



Picture Your Parks



A Publication of the City of Eugene Parks and Open Space Division

A DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS

SUMMER 2016



LOOK INSIDE:
THE FUTURE OF
OUR PARKS AND
RECREATION IS IN
YOUR HANDS!

Illustrations by Liska Chan.

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Can you imagine what Eugene would be like without the riverfront parks and paths? Without Spencer Butte anchoring the Ridgeline Trail? Without Amazon Pool or Petersen Barn? Without the Delta Ponds or West Eugene Wetlands?

We have past generations to thank for these places. How do we build on this legacy? What will future generations thank us for? **See pages 6-7 for ideas.**

PARKS and RECreate is a process to plan for the future and identify priorities for the next 10-20 years of parks and recreation in Eugene by:

- Addressing current problems.
- Preparing for future population growth and trends.
- Creating a vision to benefit current and future generations.

Based on what we've heard from the community, we have some ideas to share. Look inside, then let us know what you think!

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FOUR WAYS YOU CAN HELP

1

Take the online survey for a chance to win!

Only have a few minutes? Take the survey at EUGparksandrec.org

2

Check out the Little Red tour

We're putting the fun in community engagement. See the tour schedule on page 2.

3

We'll come to you

Request a presentation for your next neighborhood, community group or organization meeting. Send requests to: carolyn.j.burke@ci.eugene.or.us

4

Go to the website

More detailed information is available online, and you can stay up to date with project news by signing up for e-news. Visit: EUGparksandrec.org

City of Eugene Public Works
Parks and Open Space
1820 Roosevelt Boulevard
Eugene, Oregon 97402

WHY OUR PARKS AND RECREATION MATTER

People love Eugene's parks, community centers and pools—our outreach efforts last summer proved just how much!

Did you know:

- Half of all Eugene residents enjoy parks on a daily or weekly basis with two-thirds of residents visiting at least monthly.
- Recreation program participation is high, with approximately 650,000 registrations for classes, camps or programs each year.

We heard from over 7,000 of you last summer! Your feedback shaped our visions for the future of Eugene. Thank you for helping to build our community's legacy.

WHY ARE EUGENE'S PARKS, COMMUNITY CENTERS AND POOLS SO IMPORTANT?

Look for the yellow boxes throughout the following pages to see what your neighbors have to say.



"We like to really have our kids be motivated to be involved in activities so they can be a part of the community and benefit from that."

– Juan and Dulce Ortega, Petersen Barn Latino Family Fun Night

PARKS and RECreate: PICTURE, PLAN, PLAY!

We are half way through the process of planning for the future of Parks and Recreation in Eugene.

Here's where we are:



LITTLE RED IS POPPING UP AT A LOCATION NEAR YOU!



Keep an eye out for Little Red and share your priorities for the future of Eugene's Parks and Recreation. Meet the team, rub elbows with your neighbors, play games, tell stories, take selfies, enjoy free ice cream and more.

Pop-up Tour Dates

- July 14**, Party in the Park at Willakenzie, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- July 19**, Party in the Park at Churchill, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- July 28**, South Side Rec & Rhythm Fest, Hilyard Community Center, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- July 31**, Eugene Sunday Streets Downtown, 12 p.m.-4 p.m.
- August 2**, WJ Street Food Festival, Washington Jefferson Park, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- August 4**, Bi-Mart on Royal Ave., 4-6 p.m.
- August 9**, Party in the Park at Bethel, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- August 11**, Bi-Mart on River Road, 4-6 p.m.
- August 16**, Party in the Park at Awbrey, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- August 18**, Bi-Mart on W. 18th Ave., 4-6 p.m.

WHAT WE'VE HEARD FROM YOU SO FAR

Four principles reflect what the community has told us they want from their Parks and Recreation system. See how these principles relate to the vision ideas on pages 6-7.



1. Care for and make the most of what we have

Provide safe, clean and fun Parks and Recreation facilities, and enhance their value for the community to enjoy.



2. Serve the entire community

Provide equitable and welcoming access to Parks and Recreation facilities, regardless of neighborhood, culture, ability or income.



3. Create more connections

Build on Eugene's strong foundation of connected open spaces and trail networks by completing and making new connections at the regional, city and neighborhood levels.



4. Build better partnerships

Forge new relationships and reinvent old partnerships across all sectors—community health and social services, land use and transportation, education, arts and culture and economic development.



"Our kids have had an amazing time here. They're having so much fun. Everything about this is just outstanding."

– Chatter Box Contributor

To hear more of this story in their own words, visit EUGparksandrec.org.



"My favorite thing about Eugene is all the beautiful bike paths, and there are so many parks in all the little neighborhoods."

– Chatter Box Contributor

To hear more of this story in their own words, visit EUGparksandrec.org.



"The City of Eugene is an essential component of our BEST Afterschool Program in School District 4J, by providing high-quality staff and enrichment activities for our lowest income schools. Together, we provide students an engaging, safe and enriching opportunity for those at risk of school failure. When students stay in school, do well and continue onto a path to success, everyone in Eugene benefits."

– Molly LaJoie, Eugene 4J School District

PARTNERSHIP SNAPSHOT

Every day, Parks and Recreation collaborates with a wide array of local and regional partners to improve services to Eugene residents. Here are a few examples to give you an idea of the scope.

| NUMBER OF PARTNERS | TYPE OF PARTNERSHIP |
|--------------------|---|
| 136 | Gathering Space The City provides free or low-cost facilities, rooms and park areas for partners to run community programs and services. Partners include Boys and Girls Club, Nearby Nature and Babe Ruth Baseball. |
| 86 | Expertise and Support Parks and Recreation are two elements of a vibrant, healthy community. It is critical that we work closely with a wide range of partners to coordinate services, strive towards a complementary vision, share resources and build strong networks. Travel Lane County, Chamber of Commerce and Lane County Public Health are good examples. |
| 58 | Collaborative Programming The City works closely with partners like Eugene 4J and Bethel School Districts, Food for Lane County and Head Start to seamlessly provide services and programs to the community. |
| 35 | Funding Many partnerships involve financial support, both donated and received, for the services and projects offered through Parks and Recreation. Funding partners include Eugene Parks Foundation, local Rotary clubs and United Way. |
| 23 | Land Management Managing public land within the Willamette Valley is a collaborative regional effort toward a shared vision of maximizing recreational and habitat value of these precious lands. Examples of these partners include BLM, Lane County Parks and The Nature Conservancy. |

FOUR CHALLENGES FACING PARKS AND RECREATION

We spent last year listening to Parks and Recreation facility users, our partners and our staff to better understand the current state of Eugene's Parks and Recreation. The resulting Needs Assessment highlighted many wonderful aspects of our system, as well as four problems.

1 Current funding is insufficient to care for existing and planned parks, trails and amenities.

Why do we lack funding for park maintenance and renovations?

- Two successful bond measures in 1998 and 2006 have allowed us to almost double our parks system in the last 18 years, protecting lands for public use. This additional open space is a critically important part of our city's development and growing population. While our land has grown, maintenance funds have not kept pace to care for these additional parks and natural areas.

What if we don't solve the problem?

- The 17 neighborhood and community parks that have been purchased and are awaiting development will remain unusable for children, families and residents in neighborhoods across Eugene.
- Access to over 1,000 acres of natural area will remain limited and habitat quality will decline system-wide.
- The function and appearance of many existing parks and amenities, such as playground equipment, restrooms, ornamental landscapes, lawns and trails will decline over time.

What are some solutions?

- Identify and secure additional operational funding to pay for the maintenance of existing and planned parks, trails and amenities.
- Identify and secure additional capital funding to pay for the renovation of existing parks, trails and amenities.
- Continue to leverage funds and resources through operational efficiencies, partnerships, grants, donations and volunteer efforts.

TOTAL PARK LAND OWNED AS OF TODAY:

4,568 ACRES

TOTAL PARK LAND OWNED IN 1997:

2,504 ACRES

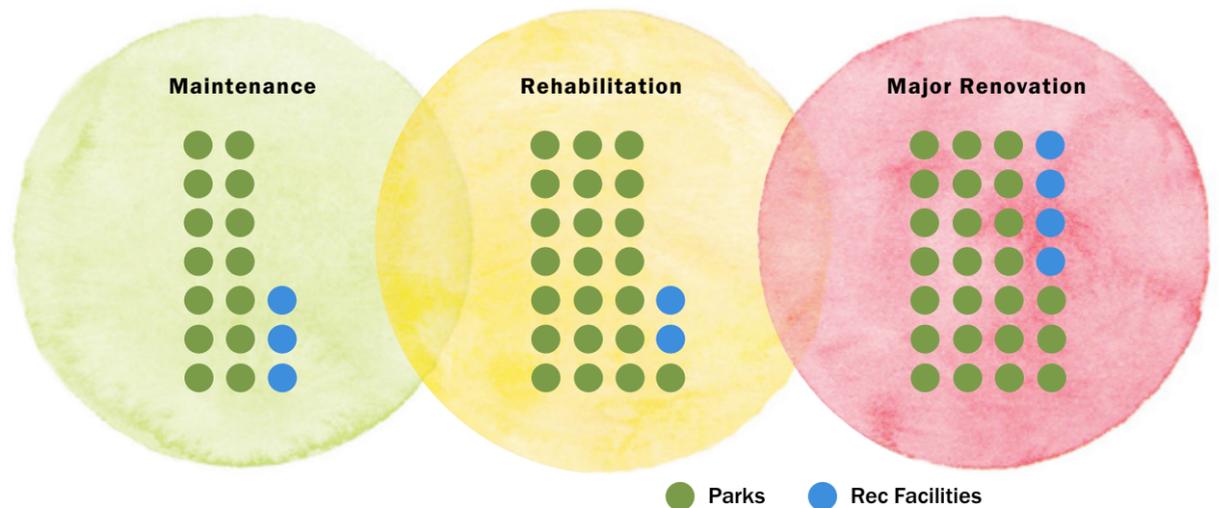


"I want to help people be leaders. And, especially, I want to help people see opportunities they don't see in themselves."

- Emma Silvers

To read more of Emma's story visit, EUGparksandrec.org.

Current Conditions of Park and Recreation Facilities



Maintenance: 14 parks and 3 facilities are in good condition, requiring only basic maintenance

Rehabilitation: 22 parks and 2 facilities have some basic features in poor condition, requiring modest rehabilitation

Major Renovation: 24 parks and 4 facilities are in overall poor condition, requiring major renovation

2 Community centers and pools are outdated and too small for current and future recreation needs.

Why are recreation facilities inadequate?

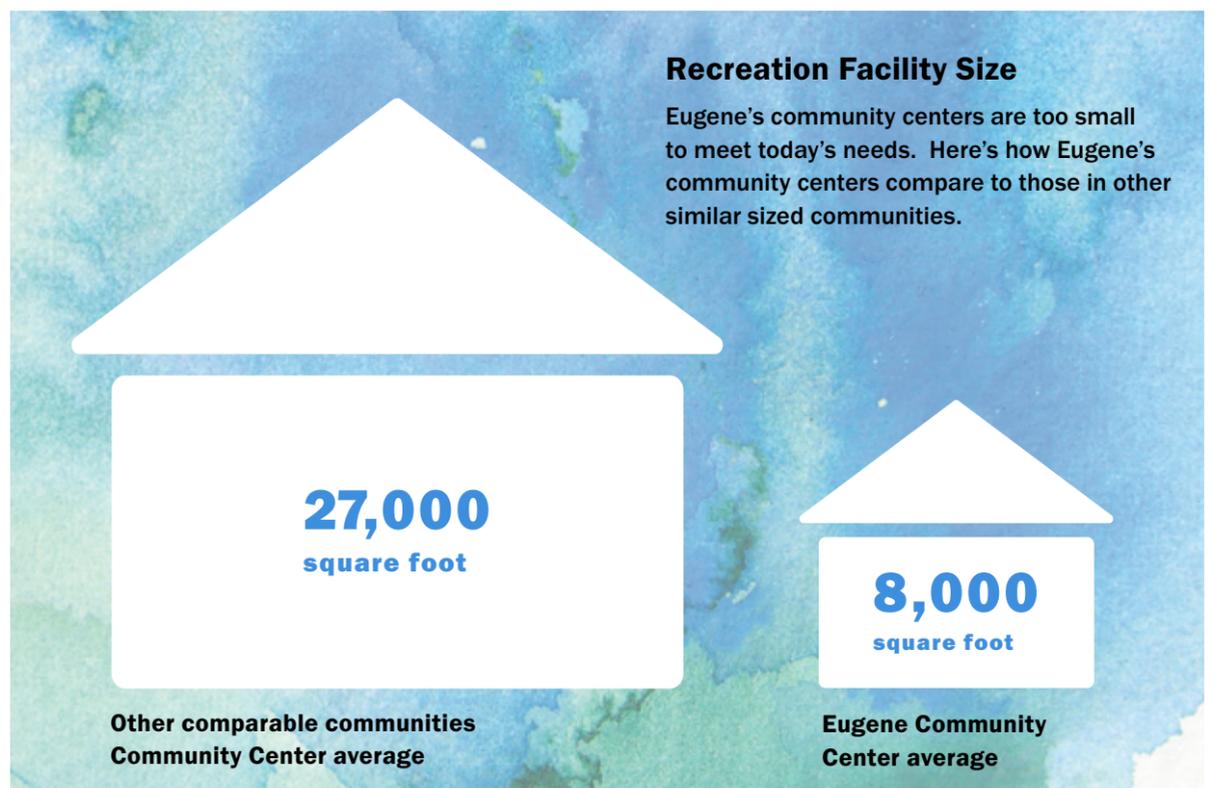
- Most of Eugene's community centers and pools were built in the 1960s and '70s, when our population was half of what it is today.

What if we don't solve the problem?

- Access to services, such as affordable childcare, swim lessons, health and fitness classes, performing and visual arts classes, senior activities, summer camps and community gathering spaces will be increasingly limited. This will have a disproportionate effect on residents who can't afford services from private providers.
- Periods of prolonged closure may occur to make needed repairs, because many pool and building systems are beyond their expected lifespans. Echo Hollow Pool, in particular, is at significant risk of a system failure within the next five to ten years.
- It will not be possible to provide adequate recreation programming for changing demographics, such as our aging population that desires access to more health and fitness programs.

What are some solutions?

- Renovate and expand existing community centers and pools to meet current and future needs. This also provides an opportunity to consolidate facilities for operational efficiencies and be more energy efficient.



Recreation Facility Size

Eugene's community centers are too small to meet today's needs. Here's how Eugene's community centers compare to those in other similar sized communities.

27,000 square foot

Other comparable communities Community Center average

8,000 square foot

Eugene Community Center average

3 Parks, pools and community centers are not equally distributed throughout the city.

Why do some neighborhoods have less access to recreation opportunities?

- The acquisition and development of parks, community centers and pools has not always kept pace with our urban growth and development in newer areas of the city, including the north, west and southwest parts of Eugene. While progress has been made to acquire park land in these areas, much of it remains undeveloped, due to a lack of funding. Both the north and southwest areas lack community centers and pools.

What if we don't solve this problem?

- Children, families and residents in some neighborhoods will continue to have limited access to parks, pools and community centers, even though most pay equally for these services.

What are some solutions?

- Build two new community centers and pools—one in southwest Eugene and one in Santa Clara.
- Build new parks on existing city-owned land and acquire additional park land in underserved areas.
- Improve access to existing parks by providing pleasant walking and biking routes and safe street crossings.

4 There are safety concerns in some parks, due to illegal activity and vandalism.

Why do some parks feel unsafe?

- Illegal activities, such as camping and drug use, often deter residents from accessing the Willamette River or visiting specific parks, such as Washington Jefferson Park, the Amazon Creek corridor and the downtown Park Blocks.

What happens if we don't solve the problem?

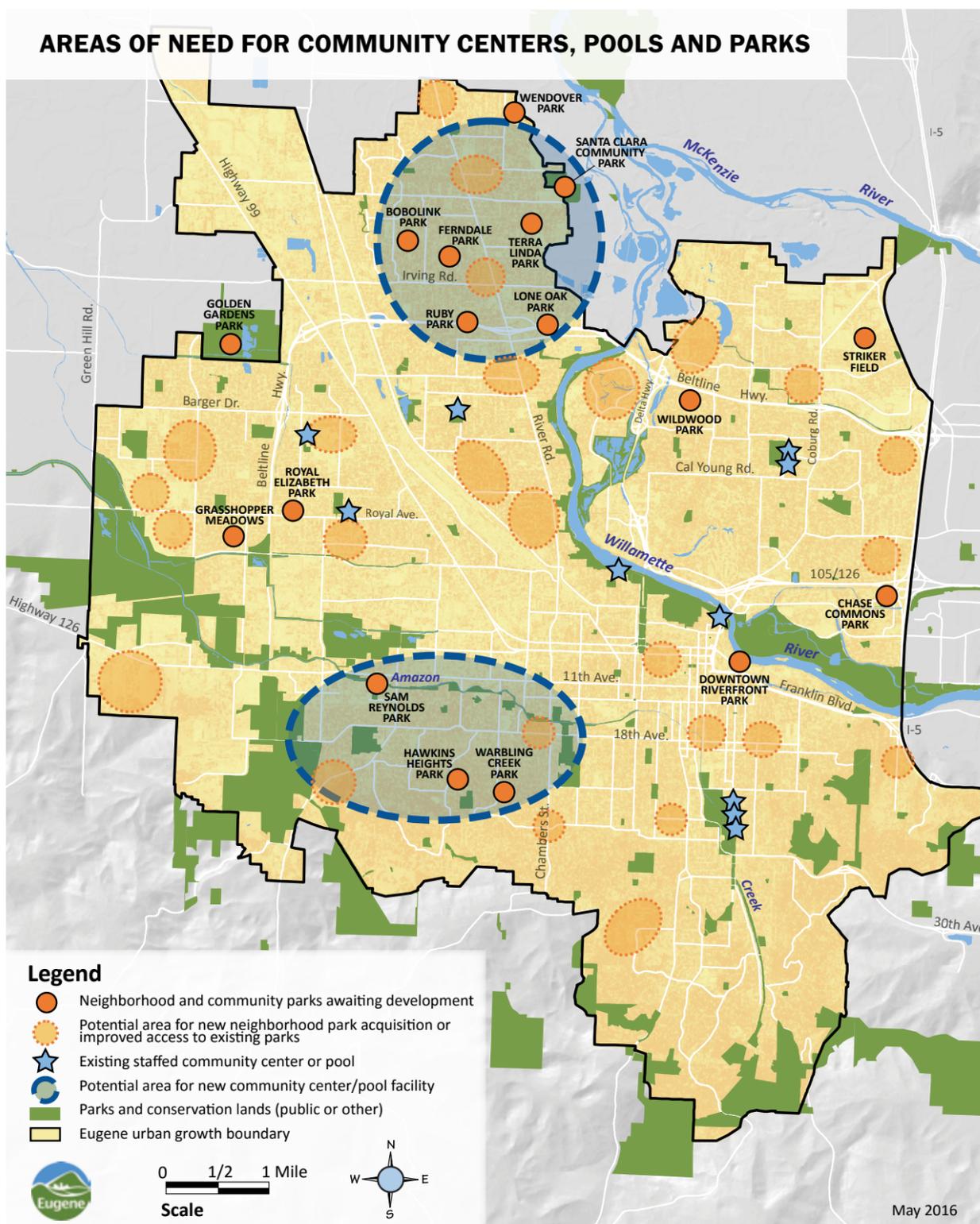
- Although safe river access is a strong community desire, people may continue to be deterred from visiting park areas that are most impacted by illegal activities and camping.
- Park maintenance staff will continue to spend significant time and resources cleaning up illegal campsites and vandalism instead of performing traditional park maintenance, sometimes risking their own personal safety.
- Environmental degradation of the riparian corridor, Willamette River and other local waterways resulting from large amounts of trash, drug paraphernalia and human waste will continue.

What are some solutions?

- This may be the most difficult challenge facing the park system, due to the larger issues of

homelessness. It is clear that solutions are needed that go beyond what can be accomplished by Parks and Recreation alone, however, there are strategies that can make park-users feel safer, such as:

- Additional security presence, such as park hosts, ambassadors or rangers.
- Increased programming and activation of specific parks.
- Improved park lighting.
- Increased visibility in problem areas by selectively reducing vegetation.



EUGENE TRENDS AFFECTING OUR PARKS AND RECREATION SERVICES

Eugene is changing in the following ways:

- We are growing.
- We are becoming proportionately older.
- We are becoming more culturally diverse.

Trends we wish we could reverse include:

- Health consequences of being inactive.
- Economic challenges of many families.
- Impacts of climate change.

All these trends have implications on Parks and Recreation that should be considered as we plan for the future.



"Thanks to the scholarship program, my daughter has been able to do the dance classes that she looks forward to each week, and we've kept her in swim so that she still gets to connect with those friends and keep her skills up. It's such an amazing program, and it's made ALL the difference for our family."

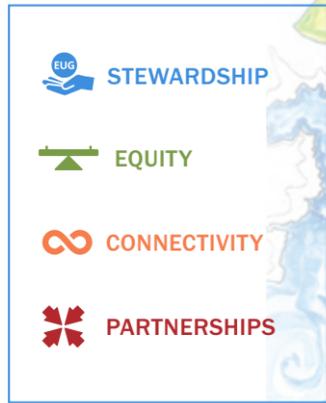
– Cat Tomlin

CREATING A VISION FOR CURRENT & FUTURE GENERATIONS

Here are some ideas to build on our existing strengths while we also resolve current problems and act on future opportunities.

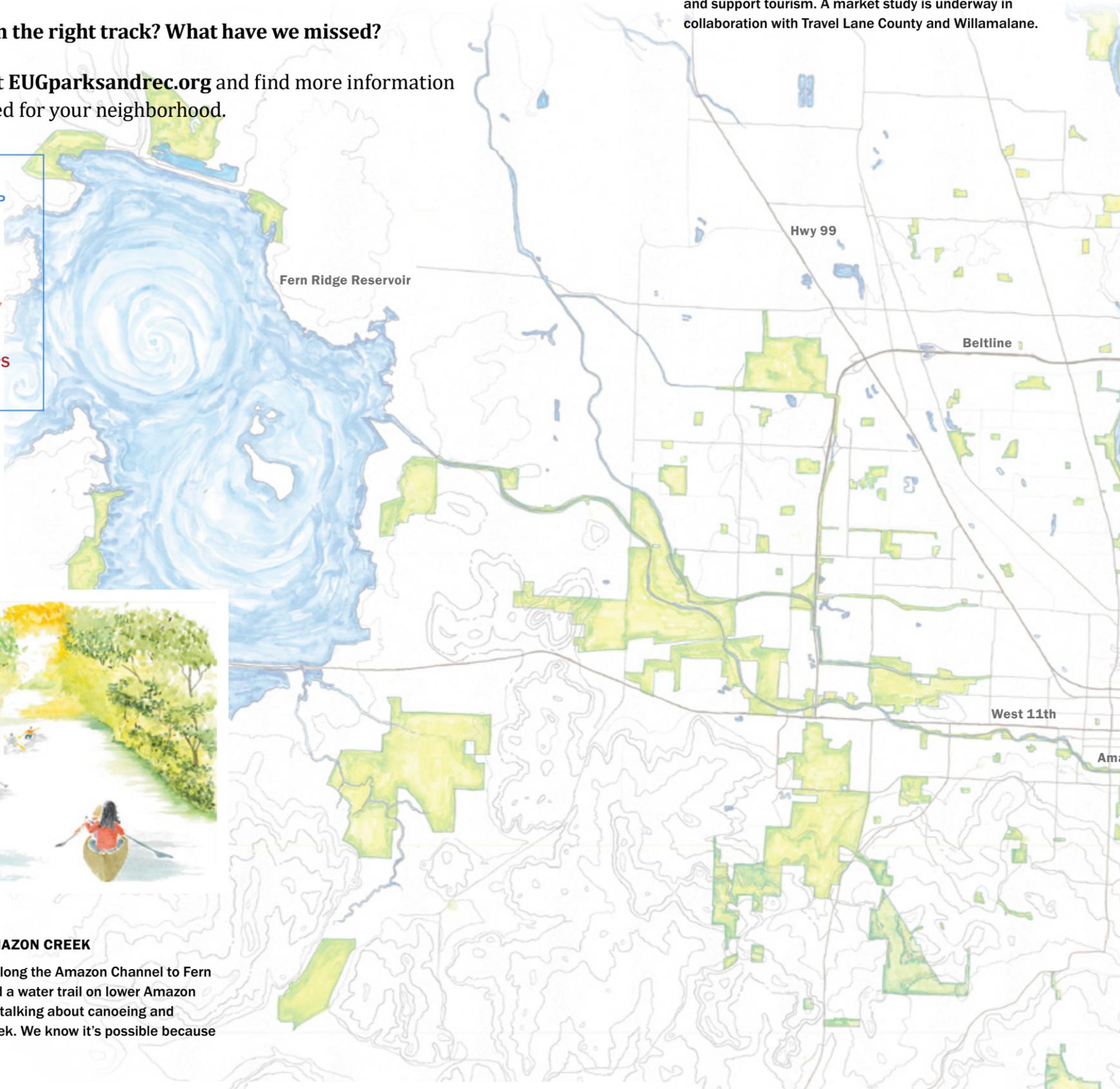
Tell us: Are we on the right track? What have we missed?

Take the survey at EUGparksandrec.org and find more information on what's proposed for your neighborhood.



-  STEWARDSHIP
-  EQUITY
-  CONNECTIVITY
-  PARTNERSHIPS

Illustrations by Liska Chan.
Map by Heidi Schroeder.



PEDAL AND PADDLE AMAZON CREEK

Extend Fern Ridge Path along the Amazon Channel to Fern Ridge Reservoir and build a water trail on lower Amazon Creek. That's right, we're talking about canoeing and kayaking on Amazon Creek. We know it's possible because we've done it!



ADVENTURES AWAIT AT SUZANNE ARLIE PARK

Our largest park with over 500 acres offers a unique opportunity for nature-based recreation. Possibilities include: mountain biking, hiking, a canopy walk, outdoor education, group camping and more. A community engagement process is currently underway.



PROVIDE POOLS AND COMMUNITY CENTERS FOR ALL EUGENEANS

Invest in new community center and pool facilities in southwest Eugene and Santa Clara to the north. Explore locations and potential partnerships with other community organizations to leverage resources and limit capital and operational costs as much as possible.



BUILD AN EPIC SPORTS FIELD COMPLEX

Eugene lacks a facility with multiple fields that can accommodate both daily play and local and regional tournaments. A sports complex, potentially located at Golden Gardens, would also provide needed revenue and support tourism. A market study is underway in collaboration with Travel Lane County and Willamalane.



BRING COMMUNITY CENTERS AND POOLS INTO THE 21ST CENTURY

Reinvest in existing community centers and pools to meet Eugene's growing population; consolidate facilities for operational efficiencies and add energy efficiencies.



FIX WHAT'S BROKEN

Reinvest in existing neighborhood and community parks and natural areas throughout the city that are in need of repair; renovate specialty facilities, such as community gardens, tennis courts and sports fields.



GROW RIVERFRONT PARK SYSTEM IN NORTH EUGENE

Continue to work toward a long-range goal of acquiring property on the Willamette and McKenzie Rivers, north of Beltline. Much of this property is currently in active sand and gravel mining operations that are expected to continue for many years into the future, but one day, portions could be reclaimed to improve fish and wildlife habitat and increase recreation opportunities and access to nature for residents in north Eugene.



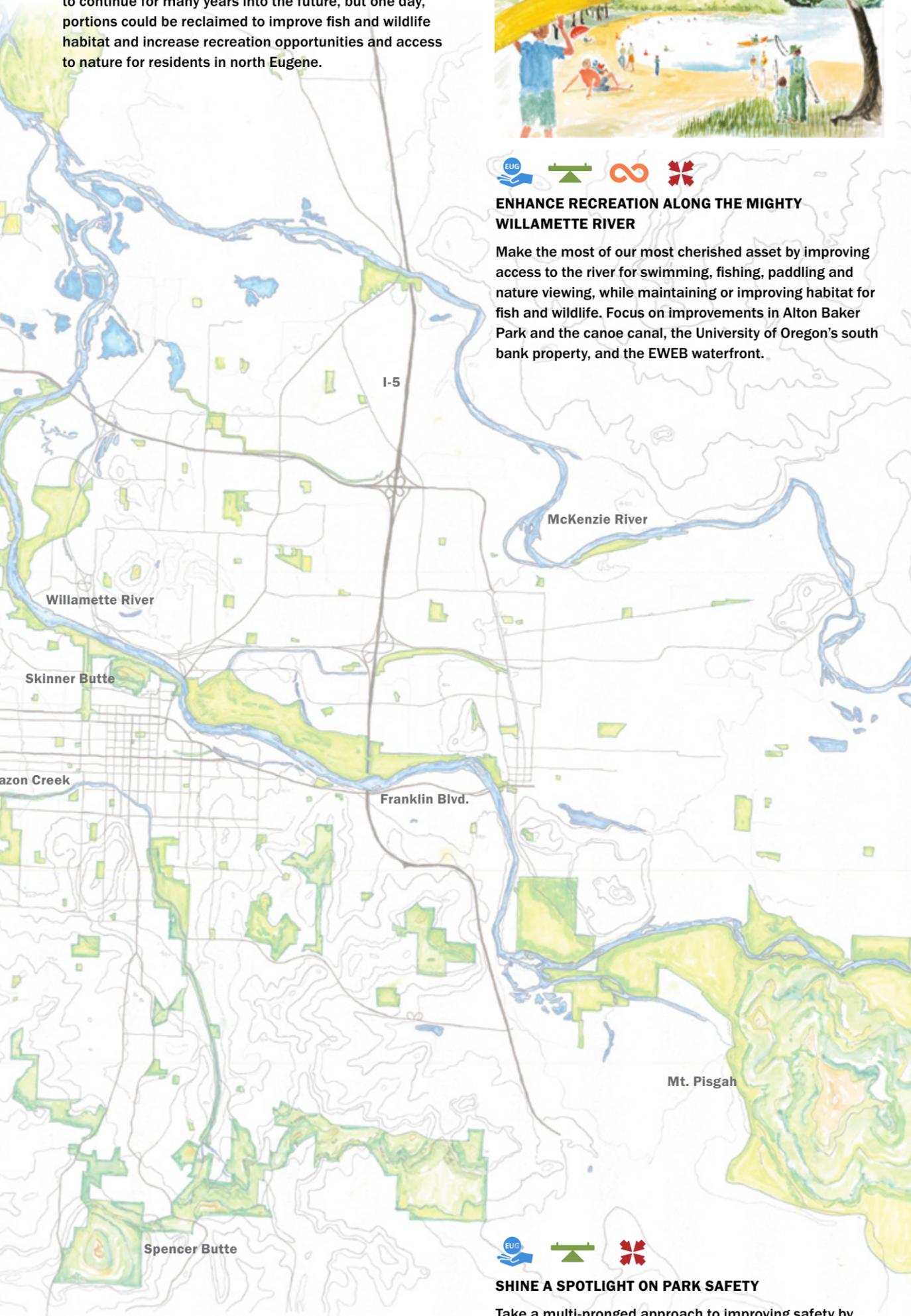
ENHANCE RECREATION ALONG THE MIGHTY WILLAMETTE RIVER

Make the most of our most cherished asset by improving access to the river for swimming, fishing, paddling and nature viewing, while maintaining or improving habitat for fish and wildlife. Focus on improvements in Alton Baker Park and the canoe canal, the University of Oregon's south bank property, and the EWEB waterfront.



TURN VACANT PARK SITES INTO VIBRANT PLACES THROUGHOUT EUGENE

Invest in new neighborhood and community parks on land already owned in underserved neighborhoods throughout the city, and add specialty facilities, such as community gardens, spray play and neighborhood natural areas, where appropriate. Continue neighborhood park acquisition efforts in underserved areas. (See map on page 5.)



MAKE EVERY DOORSTEP A TRAILHEAD

Increase access to nature and improve opportunities for healthy recreation in all corners of the community by expanding the current path system along the Willamette River, the Ridgeline and Amazon Creek, and make regional connections to Springfield and beyond. Provide a safer and more enjoyable walking and biking experience on low-volume residential streets with enhanced street crossings, traffic-calming signage, street trees, stormwater swales and seating and connections to area paths, trails, parks, schools and other destinations.



RE-ENERGIZE DOWNTOWN OPEN SPACES

Enhance our connection to the arts, to our local economy and to each other with vibrant and active downtown open spaces. Urban parks and recreation can bring more beauty and nature to our downtown, making it a livable, family-friendly neighborhood and an inviting destination for the entire community.



CREATE NEIGHBORHOOD HUBS FOR KIDS

Work with other agencies and service providers to develop a Community School model of service delivery. Community Schools are full-service neighborhood hubs that bring multiple agencies and service providers together under one roof to ensure kids and families have what they need to be successful in school and in life.



COMPLETE THE RIDGELINE VISION

Acquire the remaining pivotal pieces to connect Fern Ridge Reservoir to Mt. Pisgah. Build trails and trailheads and enhance the habitat value of acquired lands.



ROLL OUT THE WELCOME MAT

Ensure that all parks and recreation facilities are welcoming for all Eugeneans. Considerations, such as bilingual signage, fully accessible play areas, fitness stations and amenities become the norm.



SHINE A SPOTLIGHT ON PARK SAFETY

Take a multi-pronged approach to improving safety by increasing security through park hosts, ambassadors or rangers; provide more programming and activation; add lighting; and selectively remove vegetation to improve visibility.



STRETCH THE PUBLIC DOLLAR

Pursuing multiple approaches to address the Parks and Recreation system funding needs is essential, as is more robust financial partnerships. Potential options include: partnering with businesses to sponsor facilities, programs or events; endowments for ongoing maintenance; and new revenue-generating facilities.



SOLVE DECADES-LONG DILEMMA OF MAINTENANCE FUNDING

Identify and secure a sustainable funding source to maintain existing parks, natural areas and the 17+ park sites that currently sit vacant.

HOW PARKS AND RECREATION ARE FUNDED

There are two distinct types of funds that support Eugene's Parks and Recreation System.

Maintenance and Operating Funds are used to maintain and operate the Parks and Recreation system. An annual budget allows us to provide recreation services, programming and care for over 4,500 acres of developed parks and natural areas.

Capital Funds are used to renovate existing or build new parks, recreation facilities and infrastructure. The two primary sources of capital funds are voter-approved bond measures and System Development Charges (SDCs). SDCs are fees paid in association with new residential and commercial development.

Grants, Donations and Volunteers

We're always looking for creative ways to leverage limited funding and taxpayer dollars.

- In the last 10 years, over \$10,220,000 in grants have been secured to support capital projects, habitat restoration, ongoing park maintenance and recreation services.
- Fundraising generated more than \$2,210,000 through partnerships with the Eugene Parks Foundation and local service organizations, such as Rotary, in the last 10 years.
- Community volunteers pitch in a value of almost \$1,400,000 annually by assisting with senior and adaptive programming, role modeling for youth in classes and camps, and performing trail maintenance, planting, and weeding in parks and natural areas.

Maintenance and Operating Fund Update

We are continually adapting our maintenance and operating practices to respond to community need and Parks and Recreation System challenges.

Keeping Recreation Programs Accessible

Operating funds for Recreation programming were trimmed through the recession years, and the annual target for the amount of revenue recovered through activity fees and facility rentals was increased.

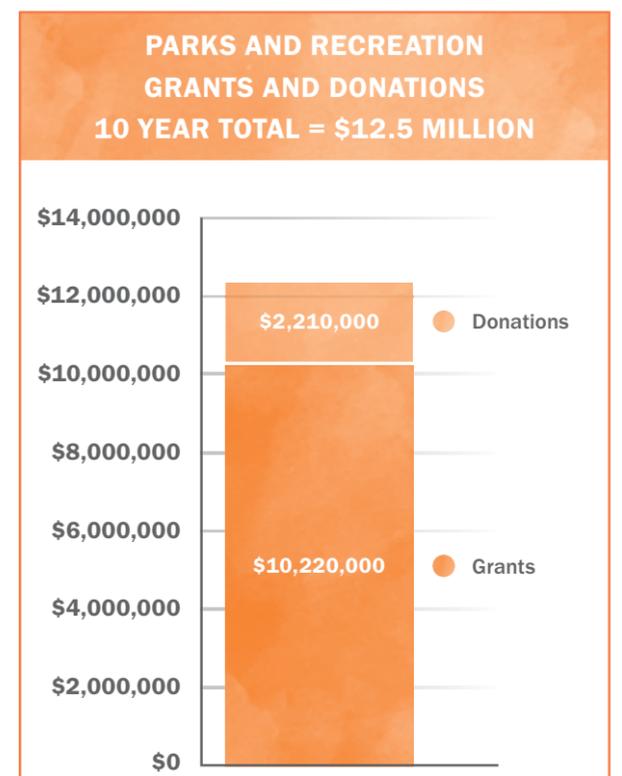
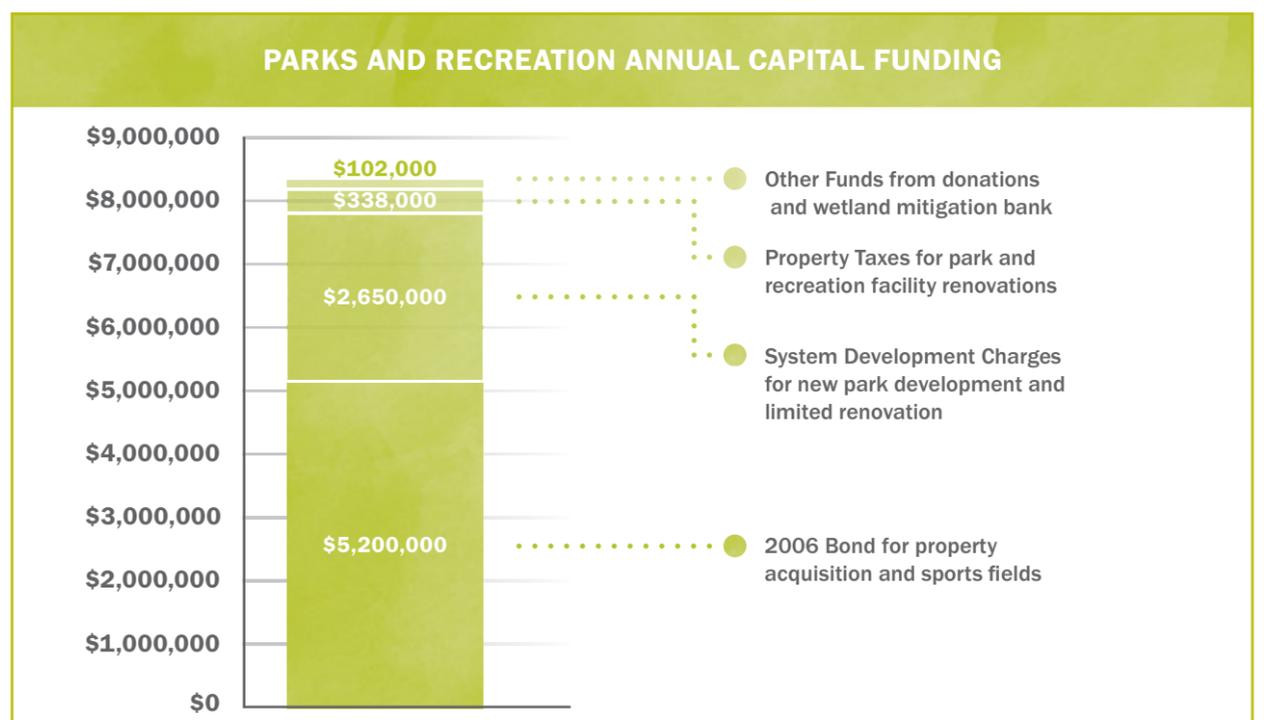
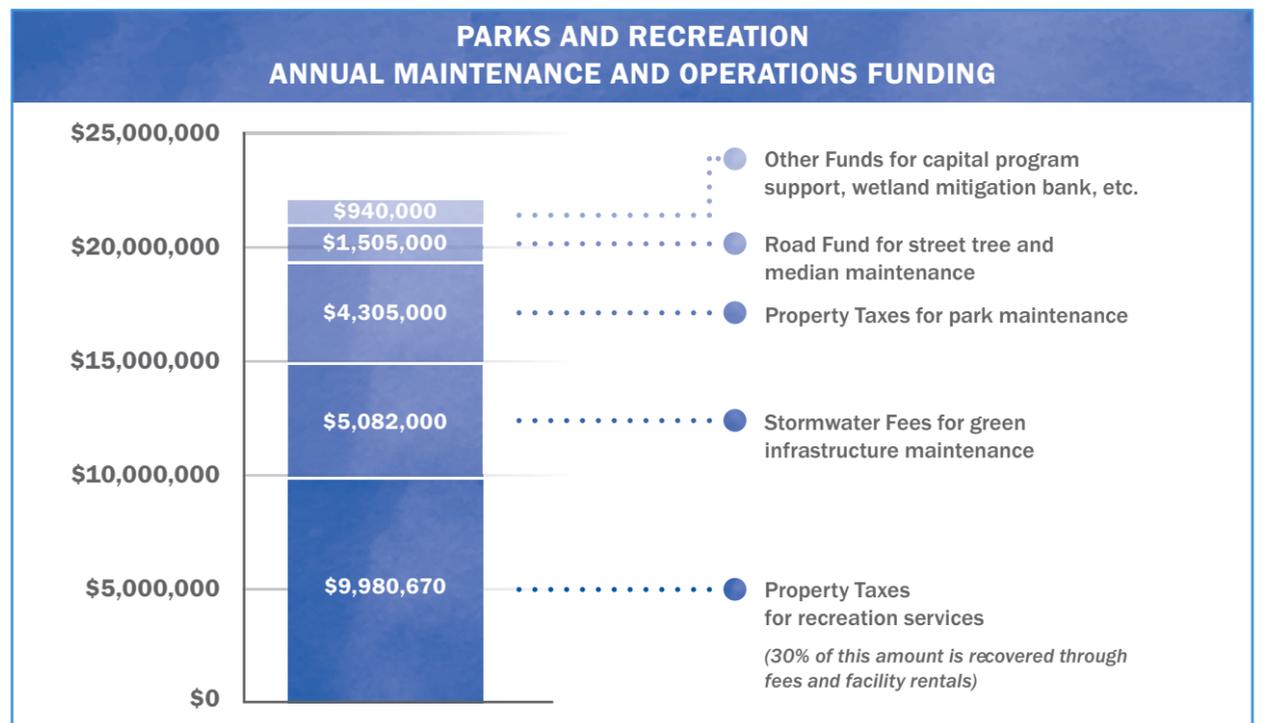
We carefully planned the increase in activity fees to have less impact on populations that have the greatest need. For example, fees are not increased for participants in Senior and Adaptive Services, because those individuals are more likely to be on fixed incomes. Even so, we do know that the level of service to many is impacted. Future anticipated funding gaps include:

- Providing additional scholarships for low-income families.
- Expanding school district partnerships to provide after-school programming.
- Staffing new community centers or pools in currently underserved areas.

Adaptive Park Maintenance

Due to several reductions to the parks budget in recent years, the level of service at most parks has been reduced. This has resulted in the closure of restrooms, reduced time spent cleaning parks, and caring for park landscapes.

In response to lessons learned last year, we are increasing the watering schedule to previous levels. Negative effects on important infrastructure

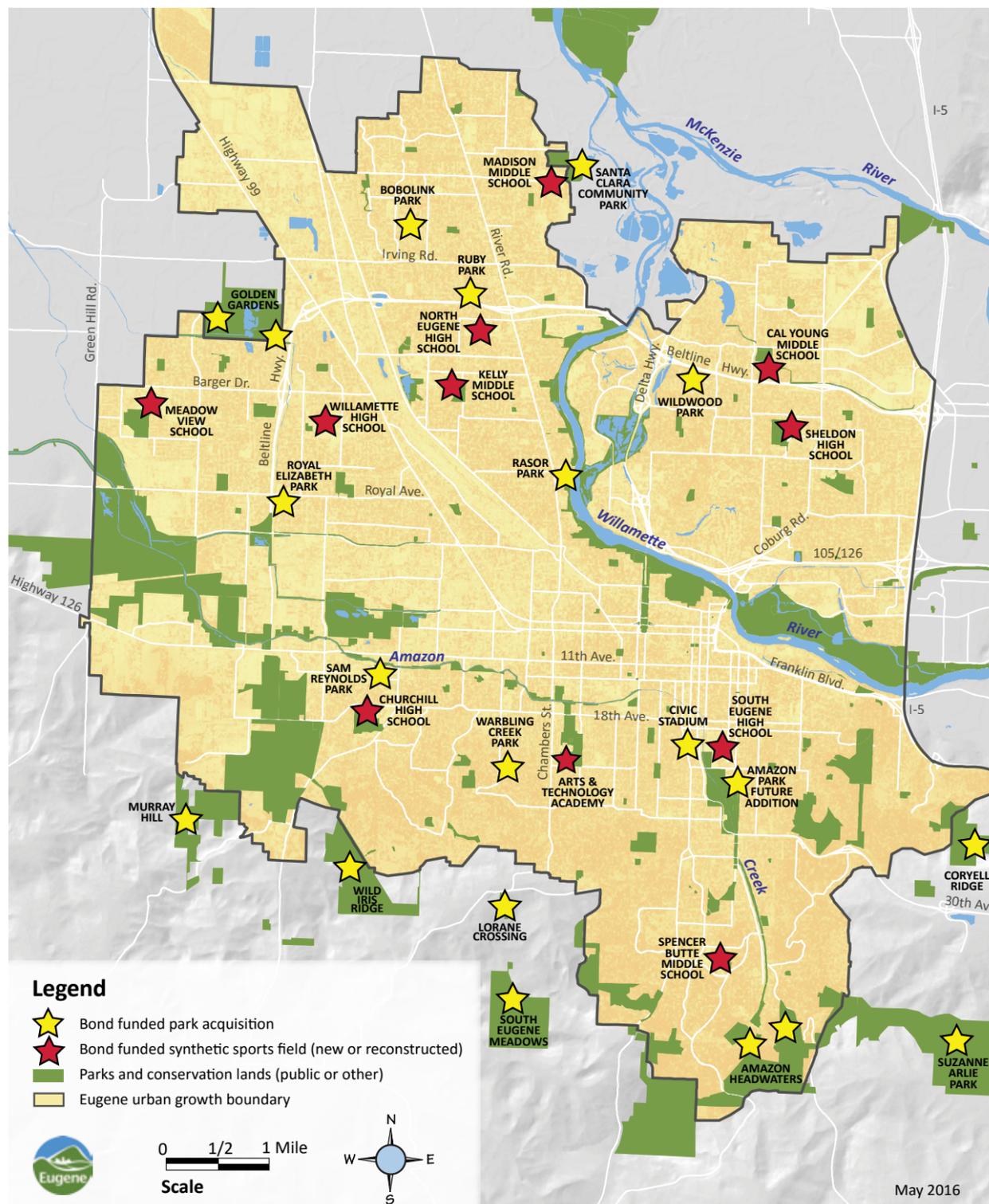


outweigh the cost savings of a reduced schedule. As lawns die out, more weeds grow. Trees that are accustomed to more frequent irrigation suffer, irrigation pipes break and concrete sidewalks crack as clay soils dry out and shrink.

As our operating environment and funding levels continue to change, we will continue to adapt and be responsive to the needs of park and recreation assets and patrons.

2006 BOND REPORT

In 2006, Eugene voters passed a \$27.5 million bond measure for Parks and Recreation acquisition and limited development. Since 2006, the City of Eugene has spent about \$22 million on projects that secure land for future parks in underserved neighborhoods and protected natural areas, and expanded the availability of sports fields across the city. The adjacent map shows the distribution and type of bond-funded projects across the city.



What We've Accomplished So Far



Golden Gardens Park Photo: Allan Erickson

Community & Neighborhood Parks

- Acquired seven new neighborhood park sites and expanded one, for a total of 19 acres.
- Acquired 35.5 acres for Santa Clara Community Park and expanded Amazon Community Park by .4 acre.
- Acquired 170 acres to expand Golden Gardens Park in Bethel and constructed improvements, including an emergency access bridge, a walking trail, signage, and re-contoured banks to improve safety.



Wild Iris Ridge

Natural Areas

- Acquired 683 acres of natural area, primarily in the Ridgeline Park system, exceeding land acquisition goals in this category. Land outside the urban area has been easier to acquire due to available land, willing land owners and lower cost. We've also matched bond funds with more than \$4.5 million in grants, donations and other funding sources for these acquisitions.



Synthetic Sports Fields

What is Left to Do

Community and Neighborhood Parks

- We're seeking to acquire land for an additional six neighborhood parks in unserved areas.
- We're looking for opportunities to acquire additional land to expand Santa Clara Community Park and connect it to the Willamette River.

West Eugene Wetland Education Center

- Originally proposed in 2002 as a partnership between the City of Eugene, School District 4J, Bureau of Land Management and private fundraisers, this project has been on hold since 2007. Private fundraisers are no longer engaged in raising matching funds for the project; and the school district has re-directed its matching bond funds to meet other needs.



"From an economic development standpoint, we have something in abundance here that other towns and cities cannot hope to touch, which is quality of life. Access to the outdoors, and the amazing park system here, is a huge contributor to Eugene being a 'livable' city. As people increasingly look to find a balance in their lives, and as they seek out a place to raise a family, the natural environment and access to recreation are high on their list of 'must haves.'"

– Joe Maruschak, Executive Director of Regional Accelerator & Innovation Network (RAIN) Eugene Accelerator

Sports Fields

- Partnered with 4J and Bethel School Districts to build eight new all-weather synthetic fields at middle and high schools. Cost savings allowed construction of an additional field at Kelly Middle School that was not originally planned.
- Partnered with School District 4J to replace four existing fields at high schools.

WHAT'S NEW IN PARKS?

Read on for exciting updates on current initiatives, events and renovation projects.

All Eugene Park and Natural Areas Become Smoke-Free

The City of Eugene Parks and Open Space Division wants community members to get out and enjoy fresh air in their local parks. Park rules recently changed, making all parks and natural areas smoke-free.

The benefits of smoke-free parks:

- A healthy and welcoming space for Eugene residents and visitors.
- Reduced exposure of children and youth to smoking and tobacco use, discouraging a habit that is difficult to quit.
- Support for individuals who are trying to quit smoking or tobacco use or have already quit.
- Protection of parks and natural areas from environmental degradation caused by littering of cigarette butts, which release toxicants into the environment, are the greatest form of litter worldwide and take approximately 10 years to decompose.
- Protection of parks and natural areas from fire risks.

Tobacco is the leading cause of preventable death in our community. Each year, over 700 people in Lane County die from tobacco-related illnesses—that's approximately 1 in 4 deaths caused by tobacco use.

Currently, more than 500 cities and towns nationwide have laws mandating smoke-free parks, including 64 cities, counties and park districts in Oregon.

"This rule change is about creating a healthy smoke-free space for all users to enjoy," said Eugene Parks and Open Space Director Craig Carnagey.

The new park rule kicked off with a large-scale community education period from June through August. For more information about the rule change visit eugene-or.gov/smokefreeparks. For more information about local statistics and cessation information visit preventionlane.org.



"When I have visitors come to town, I like to take them up Skinner Butte ... so I can show them the beautiful place where I live."

– Chatter Box Contributor

To hear more of this story in their own words, visit EUGparksandrec.org.



Cleaning Water that Runs Into the Willamette River

When it rains, water flows off gutters and streets and ultimately makes its way to

the Willamette River. These waters carry pollutants, such as oil and chemicals, that are harmful to water quality and fish habitat. One of the best ways to clean water before it reaches creeks and the river

is to direct it to an area that has been designed and planted in a way that absorbs and filters the water. Not only does the water get cleaned, the groundwater is replenished, and the risk of "flash" flows of water directly into waterways during a heavy rain is reduced.

These planted stormwater treatment facilities are located in public city parks and rights-of-way, such as along roadways and sidewalks, as well as on private property. In addition to filtering water, they help beautify our city and increase urban green space. Currently, there are 197 public facilities; that number is expected to double by 2019. This rapid increase comes from our commitment to including them as streets are developed and new projects

are added or expanded, such as LTD's EmX. On the private side, they are required for all developments that create 1,000-square-foot of hard surface that can't be permeated by water. There are currently 270 private facilities with an average of 35 to 40 being added each year.

It is the role of our newly formed Stormwater Green Infrastructure Management (SWiM) team to ensure these areas are created and are healthy and functioning, by providing homeowners with the technical advice they need to care for a stormwater facility on their property, and to plan for future growth. For more information contact Fred Lockhart at fred.l.lockhart@ci.eugene.or.us or 541-682-4944.



Park Ambassadors Welcome Visitors

Once again this summer's park ambassadors are working in our parks system helping create a more welcoming experience for all. While you'll see them primarily on bikes along the 700-acre riverfront park system, they are also spending time in areas such as the Ridgeline Trail and neighborhood parks. They are on hand to provide information about park amenities, history, park rules and hours, and more. They are well stocked with cool park maps and information about renting parks so be sure to say hello.



"I believe we can all make a difference in our environment. By gathering at our neighborhood park and working together, we can lessen the impact of toxins on our kids, this piece of the Earth and ourselves. And, we can build a stronger, more connected community while we are at it."

– Jarrell Moore, Eugene Outdoors Volunteer at Milton Park



"I completed my 14th year as a volunteer ski instructor with the program, which was also the 14th year as a participant for one of my sons and the 12th for another son. Both have cerebral palsy. The Morgan family is intensely appreciative of all the program means to us, and so thankful for all it brings to a large group of disabled people who get to participate in the magic of skiing."

– John Morgan

PROJECT ROUND UP

For more information about current park projects, visit eugene-or.gov/parks.

Celebrating a Safe and Eco-Friendly Journey to the Top of Spencer Butte

If you haven't checked it out already, come enjoy the beautifully designed new 1,400 lineal feet of trail to the top of Spencer Butte. The new trail was designed to blend into the natural aesthetic of the Butte and functions to protect its natural values.

Eugene's love for Spencer Butte is evident from the 1939 campaign that asked local residents to help buy a piece of the Butte for \$5 to protect it. That love grew with the population over the last 75 years, reaching a point where the Butte was rapidly deteriorating, due to high use, and the rare ecosystem found there was being trampled away. Without a clear trail to the top, hikers were dispersing and impact to the existing rare and sensitive plant community was significant. The new trail features about 100 steps made from natural basalt and maintains a relatively steep, challenging grade with a few widened areas that take advantage of spectacular views.

This project was funded in part by a Recreational Trails Program grant, provided by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and supplemented with City of Eugene matching funds. Enjoy!



Stay Cool in a Spray Play Area Near You

- Amazon Park, 22 Amazon Pkwy
- Fairmount Park, E. 15th and Fairmount Blvd.
- Oakmont Park, 2295 Oakmont Way
- Skinner Butte Park - RiverPlay Discovery
- Village Playground, 248 Cheshire Ave.
- Washington Park, 2025 Washington St.

Help Plan for the Future of Eugene's 516-acre Suzanne Arlie Park

Suzanne Arlie Park is the largest single site in Eugene's Parks and Open Space system and was purchased in two separate transactions between 2007 and 2011. Located just south of Lane Community College, it creates a key recreational connection between Mt. Baldy, LCC and I-5. Visit eugene-or.gov/ArliePark to learn more about the boundless possibilities for the park and share your thoughts. Survey open through July 15.

Amazon Park Playground Renovations on the Way

Amazon Playground is getting an overhaul that will include new equipment and better drainage. The beloved dinosaur will remain in place, and the fire-engine reused, while the existing accessible play structure will be replaced with a similar structure. New swings, spinners and a tall play structure will complete the new play area. Surrounding walks and landscape areas will also get a boost with the removal of the old wading pool and replacement of the landscape area south of the playground with lawn, trees, benches and tables. A grant application to Federal Land Water and Conservation is pending, which would allow the installation of fully accessible and resilient play surfacing to foster inclusive play at Amazon. Fingers crossed! The playground is currently scheduled to be closed late summer through fall 2016, pending the grant award process.

New Life for Charnel Mulligan Park

Construction on Charnel Mulligan Park is underway. The park will be closed all summer for a much-needed facelift. Improvements include removal of the berms around the edges of the park for better visibility and larger grassy play area, a new playground, sidewalk repaving, landscape and irrigation renovations and new trees. The project is a great example of neighbors working closely together with parks staff to help address aging infrastructure and behavioral problems that were occurring at the park. Neighbors were not only instrumental in advocating for the park to be renovated and contributing significant time and energy during the three-year planning process, they also raised over \$15,000 to contribute to a sand and water play feature. The park is expected to re-open this October, better than ever!



Ladybugs and Friends at Work in Downtown Planters

As a natural replacement to pesticide use in the beautiful hanging flower baskets downtown, the City has hired Ladybugs, Green Lacewings and Praying Mantis to control aphids and spider mites. Over the course of the summer, nearly 1.5 million beneficial insects will help us manage harmful pests without hurting our critical bee population. Time and again we're reminded that nature knows best!



Help make our parks safe by reporting information related to park safety! Easy mobile reporting at eugene-or.gov/parkwatch

Eugene Outdoors: Activating the power of parks.

If you like to mix fun and adventure when you volunteer, then you're just our type of volunteer! Go out, get dirty and give back at free monthly family-friendly events. No experience is necessary. Tools, instruction and snacks are provided. Visit eugene-or.gov/parks for a full calendar of events or call 541-682-4845 to get started.

Thursday, July 14, 4-7 p.m.

Spiff and Play Tugman

Play funky lawn games and help take care of Tugman Park.

Saturday, July 16, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Party Prep at Churchill Youth Sports Park

Help prep Churchill Sports Park for the big party on July 19.

Saturday, August 6, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Party Prep at Bethel Community Park

Lend a hand to get Bethel Park ready for the big party on August 9.

Saturday, August 20, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Improve Amazon Running Trail

Resurface Amazon Running Trail and strike a yoga pose.

Saturday, September 24, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Alton Baker Dog Park

All paws needed to fix up the dog park and meet rescue animals.

Saturday, October 1, 9 a.m.- 1 p.m.

Great Willamette Clean-up

Get dirty for good: 187 trash-bagging miles of rampant do-gooderism by people who believe in clean water.

Saturday, November 12, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

National Family Volunteer Day

Help clean up Petersen Park and stay and play some family-friendly activities in the barn.

Saturday, December 3, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Whilamut Natural Area

Help give native plants a fighting chance! Cut back blackberry and ivy, and we'll share more about the habitat for which you're fighting to keep.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July

Friday-Sunday, July 2-4

Art and the Vineyard Festival
The valley's premier art and wine festival, this fundraiser for Maude Kerns Art Center attracts over 20,000 visitors.
Alton Baker Park
artandthevineyard.org

Saturday, July 2, 9-11 a.m.
First Saturday Park Walk
Interpretive walk led by a naturalist. Meet in the parking lot off Goodpasture Island Rd.
Delta Ponds
EUGfun.org

Saturday, July 16, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
Teddy Bear Picnic
Bring a stuffed friend for live music by Carleen and Mike McCornack and the Garden Variety Band.
Campbell Community Center Lawn
EUGfun.org

Saturday, July 16, 5-8 p.m.
Bethel Skateboard Competition
All ages, all abilities! Prizes for podium winners. Register at 4 p.m. to compete in your age group or just watch. Present parent/guardian and helmet required to register.
Bethel Community Park
EUGfun.org

Sunday, July 17, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Eugene Highlanders Pipe Band Concert
Scottish piping, drumming and dancing.
Washburne Park
EUGfun.org



Thursday, July 21, 5-7:30 p.m.
Touch-A-Truck
Climb into a fire engine, police vehicle, dump truck, LTD bus, 18-wheeler and more!
Petersen Barn Community Center
EUGfun.org

Saturday, July 23, 4-7 p.m.
River House 50th Anniversary Celebration
Celebrate five decades of outdoor recreation leadership and experiences. Live music, kayak and stand-up paddleboard demonstrations, cake and more!
Maurie Jacobs Park
EUGfun.org

Sunday, July 24, 3-6:30 p.m.
Sunday Jams
Local DJs spin beats and jams for the whole family!
Sladden Park
EUGfun.org

Sunday, July 24, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Oregon Tuba Ensemble Concert
Familiar tunes and classical melodies on the biggest of brass instruments.
Washburne Park
EUGfun.org

Thursday, July 28, 1-7:30 p.m.
South Side Rec & Rhythm Fest
From lawn games for all abilities to DJ Yoga, three blocks of Hilyard St will be packed with activities and will include performances by West African Cultural Center and Americanistan. Also, share your ideas at the PARKS and RECreate pop-up bus.
Hilyard Community Center
EUGfun.org

Friday, July 29, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Alder Street Pedal-Power Concert
Boot-stompin', bourbon-flavored bluegrass.
Arrowhead Park
EUGfun.org

Friday, July 29, 7-9:30 a.m.
Breakfast at the Bike Bridges
Grab a quick bite to eat and a cup of coffee and learn more about transportation in Eugene. Free bike safety checks.
Greenway Bridge, Maurie Jacobs Park
eugene-or.gov/bbb

Sunday, July 31, 12 p.m.-4 p.m.
Sunday Streets
Walk, bike and roll on car-free streets. Share ideas at the PARKS and RECreate pop-up bus and enjoy live music, food carts, beer garden and more!
Downtown and Monroe Park
eugenesundaystreets.org

Sunday, July 31, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Springfield Community Band Concert
Traditional band music from our neighboring city.
Washburne Park
EUGfun.org

August

Tuesday, August 2, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
WJ Street Food Fest & Concert in the Park
Share ideas at the PARKS and RECreate pop-up bus and enjoy while CaraVan plays Van Morrison's Moondance album.
Washington Jefferson Park
EUGfun.org

Friday, August 5, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Tripolee Pedal-Power Concert
Dance to Tripolee's eclectic blend of indie, funk, folk and psychedelic rock with a dash of electronic dance music.
Arrowhead Park
EUGfun.org

Saturday, August 6, 9-11 a.m.
First Saturday Park Walk
Interpretive walk led by a naturalist. Meet in the parking lot at Dillard Rd. and Hidden Meadows Dr.
Ridgeline Trail
EUGfun.org

Sunday, August 7, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Calamity Jazz Concert
A carousel of music from jazz to big band to Broadway tunes.
Washburne Park
EUGfun.org

Friday, August 12, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
The Dirty Dandelions Pedal-Power Concert
New-time folkgrass, complete with banjo frailin', flatpickin', washtub bass and three-part vocal harmonies.
Arrowhead Park
EUGfun.org

Saturday, August 13, 6 p.m.
Sunday, August 14, 6 p.m.
Little Women
Roving Park Players presents a play based on Louisa May Alcott's novel.
Maurie Jacobs Park
EUGfun.org

Sunday, August 14, 3-6:30 p.m.
Sunday Jams
Local DJs spin beats and jams for the whole family.
Sladden Park
EUGfun.org

Sunday, August 14, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Swing Shift Jazz Orchestra Concert
Some of the Willamette Valley's finest jazz musicians.
Washburne Park
EUGfun.org

Thursday, August 18, 6 p.m.
Friday, August 19, 6 p.m.
Little Women
Roving Park Players present a play based on Louisa May Alcott's novel.
Petersen Barn Park
EUGfun.org

Sunday, August 21, 3-6:30 p.m.
Sunday Jams
Local DJs spin beats and jams for the whole family!
Sladden Park
EUGfun.org

Sunday, August 21, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Joe Manis Duo Concert
Energetic jazz music.
Washburne Park
EUGfun.org

Friday, August 26, 7-9:30 a.m.
Breakfast at the Bike Bridges
Grab a quick bite to eat and a cup of coffee and learn more about transportation in Eugene. Free bike safety checks.
Amazon Park, 24th Ave. & Amazon Path
eugene-or.gov/bbb

Sunday, August 28, 3-6:30 p.m.
Sunday Jams
Local DJs spin beats and jams for the whole family!
Sladden Park
EUGfun.org

Sunday, August 28, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Oregon Brass Society Concert
Traditional British-style brass band.
Washburne Park
EUGfun.org

Fall

Saturday, September 3, 9-11 a.m.
First Saturday Park Walk
Interpretive walk led by a naturalist. Meet in the parking lot off Stewart Rd.
Stewart Pond Overlook
EUGfun.org

Sunday, September 25, 12 p.m.-4 p.m.
Sunday Streets
Walk, bike and roll on car-free streets. Live music, food carts, beer garden, and more!
South University Neighborhood
eugenesundaystreets.org

Friday, September 30, 7-9:30 a.m.
Breakfast at the Bike Bridges
Grab a quick bite to eat and a cup of coffee and learn more about transportation in Eugene. Free bike safety checks.
DeFazio Bridge
eugene-or.gov/bbb

Friday, October 28, 7-9:30 a.m.
Breakfast at the Bike Bridges
Grab a quick bite to eat and a cup of coffee and learn more about transportation in Eugene. Free bike safety checks.
Frohmayer Bike Bridge, south side of river
eugene-or.gov/bbb

FUN FOR ALL A free drop-in program in your neighborhood! Free lunches provided by Food For Lane County.
Mon-Fri, July 5-August 25

Petersen Barn Park
(10 a.m.-5 p.m.)

Trainsong Park
(11 a.m.-4 p.m.)

Churchill Youth Sports Park
(10 a.m.-5 p.m.)

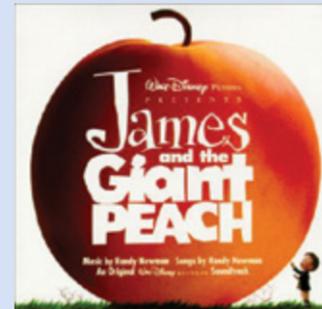
Washington Park
(10 a.m.-5 p.m.)

Monroe Park
(10 a.m.-5 p.m.)

State Street Park
(10 a.m.-5 p.m.)

EUGfun! MOVIES IN THE PARK

Family-friendly and free! No tickets required. Bring your blankets, lawn chairs and picnics, but leave glass containers and pets at home. Show times are approximately 9 to 11 p.m.
Eugfun.org



Saturday, July 9
James and the Giant Peach
(PG, 1h 19min)
Petersen Barn Park

Friday, July 15
Inside Out (PG, 1h 42min)
Washington Park

Saturday, July 16
The Princess Bride
(PG, 1h 38min)
Bethel Community Park

Friday, July 22
To Kill a Mockingbird
(PG, 2h 9min)
Maurie Jacobs Park

Saturday, July 23
Brave (PG, 1h 33min)
Awbrey Park

Friday, July 29
Mirrors (PG, 1h 41min)
Churchill Park

Saturday, July 30
Stranger Than Fiction
(PG-13, 1h 53min)
Sladden Park

Friday, August 5
Mamma Mia! (PG-13, 1h 48min)
State Street Park

Saturday, August 6
Paper Heart (PG-13, 1h 28min)
University Park

Friday, August 12
The Man Who Fell to Earth
(R, 2h 19min)
Monroe Park

Saturday, August 13
The Secret World of Arrietty
(G, 1h 34min)
Willakenzie Park

Friday, August 19
E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial
(PG, 1h 55min)
Trainsong Park

Saturday, August 20
Inside Out (Spanish)
(PG, 1h 42min)
Echo Hollow Pool—Dive In Movie

Party in the Park

A true community experience! Share ideas at the PARKS and RECreate pop-up bus, play games, get your bike tuned up, tinker with the Library's new maker exhibits or grab a bite from a local food cart. **More info at EUGfun.org**

Thursday, July 14, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Willakenzie Park Music with polyrhythmic marimba band Jenaguru

Tuesday, July 19, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Churchill Park Music with emcee Zen Tempest and the Eternal Now

Tuesday, August 9, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Bethel Community Park Music and dancing with Cuban salsa band Azucar

Tuesday, August 16, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Awbrey Park Music and dancing with Mood Area 5

