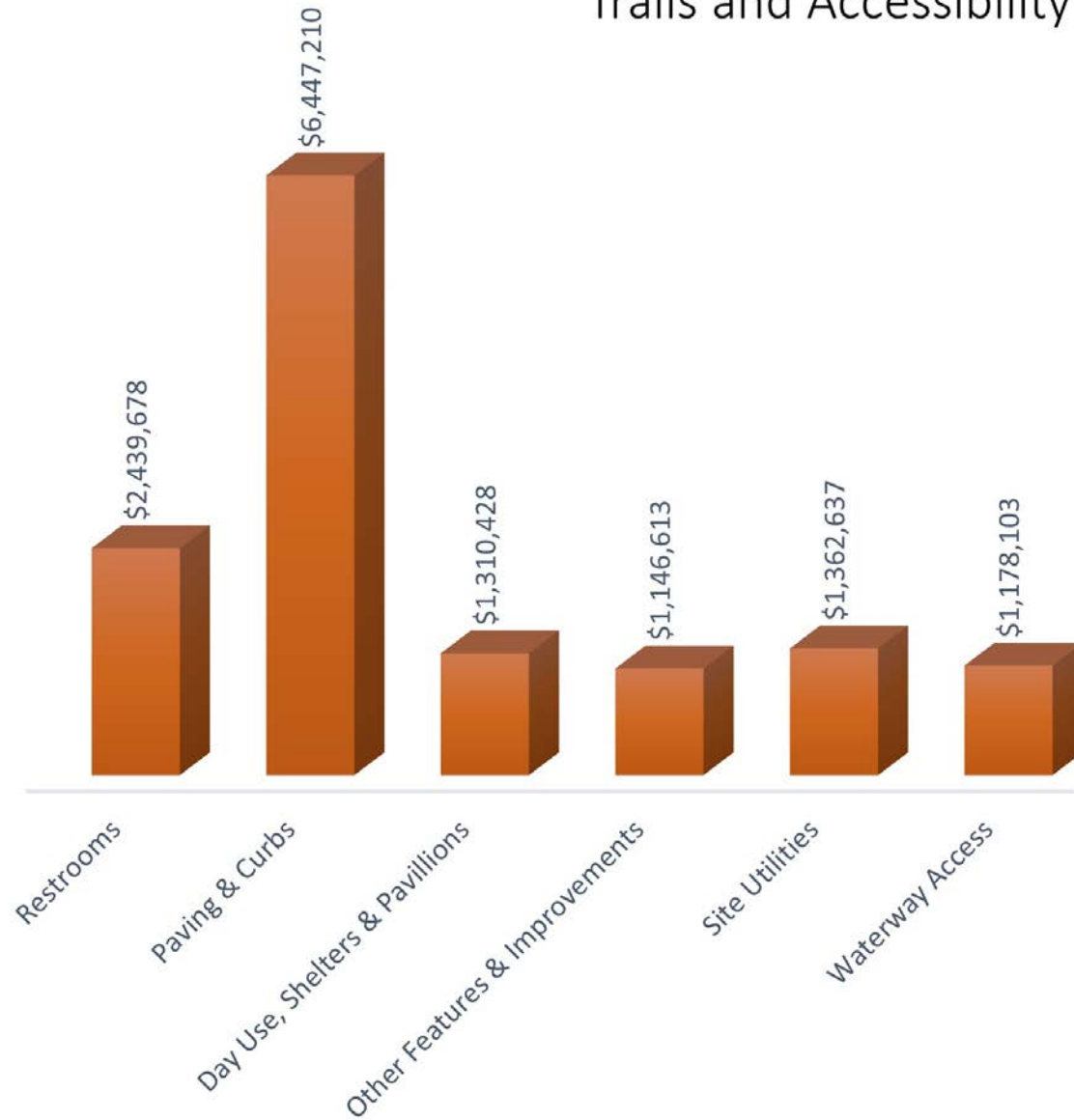
# PARKS LEVY BUDGET

# 5-YEAR LOCAL OPTION LEVY

## 2023-2028 Lane County Parks **LEVY**

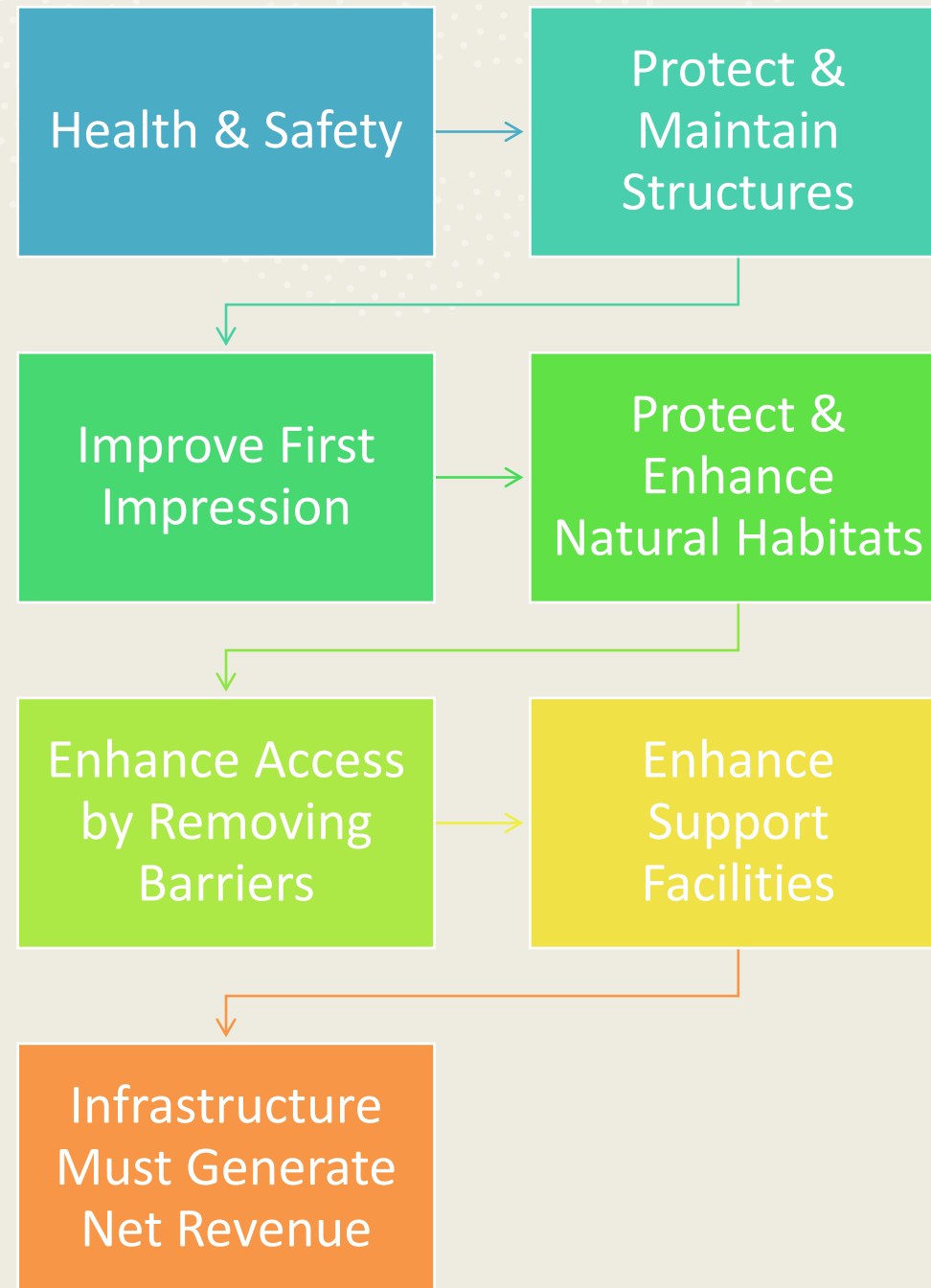


## Improving Park **Amenities**, Facilities, Trails and Accessibility



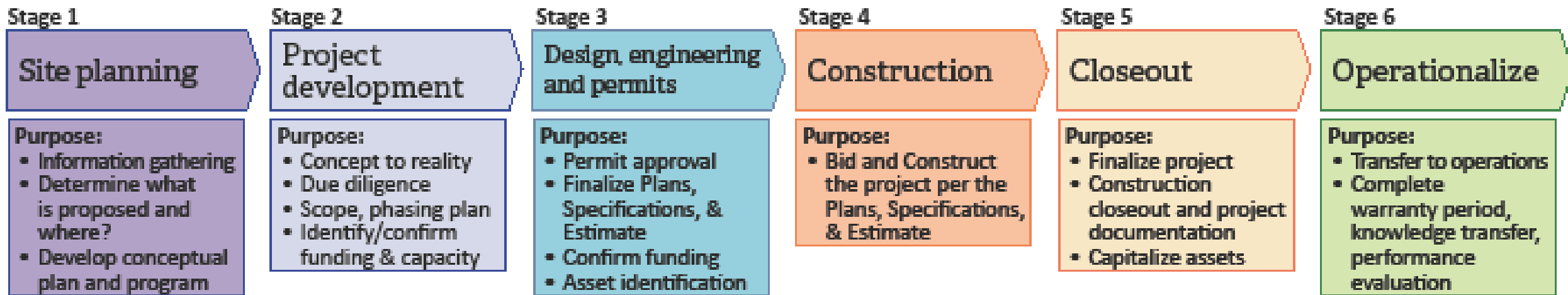


# CRITERIA FOR PRIORITIZING LEVY PROJECTS

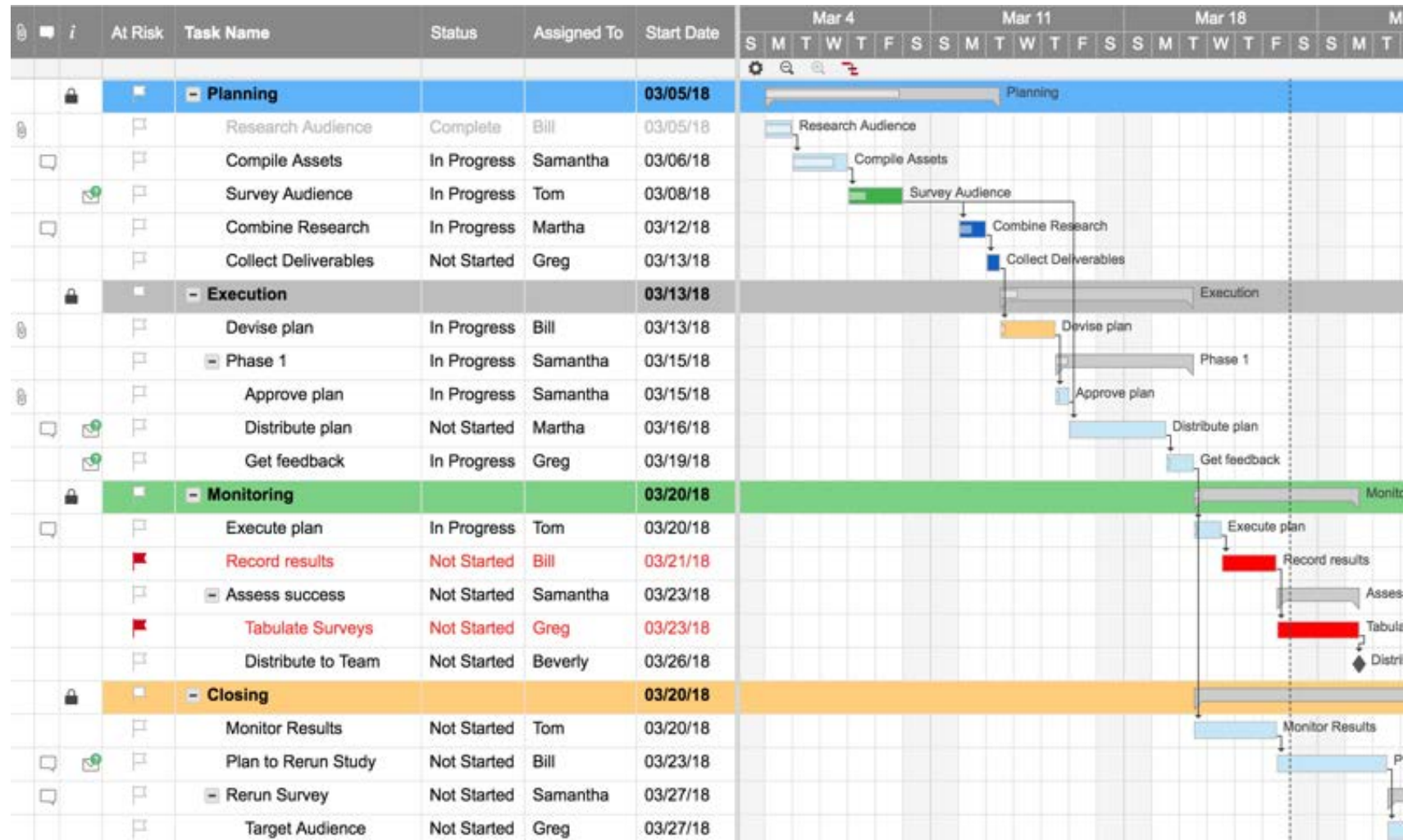


# PROJECT TRACKING

# How do we create a road map for multi-year long projects ...that is also applicable to simple park improvements?



# PROJECT DASHBOARD



# PLANNED LEVY PROJECTS

# COOPERATIVE PROJECTS



**PICKLEBALL**  
Regional Facility

**MCKENZIE RIVER**

- Discovery Center
- Blue River Park
- Finn Rock Reach

**ENVIRONMENTAL  
EDUCATION**  
Mount Pisgah  
Arboretum



**HABITAT RESTORATION**  
Friends of Buford Park



# 2024 LEVY OBJECTIVES

ADA Assessment & Transition Plan

Address Immediate Safety Concerns

Park Security

Waterway Access Projects

Restrooms, Trails, Signage & Paving

SUSTAINABILITY

# SUSTAINABLE PLANNING & DESIGN

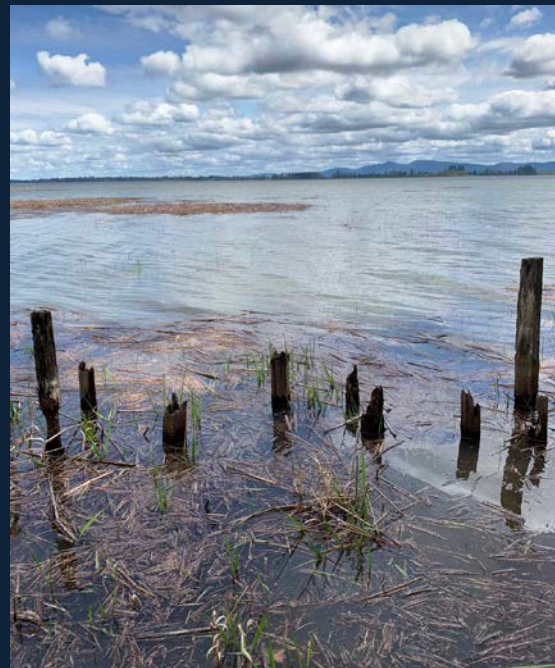
**Minimize Disturbance to Natural and Cultural Resources**

**Follow Regulatory Guidance**

**Floodplain & Riparian Habitat**

**Sustainable Construction Materials**

**Disposal Practices**



# CONSERVATION & STEWARDSHIP

- EV-Charging Stations
- Invasive species removal
- Bank erosion mitigation
- Preservation of wild spaces
- Adding native vegetation

# EQUITY LENS

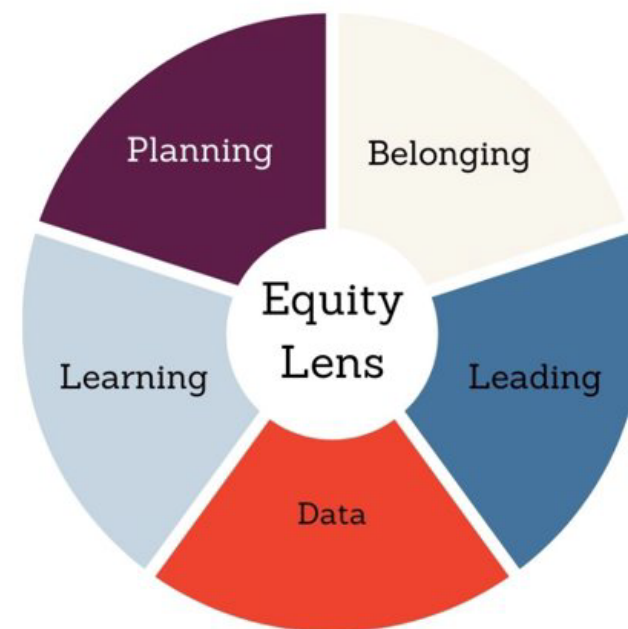




## EQUITY LENS TOOLKIT

The Equity Lens Toolkit at a glance:

- Planning through an equity lens
- Creating a culture of **belonging** through an equity lens
- Leading through an equity lens
- Using **data** through an equity lens
- Learning through an equity lens



This toolkit is a compilation of knowledge, processes and practices that can help us apply an equity lens to each of these five areas of focus.

# REMOVING BARRIERS TO ACCESS

## EQUITY SURVEY

- Cognitive
- Physical
- Socioeconomic
- Cultural

## Equity Workshop

## Land Acknowledgement

## Universal Access





# NARRATIVES IN NATURE

BLACK, INDIGENOUS, AND LATINX INCLUSION IN PUBLIC NATURAL AREAS

TAYLOR BOWDEN





## TRAIL ACCESSIBILITY AT HOWARD BUFORD RECREATION AREA

Liza Holtz | MLA Candidate | University of Oregon | Winter 2022





## Universally Accessible Trails





DATE: 6-5-2023

**SHEET INDEX:**

1. Cover Sheet
2. Tax Map
3. Survey
4. River Access Context
5. Construction Plan
6. Restoration Plan
7. Main Launch Profile
8. Assessable Path Profile
9. Main Launch Sections (A)
10. Main Launch Sections (B)
11. Assessable Path Sections (A)
12. Assessable Path Sections (B)
13. Assessable Landing
14. Air Photo

## Howard Buford Park



# ADA Water Access

**Flowing solutions**

Flowing Solutions  
3325 SW 17th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97225  
Phone (503) 297-4311

SHEET TITLE: COVER SHEET

PROJECT: HOWARD BUFORD RECREATION AREA RIVER ACCESS  
34639 FRANK PARRISH RD  
EUGENE, OREGON 97403

RIVERMILE: COAST FORK WILLAMETTE RM. 2.5

DATUM: NAVD88

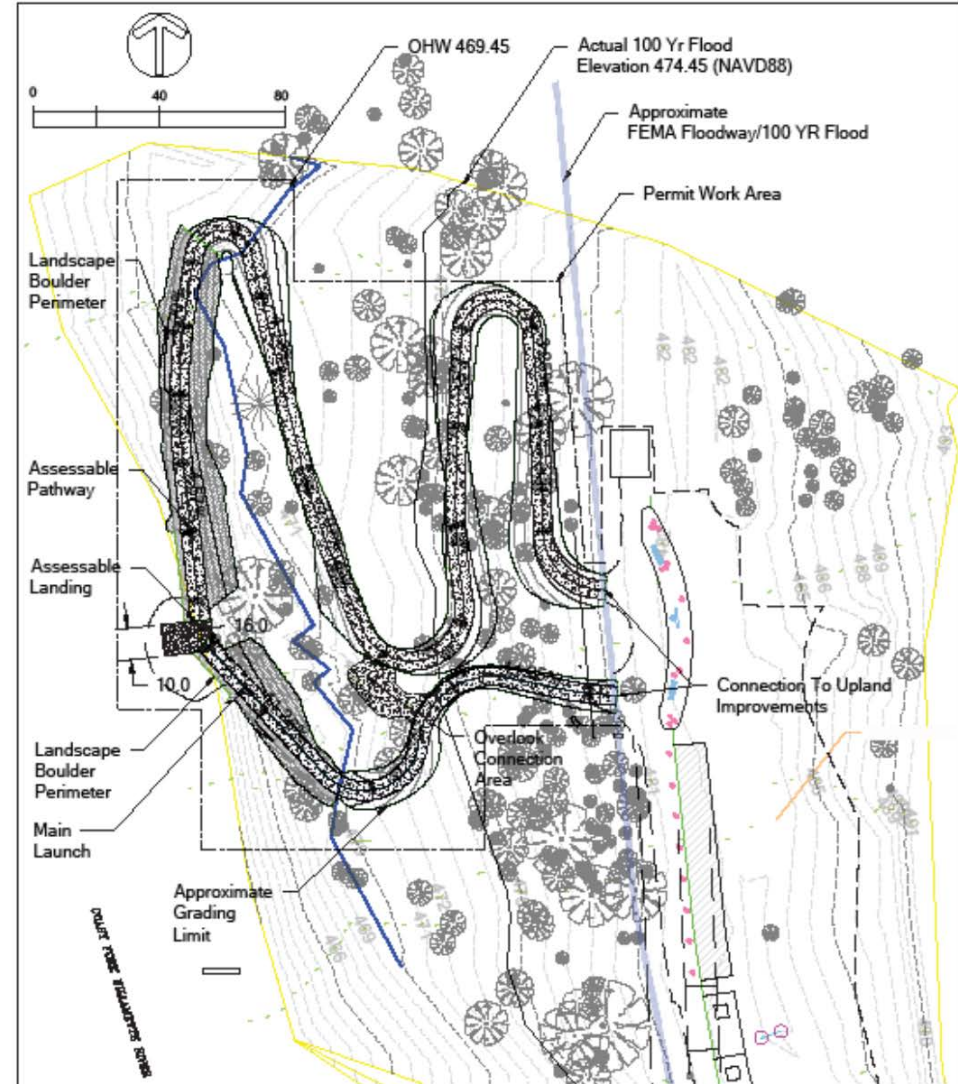
DATE:

6-5-2023

SHEET NO.

1

DATE: 6-5-2023

**Flowing solutions**

Flowing Solutions  
3325 SW 17th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97225  
Phone (503) 297-4311

SHEET TITLE: RIVER ACCESS PLAN CONTEXT

PROJECT: HOWARD BUFORD RECREATION AREA RIVER ACCESS  
34639 FRANK PARRISH RD  
EUGENE, OREGON 97403

RIVERMILE: COAST FORK WILLAMETTE RM. 2.5

DATUM: NAVD88

DATE:

6-5-2023

SHEET NO.

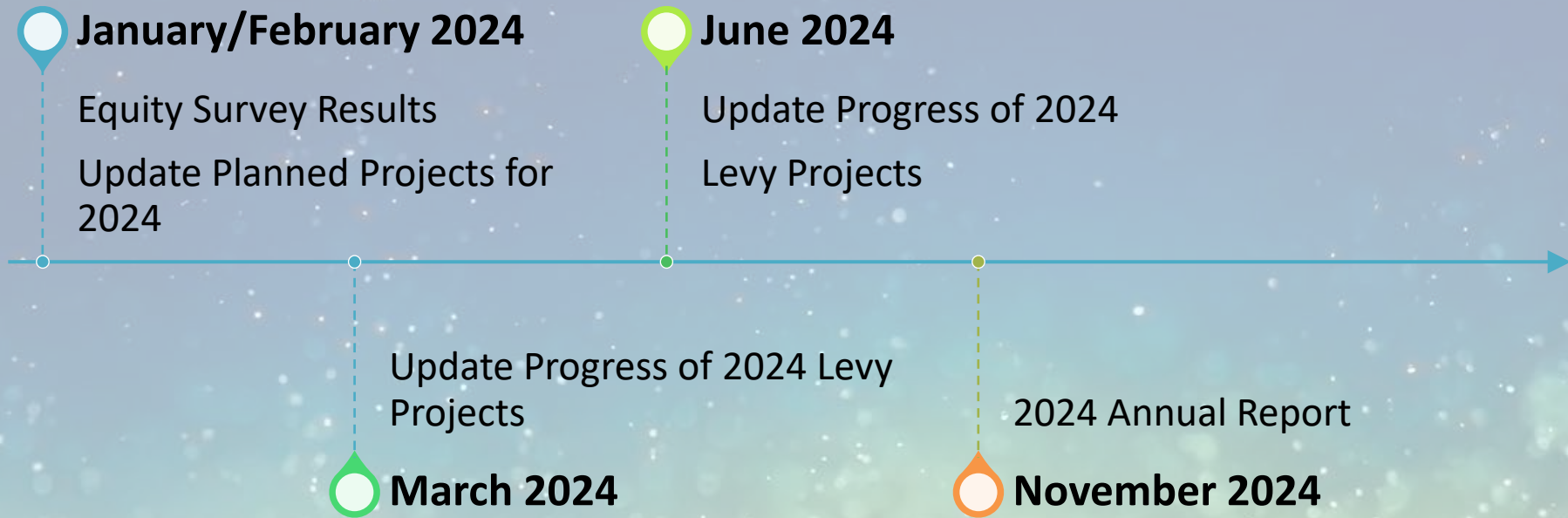
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# ADA Assessment & Transition Plan

- Wheelchair accessible facilities
- Universally Accessible trails
- All-inclusive play structures and nature exploration





# FUTURE BOARD UPDATES



## Lane County Parks Operations Report November 2023



### Coastal Zone

- General Maintenance runs.
- Harbor Vista tree clean-up.
- Leaf removal.
- Three-Mile Prairie camp clean-up.
- Replaced Linslaw Park restroom doors.

### Valley Zone

- Leaf removal.
- General Maintenance runs.
- Replaced three water valves at Richardson A loop campground.
- Osgood Park improvements.
- Working on sewage system at Baker Bay Park.
- Three-Mile Prairie camp clean-up assistance.
- Weekly campground assistance with late check outs.



## **Lane County Parks Natural Areas Operations Report for November 2023**

Ed Alverson, Natural Areas Coordinator

**HBRA Ponderosa Project:** Friends of Buford Park continued work on this habitat restoration project, and the bulk of this year's work is now complete as the final log loads were delivered to mill this month.

**HBRA Truffle Research:** Parks finalized approved the Special Use Permit to allow Heather Dawson, a UO graduate student, to use oak savanna habitats in the park to identify the response of truffles to fire.

**HBRA Meetings:** Monthly stakeholder coordination meetings included the Monthly HBRA stakeholder meeting, and the Friends of Buford Park Trails Committee meeting the Trail committee meeting was a site visit to review trails in the North Bottomlands.

**HBRA North Bottomlands Trailhead Kiosks:** Parks staff and HBRA stakeholders met with Sea Reach design staff to review and edit full size drafts of the kiosk panels.

**HBRA Habitat Advisory Team (HAT):** The 2023 meeting of the HAT was held this month. HBRA Stakeholders presented 2023 accomplishments and planned 2024 activities, and the HAT heard several presentations on recent fungi and lichen research and inventory.

**Volunteer Program Assistance:** I participated in on-side meeting Jodi had arranged to review work plans for the volunteer adoption groups at Osgood park and Zumwalt Park.

**Eagle Rock Park:** I continue to meet with Dan Miller and Kerry Lankford, the National Park Service staff, to review and refine the site plan that is being crafted based on the results of the 9/22 design workshop.

**Armitage Campground Expansion:** Project team meetings continued this month, to finalize the site plan, as well as work on the water and sewer systems.

**Perkins Peninsula Disc Golf on-site discussion:** Several Parks staff met with Corps staff and Will Larson to discuss options for a permanent disc golf course in Perkins Peninsula park.

**Hileman Park Floodplain Restoration proposal:** I worked with the Long Tom Watershed Council to develop a grant proposal to NOAA for funding to implement floodplain restoration project in Hileman Park, which was submitted this month. The bulk of the project cost would be paid by grant funds, with a small Parks match coming from the parks levy.

**Project Meetings:** I participated in a Parks projects meeting and project management software discussions.



# Park Maintenance Accomplishments For 2023

## Money (Levy)

1. Lane County Parks has hired 5 new Park Maintenance 2 employees. Karen Noel, Kamren Moyer, Rachael Parker, and Randy Gilbert were added to the valley crew. Lyle Edelman is the new addition to the coast crew. We also promoted part-time Office Assistant to a permanent position. Tara King handles a lot of my workload. The division also increased needed vehicles and equipment.
2. We added 4 new 5,000-gallon water storage tanks with a monitoring system that notifies staff remotely when the water supply is running low at Fern Ridge.
3. Parks used ARPA monies to replace all the junction valves at Richardson B-loop campground in addition to numerous water and valve repairs throughout Richardson Park.
4. A new host site was built at Harbor Vista Campground.
5. The parking lots were striped at the coast zone parks.
6. Removed silt from the Mapleton boat ramp.
7. The new caretakers remodeled Camp Lane after a water leak disruption.
8. Rangers replaced lots of insect infested rafters at the Camp Lane basketball court.
9. All maintenance staff participated in removing numerous encampments at Three-Mile Prairie.
10. Numerous dead fir trees were removed at Baker Bay campground. We also had lots of storm damage throughout the parks.
11. Repaired all the marina lighting at Orchard Point.
12. Lane County Parks hosted the first staff picnic at Richardson Park.



**Tara King**



**Karen Noel**



**Kamren Moyer**



**Lyle Edelman**



**Rachel Parker**



**Randy Gilbert**