



FY2019

Eugene Parks and Recreation
BOND AND LEVY
ANNUAL REPORT

*Thank You
Eugene!*

YOUR PARKS & REC
BOND AND LEVY
DOLLARS AT WORK



DEAR EUGENE,

In 2018, City Council members approved the Parks and Recreation System Plan that identified our greatest needs and established a pathway for improvements and enhancements for the next 30 years. Also, in 2018, Eugene voted 'Yes' to addressing the most immediate challenges we are facing in our parks and recreation facilities. Today, thanks to the passage of the capital bond for \$39.35 million and the five-year \$3.15 million operating levy, we can address both the immediate and long-term needs of our parks and recreation facilities. We heard the community say our parks and recreation system deserves better and we're now busy delivering on the projects described in the capital bond and operating levy you passed.

We are happy to report our parks are cleaner, greener, and safer since the passing of the bond & levy. We've increased park custodial services, reopened restrooms, restored park horticultural and tree care practices, upgraded inefficient irrigation systems, added park benches, trash cans and lighting. We've built better trails, enhanced natural areas and are developing new parks while restoring old ones. We have a more robust park safety program with dedicated police officers patrolling parks and year-round park ambassadors.

Additionally, we are addressing the needs of several of our aging recreation facilities. Campbell Community Center will be adding a new 6,000-square-foot wing that is designed to create more social connectivity and increase space for health and wellness opportunities. Echo Hollow Pool & Fitness Center is also nearing construction with a design that will update the facility with more efficient operating systems while providing more opportunity for recreational, fitness and competitive swimmers. As Echo Hollow gets started on its renovation and expansion, Sheldon Pool & Fitness Center is undergoing early conceptual design work. Construction at Sheldon Pool will begin as Echo Hollow Pool reopens in 2021.

All this has taken place in just over a year. Yes, we still have a way to go to get your parks and recreation facilities in the condition that will serve you best. But in a short time we're seeing things begin to turn around and have heard from many of you that you're seeing positive results too.

Respectfully,

Craig Carnagey

Parks and Open Space Division Manager

Craig Smith

Recreation Division Manager

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Summary

In May 2018, voters said YES to renovating parks and recreation facilities, building new parks in underserved areas, improving safety and increasing the focus on caring for what we have.

Since the approval of the **bond**, Eugene's Parks, Recreation and Facilities employees have taken major steps toward laying the foundation for bringing the 30-year System Plan to life: prioritizing projects, budgeting, planning the scope of individual sites, beginning public engagement processes, design work for identified improvements, requesting bids, evaluating proposals and scheduling construction for the first projects to come online.

Just one year later, there are tangible results for voters. Parks staff has completed the major renovation of Tugman Park playground while making progress on several other developments across the city, including Berkeley Park, Striker Field, and the Downtown Riverfront Park. Recreation and

Facilities have moved forward with breaking ground on Campbell Community Center and unveiling the final designs for Echo Hollow Pool & Fitness Center.

The **levy** has already made its mark on our community with a litany of system upgrades over the last year. We increased park safety by adding two year-round Eugene Police Officers dedicated to the parks and two more Park Ambassadors. We reopened restrooms in parks, increased mowing frequency and added seasonal weekend and after-hours maintenance in high-use parks. We also increased seasonal trash service at busy trailheads, increased trail maintenance and continue to do vegetation management to reduce fuel loads, manage invasive weeds and add native plants.

This report will outline how Parks and Recreation have allocated bond and levy funds and are working to fulfill each promise to Eugene voters.





Citizen Advisory Board

As required by both the 2018 bond and levy ballot measures, a Citizen Advisory Board has been formed to ensure accountability in the use of bond and levy funds. The Citizen Advisory Board is responsible for reviewing end-of-year reporting to ensure spending complies with the intent of the ballot measures. The Board then forwards the report and any comments to the City Manager, who provides the report to the City Council and makes it publicly available. Once completed, all reports will be available on the bond and levy website, eugparksandrec.org.

The Board is made up of seven members who serve two-year terms:

- Jill Fetherstonhaugh
- Rayna Jackson
- Dr. Rick Kincade
- Richard Maher
- Molly Rogers
- Scott Sanders
- Whitney Wagoner

In addition to promoting transparency and accountability in relation to bond and levy spending, the Board also provides guidance on the implementation of the Parks and Recreation System Plan. This plan provides guidelines and recommendations for how to grow the parks and recreation system over the next 30 years to realize the community's long-range vision.

The Board meets three to four times each year and members of the public are welcome to attend sessions. Meetings are generally focused in the fall and are advertised in the public meetings calendar, eugene-or.gov/1972/Public-Meetings-Calendar.

Eugene Parks and Recreation
BOND REPORT



Measure 20-289

Bonds to Fund Parks and Recreation Facility Projects

Shall City of Eugene fund park and recreation projects using \$39.35 million in general obligation bonds? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

If this measure is approved, the City will use bond proceeds for capital costs related to park renovation projects, trail and habitat projects, safety/lighting improvements, infrastructure projects, school district partnerships, recreation and pool facility renovation and improvement projects, and new park development. The measure would authorize the City to issue a maximum of \$39,350,000 of General Obligation bonds.

The bond proceeds would only be used to fund the parks and recreation facility projects listed in **Finding G of Eugene City Council Resolution 5221** and to pay bond issuance costs. Until all listed projects have been completed, bond proceeds could not be used to fund other projects.

An outside auditor would review the City's use of the bond proceeds, determine whether proceeds were used as required by this measure, and prepare a report that would be made public.

The estimated property tax rate is \$0.26 per \$1,000 of assessed value and the estimated cost to the average Eugene homeowner would be approximately \$58 per year (about \$4.80 per month).

City Council Resolution 5221, Finding G

Park Renovation Projects

- Alton Baker Park, University Park, Tugman Park, MLK Jr. Park, Berkeley Park, Trainsong Park

Trails and Habitat Projects

- Amazon Running Trail, Delta Ponds Loop Trail, Susanne Arlie Park Ridgeline Trail and Access, West Eugene Wetlands, Skinner Butte Park, Ridgeline Park System, Whilamut Natural Area, Amazon Creek

Safety/Lighting Improvements

- Neighborhood parks, Alton Baker Park, Maurie Jacobs Park, Washington Jefferson Park, West Bank Path, Amazon Park, Fern Ridge Path, South Bank Path

Infrastructure Projects

- Repairing and improving irrigation systems
- Repairing and improving restrooms

School District Partnerships

- Artificial turf replacements at Meadow View, Willamette High School, Spencer Butte Middle School, and Arts and Technology Academy
- Churchill tennis court renovation, Churchill community center and park planning (including possible site acquisition)

Community Center, Pool and Sportsfield Renovations and Improvements

- Echo Hollow Pool, Campbell Community Center, Sports Complex (Phase 1), Sheldon Pool

New Park Development in Underserved Neighborhoods

- Striker Field, Mattie Reynolds Park, Santa Clara Community Park (Phase 1), Ferndale Park, West Bank Park, Riverfront Park

Bond Project Progress Chart

New Park Development

1. Striker Field Park
2. Mattie Reynolds Park
3. Santa Clara Community Park (Phase 1)
4. Ferndale Park
5. West Bank Park
6. Downtown Riverfront Park

Park Renovation Projects

1. Alton Baker Park
2. University Park
3. Tugman Park
4. Martin Luther King Jr. Park
5. Berkeley Park
6. Trainsong Park

Recreation Facilities

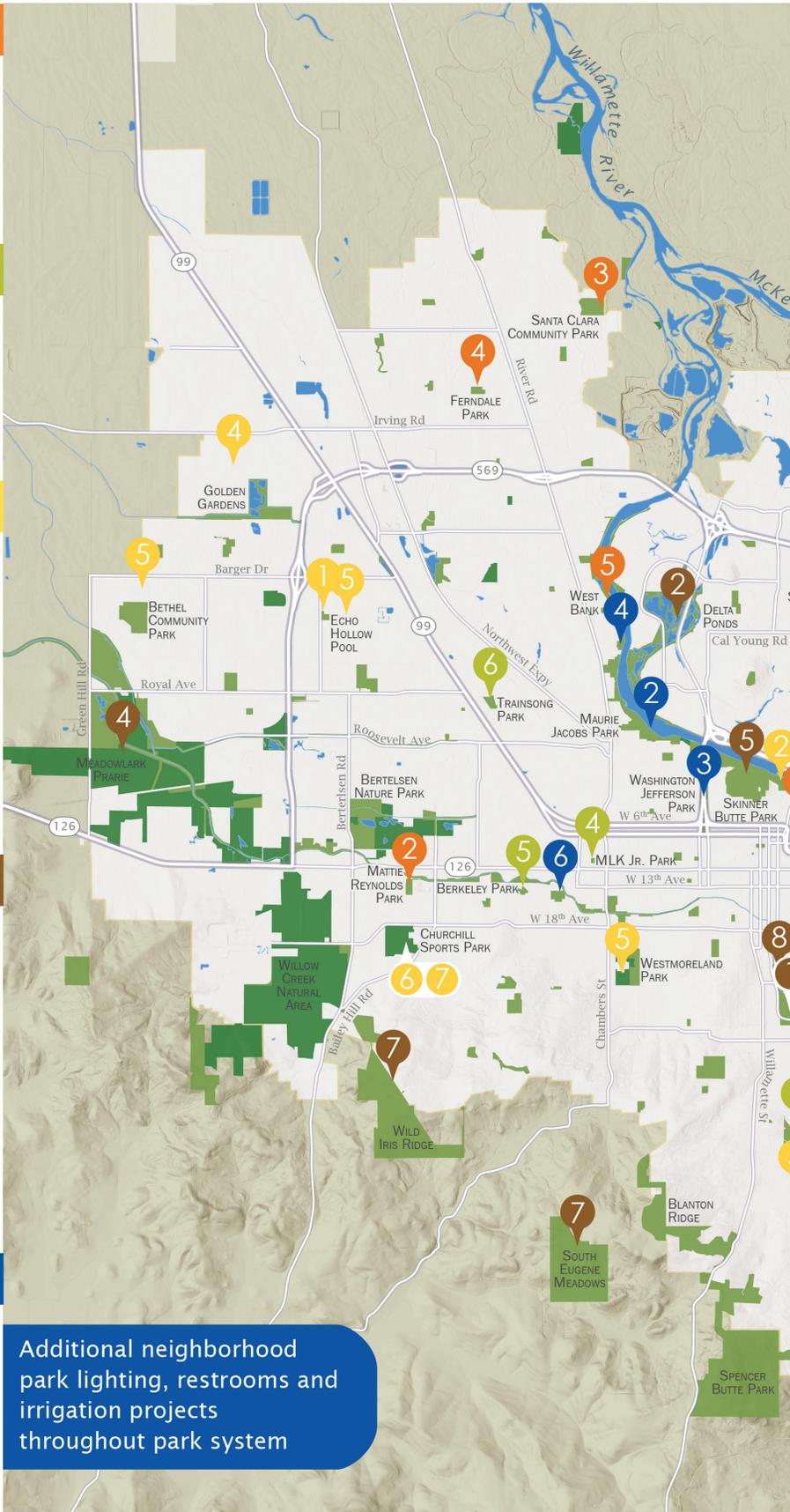
1. Echo Hollow Pool renovation
2. Campbell Community Center renovation
3. Sheldon Pool renovation
4. Sports Complex (Phase 1)
5. Artificial Turf Replacement (Meadow View School, Willamette High School, Spencer Butte Middle School, Arts and Technology Academy)
6. Churchill Tennis Court renovation
7. Churchill Youth Sports Park/Community Center planning

Trail and Habitat Projects

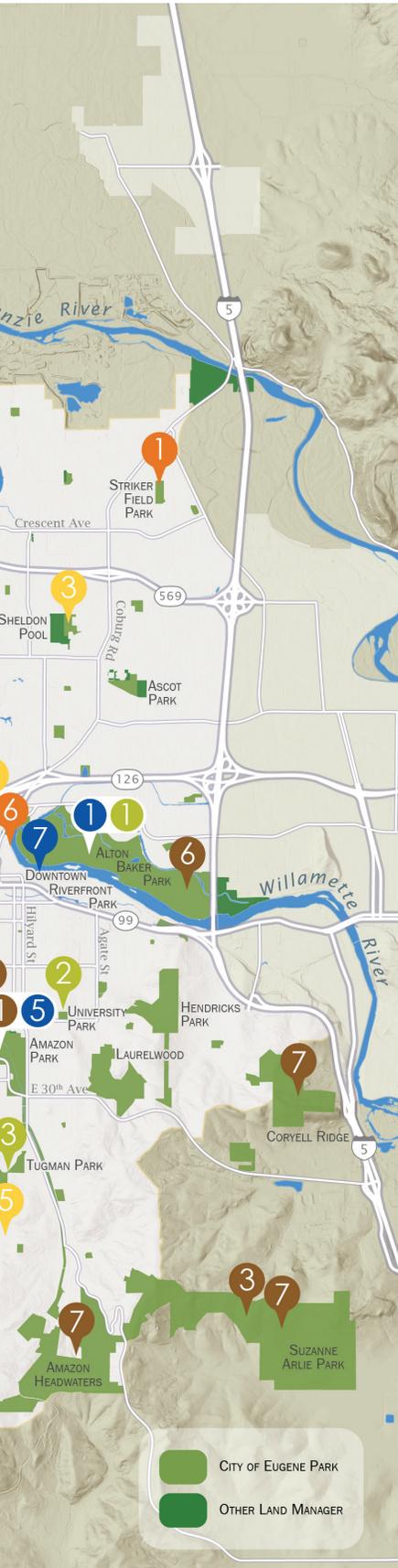
1. Amazon Park Running Trail renovation
2. Delta Ponds Loop Trail completion (bridge)
3. Suzanne Arlie Park Ridgeline Trail and Access
4. West Eugene Wetlands habitat restoration
5. Skinner Butte Park habitat restoration
6. Whilamut Natural Area habitat restoration
7. Ridgeline habitat restoration
8. Amazon Creek restoration

Restrooms, Lighting and Irrigation

1. Alton Baker Park lighting
2. Maurie Jacobs Park lighting
3. Washington Jefferson Park lighting
4. West Bank Path lighting
5. Amazon Park Path lighting
6. Fern Ridge Path lighting
7. South Bank Path lighting



Additional neighborhood park lighting, restrooms and irrigation projects throughout park system



		Planning	Design	Construction	Complete	Expected Completion
New Park Development	Striker Field	█				2021
	Mattie Reynolds Park					2024
	Santa Clara Community Park (Phase 1)					2022
	Ferndale Park					2023
	West Bank Park					2025
	Riverfront Park	█	█	█		2020
Park Renovation Projects	Alton Baker Park					2026
	University Park					2023
	Tugman Park Phase 1	█	█	█	✓	Done
	Tugman Park Phase 2					2024
	MLK JR Park					2024
	Berkeley Park	█				2021
	Trainsong Park					2026
Recreation Facilities	Echo Hollow Pool renovation	█	█			2021
	Campbell Community Center renovation		█	█		2020
	Sheldon Pool renovation					2022
	Sports Complex Phase 1 (Phase 1)	█				2025
School Districts Partnerships	Artificial Turf replacement					TBD
	Churchill Tennis Court					TBD
	Churchill YSP /Community Center planning	█				TBD
Trail and Habitat Projects	Amazon Park Running Trail renovation	█	█			2020
	Delta Ponds Loop Trail completion (bridge)		█			2021
	Suzanne Arlie Park Ridgeline Trail & Access	█				2022
	West Eugene Wetlands Habitat restoration					2023
	Skinner Butte Park Habitat restoration					2021
	Whilamut Natural Area					2026
	Ridgeline Habitat restoration	█				2024
Safety/Lighting Improvements	Amazon Creek restoration	█				2021
	Neighborhood Park lighting					2023
	Alton Baker Park lighting	█				2021
	Maurie Jacobs Park lighting					2022
	Washington Jefferson lighting					2022
	West Bank Path lighting	█	█			2020
	Amazon Park Path lighting					2023
	Fern Ridge Path lighting					2022
South Bank Path lighting	█				2021	
Infrastructure	Repair and Improve Restrooms	█				2025
	Repair and Improve Irrigation					2023



49%
of bond projects
are underway!

Bond Status

The first bond-funded project was completed in August of 2019. The Tugman Park playground renovation was fast-tracked ahead of other projects because the playground was outdated and not meeting current safety and accessibility standards. On September 14, more than 600 community members celebrated the reopening of a fun, safe and inclusive new playground.

Projects at Downtown Riverfront Park and Campbell Community Center have also broken ground with project completion on track for 2020.

Many other projects have kicked-off since the bond measure was approved. Of the 37 bond-funded projects, 18 (49 percent) projects are underway. Much of that work has been related to planning and design and therefore hasn't been visible to date. As several projects move into the construction phase in the next year or two, this progress will become

much more visible. The City of Eugene follows local and state rules and regulations in the hiring of the project consultants and contractors.

Looking Forward

The years 2020 and 2021 will see lots of bond-related construction activity throughout the city.

- West Eugene: Echo Hollow Pool renovation, West Bank Trail lighting and Berkeley Park renovation
- North Eugene: Pre's Trail lighting, Striker Field Park development, Delta Ponds Loop Trail and Sheldon Pool upgrades.
- South Eugene: Amazon Running Trail renovation, Amazon Creek restoration (19th to 24th) and Ridgeline Park habitat enhancements
- Downtown: Riverfront Park Development, South Bank Trail and Campbell Community Center expansion

Projects Underway

Amazon Creek Restoration

This project will remove the concrete channel between 19th and 24th avenues and restore a natural streambed with sloped banks, native plantings and low flow channels. There is no planned impact to the nearby bikepaths or roadway. Preliminary designs and hydraulic modeling have been completed as this project prepares to hire a consultant to manage the permitting process. A request for proposals (RFP) for consultants should be out by January 2020. Because of the short window of time for in-water work, this project is scheduled to be done over two construction seasons: 2020 and 2021.



Amazon Park Running Trail Renovation

Though the existing trail footprint won't change, this reconstruction project will add a thicker rock base for long-term stability and a more level path. Additional improvements based on community feedback include replacement of current lighting, a stretching station, a shelter and distance markers. Permitting and construction documentation have begun, and an architect will be hired to design the new shelter. Work is on schedule for construction to start after the Olympic trials in June 2020 and reopen before the World Athletics Championships in 2021.

“Amazon Park Running Trail has been a local treasure longer than I have lived in Eugene (which is since 1981). While training, then easy-running and now walking or just driving past, I’ve nearly always seen runners and walkers in action there — at any hour, day or night, in any weather, dry or wet, by everyone, fastest to slowest. The upgrade this iconic trail is about to enjoy is as important to local fitness as the remake of Hayward Field is to national and worldwide track.”

- **Joe Henderson**, coach, author and former editor of *Runner's World* magazine

Berkeley Park Renovation

Public engagement efforts were completed in the summer of 2019 and the project is currently in the construction drawing and permitting phase. In the latest design concept, the playground was expanded by one-third with all new equipment, sand play area and nature play. It also expands the irrigated lawn with a continuous path, connecting the playground, basketball court and nature play into a cohesive design. There have been wetland areas identified within the scope of the project that will require joint permits with the Department of State Lands and Army Corps of Engineers. This project is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2021.



Campbell Community Center Renovation

Pivot Architecture, a local firm, was contracted to lead the public engagement and design of Campbell Community Center. The expansion and renovation will add spaces for a variety of fitness activities, more socializing and improved circulation and connectivity. Public engagement was completed in the summer of 2019. McKenzie Commercial has been contracted to complete the renovation. Early site development and excavation started in late October 2019. This project is on schedule to be completed by fall of 2020.

Ridgeline Park Habitat Enhancements

This project is helping with habitat restoration at Suzanne Arlie Park by leveraging funding received from one of our federal partners, the Bureau of Land Management. Specifically, the project at Suzanne Arlie Park is assisting with the long-term removal of invasive trees and shrubs. These invasive species create a dense thicket of vegetation that chokes out native species, creates a wildfire hazard and restricts access for recreation and maintenance. Over the last two fall seasons, effort has also been put into removing invasive blackberries in the Amazon Headwaters.

Delta Ponds Loop Trail Completion

In 2019, the City was awarded a \$350,000 grant from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to complete funding for a bridge to connect the 1-mile Delta Ponds Loop Trail. The bridge will expand the service area of Delta Ponds by connecting it to Goodpasture Island Road and making it accessible to more people. A consultant firm, KPFF, was hired and construction documents are 60 percent complete. This project is on schedule to be completed in 2021.



Downtown Riverfront Park Development

A robust public involvement process was conducted through the summer of 2018, with follow-up focus groups in 2019. The Riverfront Park will be built over two construction seasons. Significant grading activity, including lessening the slope of the river's steep bank, removal of non-native invasive plants and replanting more than 24,000 stakes, bulbs and shrubs along the riverbank will be completed in fall/winter 2019. This is important prep work for the second phase in the summer of 2020 when all the new park features, including paths, furniture, new landscapes and overlooks, will be built. The park is scheduled to be completed by spring of 2021.

Echo Hollow Pool & Fitness Center Renovation

Robertson Sherwood Architects, a local firm, was contracted to design the renovation and expansion of Echo Hollow Pool. It led a series of public listening sessions in the winter of 2018 to gather information and feedback before unveiling the final design in October 2019. The final design meets increased demand for pool space for recreation and competitive swimmers. Construction documents are being finalized and bids will be solicited in late 2019, with an anticipated construction start date in February of 2020. This project is on schedule to be completed by March of 2021.

“I’m just really excited the whole facility is getting upgraded and there’s going to be something for everybody. The fact that there’s going to be so many more outdoor lanes is going to be fantastic. The locker rooms will be really nice because right now they’re primitive. It’s really nice to see this facility being taken care of.”

- *Lori Eichelberger*

Lighting Projects (*Alton Baker Park, West Bank Path, South Bank Path*)

New lighting will be installed along the Willamette River West Bank Path in 2020. This work is being done in conjunction with a pavement renovation project, which will realize cost and time efficiencies. Similarly, the South Bank Path lighting project will be done in conjunction with new path construction through University of Oregon property from the Downtown Riverfront Park to the Frohnmayer Bridge. Across the river, an upgrade of existing lighting in Alton Baker Park will focus on the western loop of Pre’s Trail. Both the South Bank Path and Pre’s Trail lighting projects are scheduled for completion before the World Athletics Championships in 2021.





Sheldon Pool & Fitness Center Renovation

Robertson Sherwood Architects has been selected to design improvements to Sheldon Pool. Public listening sessions will begin in early 2020 to gather information and feedback from facility patrons. Design will continue through 2020, with bidding scheduled to occur late in 2020. Construction will begin upon completion of the Echo Hollow Pool renovation in early 2021. Renovations are expected to be complete in early 2022.



Striker Field Park Development

This large, 8-acre park site will serve the recreational needs of Northeast Eugene with a large playground, court games (basketball, pickleball and petanque), restrooms, picnic shelter and informal amphitheater for community gatherings. Strong community interest called for a fourth public meeting as part of the parks planning public engagement process. While approaching the final concept design, the formal land use process began, as required by City code. This project is on schedule for final designs to be completed by winter 2020, construction bids out by spring 2021 and construction completed by fall 2021.

Tugman Park Renovation

Phase 1 of Tugman Park’s playground renovation was completed on schedule and opened to the public in August 2019 with all new playground equipment, sand play area, ADA concrete repairs and drainage improvement. Additional renovations will be performed as part of Phase 2, scheduled for 2024.

The new play areas at Tugman Park are great for my kids. We love the baby/mommy swing and all the age appropriate structures. It’s a very well-done playground.

- Selina Young



Bond Expense Categories

Many bond-funded projects are supplemented with additional dollars such as urban renewal and system development charge funds. By leveraging bond dollars with other funding sources, the number and scope of projects that can be undertaken is greatly increased. Project reporting includes both the bond funding and the additional leveraged funds.

Project spending is grouped into categories that reflect various types of expenses:

- **Materials and Supplies** covers a wide range of expenses from postage to playground equipment. The vast majority of bond expenditures in this category were for playground equipment at Tugman Park.
- **Contractual Services** makes up the bulk of expenditures of FY19 bond-funded projects. These expenditures include larger payments to the Portland and Seattle based Landscape Architecture firm Walker Macy, designing Downtown Riverfront Park as well as smaller payments to contractors performing invasive vegetation management on the Ridgeline.
- **Personnel Expenses** are the next biggest category of expenditure. Most staff who work on capital projects are funded through those project budgets. This includes staff in the Parks and Open Space Division generally responsible for

community engagement and conceptual project design and staff in Facilities Management and Public Works Engineering that are responsible for detailed construction documents, project management and construction inspection.

- **Construction Expenses** refers to contracted work related to project construction. The only project that had contracted construction related expenses in FY19 was Tugman Park.
- **Bond Issuance Costs** are fees associated with the issuance of bonds by an issuer to investors.

FY19 Bond Expense Categories

Expense Category	Bond Funding	Other Funding
Materials and Supplies	\$128,645	\$45,985
Contractual Services	\$843,459	\$1,649,848
Personnel Expenses	\$334,187	\$543,917
Construction Expenses	\$48,831	
Bond Issuance Costs	\$255,779	
Total	\$1,610,901	\$2,239,750



Bond Project Expenditures

The following bond-funded projects had expenditures in FY19. Some of the projects have not utilized the bond funding yet, so totals are only shown in the “Other Funds” expenditure column. “Other” funds include Grants, System Development Charge, Urban Renewal, Facilities Capital, Stormwater Capital and Transportation funds. Only projects with expenditures in FY19 are included in the table.

As many of projects move into the construction phase in the next year, project expenditures will rapidly increase.

FY19 Bond Project Expenditures

Project	Total Project Budget	Bond Project Budget	FY19 Bond Fund Expenses	FY19 Other Fund Expenses	FY19 Total Project Expenses	% Of Total Project Spent
Park Renovation Projects						
Tugman Park	\$1,000,000	\$750,000	\$227,000	\$42,543	\$269,543	27%
Berkeley Park	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$50,653		\$50,653	5%
Trails and Habitat Projects						
Amazon Park Running Trail renovation	\$1,535,000	\$750,000	\$47,800	\$24,59	\$72,393	5%
Delta Ponds Loop Trail completion	\$1,350,000	\$480,000		\$117,407	\$117,407	9%
Ridgeline Habitat restoration	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$4,079		\$4,079	3%
Amazon Creek Habitat restoration	\$2,850,000	\$400,000		\$9,110	\$9,111	0.3%
Safety/Lighting Improvements						
West Bank Path lighting	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$30,700		\$30,700	4%
Community Centers, Pools & Fields						
Echo Hollow Pool renovation	\$13,226,485	\$7,592,818	\$446,790	\$53,015	\$499,805	4%
Campbell Community Center renovation	\$5,700,000	\$3,850,000	\$507,700	\$55,070	\$562,770	10%
Sheldon Pool renovation	\$9,167,182	\$6,367,182	\$40,400	\$1,930	\$42,330	0.5%
New Park Development						
Striker Field	\$3,500,000	\$267,000		\$87,227	\$87,227	2%
Riverfront Park	\$14,000,000	\$500,000		\$1,848,855	\$1,848,855	13%
Bond Issuance Costs						
			\$255,779		\$255,779	
Total FY19 Spending						
			\$1,610,901	\$2,239,750	\$3,850,652	

Eugene Parks and Recreation
LEVY REPORT



Measure 20-288

Five-Year Parks and Recreation Operations and Maintenance Local Option Levy

Shall Eugene levy \$3,150,000 per year for five years beginning July 2018, for parks and recreation facilities operation and maintenance? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

The funds from this levy will be used to improve the cleanliness, safety and general conditions of the City of Eugene's parks, recreation facilities and natural areas. Funding will be directed to the following activities: park safety and security (two police officers, two park ambassadors), illicit activity response (illegal camp clean-up, graffiti removal, vandalism response), general park maintenance (restrooms, litter/trash pick-up, turf mowing, landscape/trees, infrastructure and weekend/after-hours maintenance), habitat and natural area maintenance (invasive weeds, wildfire risk abatement, trails, infrastructure, native plantings), and future park, community center, pool, and field maintenance (phased in over time).

Staff will prepare an annual report on spending that will be reviewed by the Citizen Advisory Board and made available to the City Council and the public. The levy will raise \$3,150,000 each year for five years for a total of \$15,750,000. The typical Eugene taxpayer is estimated to pay an average of \$41 per year over the levy's five-year period. The estimated tax rate for this levy is \$.019/\$1000 of assessed value. The estimated tax cost for this measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based on the best information available from the county assessor at the time of the estimate and may reflect the impact of early payment discounts, compression and the collection rate.



Levy Status

Levy funds were quickly used to increase public safety presence in parks and natural areas, improve trails and natural areas, reopen restrooms and increase general maintenance throughout the system. This effort included hiring full-time park operations team members, park safety team members and seasonal positions. Additional equipment was also purchased to support the service level increase and new, upgraded furnishings such as benches, picnic tables and trash receptacle have been added throughout the park system

Projects Completed

Park Safety

Two dedicated Eugene Police park resource officers were hired to increase park safety and presence. Two full-time and two seasonal park ambassadors were hired to welcome people to the parks, increase safety presence, issue 24-hour cleanup notice to illicit camps and remind people of park rules. In addition, a new illicit activity response team was created with a focus on the cleanup of illicit camping and dumping areas, issuing 24-hour camp cleanup notices and providing quick graffiti abatement throughout the park system.

Park Maintenance

Parks was able to reopen six restrooms that were previously closed due to past budget reductions or vandalism issues. These include restrooms at Sladden Park, Monroe Park, Hendricks Park, Sheldon playground and Cal Young Sports Park. In addition, the restroom at Churchill Sports Park was reopened on Saturdays and Sundays. This represents a 22 percent increase in available restrooms open for public use.

Increased maintenance services, including litter and trash pickup and restroom cleanings are now being provided daily throughout developed parks. This is a 55 percent increase in service level over previous years. A new late-afternoon and evening summer

maintenance service also began through the addition of a four-person seasonal crew in high use parks.

Turf care best management practices were increased to grow healthier turf through aeration, overseeding, proper water management and lime and fertilizer applications. There was a 10 percent increase in mowing.

As part of the levy, a developed park tree inventory was completed in order to determine priority pruning and hazard tree removals, followed by staff working to prune and remove hazardous trees in high-use areas such as playground and pathways.

Trail and Natural Area Maintenance

More than 3.7 miles of walking and running trails were re-surfaced and maintained. The elimination of natural area hazard trees and wildfire risk abatement work began and will continue to improve fire safety in natural areas. Preventative care in the form of increased maintenance of roads, parking areas, signage and fences in the Ridgeline Trail System began. Additional custodial services were provided daily in five locations including trailheads, such as Spencer Butte and other high use natural areas, and portable toilets were added to six trailheads.

55%
increase in custodial services

22%
increase in available restrooms

Looking Forward

- The spending of levy funds is weighted more heavily in the later years to pay for the increased maintenance and operations of bond-funded new

parcs, community centers, pools, turf fields and natural areas as they are completed.

- The support of this levy will provide funding necessary to mitigate hazardous trees and reduce recovery time during storm events.
- Additional trash receptacles, picnic tables, benches, portable restrooms and pet waste bag dispensers will continue to be added throughout the park system.

Levy Expense Categories

The passing of the \$3.15 million operating levy has provided funding for increased service levels throughout the park and open space system.

Levy-funded efforts are also supplemented with additional ongoing park operations dollars from the City of Eugene general fund and stormwater fund. By leveraging levy dollars with other funding sources, it has been possible to increase services to an even higher level.

FY19 Levy Expense Categories

Expense Category	Levy Funding	FY19 Adopted Budget – non-levy funds*
Materials and Supplies	\$72,813	\$1,437,395
Contractual Services	\$210,817	\$346,238
Personnel Expenses	\$826,970	\$6,267,398
Utilities	\$65,500	\$275,000
Equipment	\$367,967	\$41,471
TOTAL	\$1,544,067	\$8,367,502

*FY19 adopted budget for general park maintenance, trails, natural areas and public safety

- **Materials and Supplies** covers a wide range of expenses including, but not limited to, administrative and office supplies, paint and sealers, garbage liners, personnel protective supplies, parts and repair services. These materials and supplies provide support for staff that are providing the additional services that are funded by the levy.
- **Contractual Services** includes tree maintenance, custodial and ecological services, as well as facility and infrastructure repairs. These services are

contracted with subject matter experts to ensure efficiency, compliance and safety.

- **Personnel Expenses** is the biggest category of expenditure. These expenses include salary and fringe benefits for regular staff, labor costs for seasonal staff and additional temporary help to support the increase in services being provided.
- **Utilities** is another large expense. Increases in park services equates to increases in utilities for additional lighting hours, restroom services and increased watering of turf throughout the entire park system.
- **Equipment** is another large expense for levy funded operations. Additional staff require additional equipment such as trucks and mowers to support the increased service levels throughout the park system.

Levy Expenditures

Fiscal year 2019 was dedicated to increasing service levels in City of Eugene parks. This work involved reducing illicit activities, increasing safety, adding general park maintenance capacity and improving trails and natural areas. This effort included hiring four new full-time park specialist positions, two park ambassadors, two Eugene Police park resource officers and up to 12 seasonal positions to support this work. Additional equipment was also purchased to support the service upgrades.

	General Park Maintenance	Trails and Natural Areas	Public Safety Presence
Materials and Supplies	\$22,749	\$27,548	\$28,173
Contractual Services	\$117,118	\$93,584	\$115
Personnel Expenses	\$287,332	\$121,029	\$418,609
Utilities	\$65,500	\$0	\$0
Equipment and Vehicles	\$207,476	\$53,584	\$101,250
Total	\$700,175	\$295,745	\$548,147

“I am a senior living in the Churchill area, and I ride a trike nearly every day on the Fern Ridge path. Sometimes I ride out through the wetlands to Greenhill. About once a week I follow Amazon Creek toward downtown, and often explore the extensive greenway and riverbank path system along the Willamette. In recent years, most notably during the last recession and tight budgets, I witnessed how quickly deferred maintenance and under staffing contribute to a decline in the appearance, usability and safety of the system, despite the good intentions and hard work of employees and volunteers. Illicit activities, illegal camping, overgrown thickets of blackberries, litter, garbage, graffiti, and public safety issues resulted.

With Fall’s arrival, I can look back and say that conditions along the bicycle and pedestrian paths improved significantly during the past two summers. I attribute these changes to the concerted effort of many people as well as the financial investment of Eugene’s taxpayers who resoundingly supported the 2018 Bond and Levy measure. But I want to give a special shout-out to the Parks Watch program, the Park Ambassador program, to you and your team members, and the less visible staff members who empty the trash cans, paint over graffiti, clean the restrooms and answer the phones when we call to report something that needs attention.

Thank you, Joe, and employees of Parks and Open Spaces. Keep up the good work.”

– *Mike Anderson*



