



PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

Milwaukie Parks and Recreation Board | 6101 SE Johnson Creek Blvd, Milwaukie, OR 97206

Members

Ben Johnson (Chair), Ali Feuerstein (Vice-Chair), Heather Baskerville (Acting Secretary), Gary Klein, Sabina Spencer, Virginia Pai, Martín Alvarez, Councilor Desi Nicodemus

NCPRD Staff: Heather Koch, Planning and Development Manager

Milwaukie Staff: Natalie Rogers, Climate and Natural Resources Manager (PARB Liaison), Adam Moore, Parks Development Coordinator, Peter Passarelli, Public Works Director

AGENDA: February 22, 2023 | 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. | Online Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81127343773>

4:30 – 4:35	Welcome (Minutes to review next meeting)	Ben
4:35 – 4:40	Public Comment (General)	Ben
4:40 – 4:50	NCPRD Updates	Heather
4:50 – 5:00	City Updates	City Staff
5:00 – 5:15	PARB Meeting Locations	Natalie
5:15 – 5:30	PARB 2023 Goal Update	All
5:30 – 6:00	Park Development Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• State of Oregon Local Government Grant for Scott Park - Letter of Support• Metro Nature in Neighborhood Grant – Pre-Application	Adam

PARB GOALS – 2022

Engagement: Invite and track participation from marginalized community members and community-based organizations or stakeholders/jurisdictions in park events and planning

Engagement: Find or create outreach materials to increase awareness of park presence and amenities for community members

PARB Administration: Add an equity and inclusion goal/statement in the upcoming PARB bylaws by the end of 2022

PARB Administration: Define how to track PARB annual goal data in monthly minutes

Sustainability: Learn more about food forests and edible landscaping/community gardens in parks

Advocacy: Advocate for a 'destination playground' for universal ability play



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Present Members : Ben Johnson, Virginia Pai, Ali Feuerstein, Martín Alvarez, Heater Gates, Councilor Desi Nicodemus

NCPRD Staff: Heather Koch, Planning and Development Manager

City Staff: Natalie Rogers (Climate and Natural Resources Manager), Adam Moore (Parks Development Coordinator), Sasha Freeman (Administrative Specialist)

November 16, 2022 | 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. | Zoom Meeting

PARB meeting on 11/23 rescheduled to 11/16 for Thanksgiving Holiday

Review October Minutes – No Comments

Update from NCPRD's Director Report

City Updates – December 2022/January 2023 meeting

- Motion to tentatively cancel December meeting unless council does not approve park plans. If council does not approve plans, PARB will meet on December 21. Motion passed.

Scott Park

- Parking concerns
 - Bus and street parking available
 - Park area too small for additional parking
 - Potential to create access from old Nelson's Nautilus parking lot in the future
- Play area remains undecided
 - Will be accessible
 - Will be made of natural materials (wood, metal, etc)

Bowman-Brae

- Request for more trees on north side of park
 - Currently not in the budget
- Request for shade trees around stormwater swale
- Concern that existing tree in south corner near drop-off area will cause accessibility challenges on path
 - Design will take into consideration path on both sides of tree
- Can we add a community garden to Bowman-Brae?

- Bowman-Brae is a good location for a community garden
- Community response in surveys suggests local residents were not interested in a community garden in this location
- Community gardens can be added later
- What will fences look like?
 - Planning team hasn't reached that level of detail
 - Area along Bowman Street will not be fenced

Balfour

- How will increased demand for Balfour affect our climate goals?
 - The water feature is not enough to make Balfour a destination park
 - Street project will make this area highly walkable/bikeable
- Concern the water in the water feature will become stagnant
 - Water table may hold some rainwater and may need surveillance for moss
- What color will the drinking fountain be?
 - One of the Milwaukie branded colors
 - Work with neighborhood association and PARB to choose
- Can we remove a tree to make room for the community garden?
 - City council is not in favor of removing a tree
 - Stakeholder letter did not address removing a tree, instead focused on finding space elsewhere
- Can the proposed new fruit tree east of the walking path be traded for a community garden?
 - This fruit tree was a response to community requests for more fruit trees
 - There is limited area in the park to add more trees
 - The grading in the area would make it difficult to place a community garden there
 - The area is very small for a community garden
- Will the irrigation on site run through the center of the park?
 - Has not been decided
- Most people in the Ardenwald-Johnson Creek neighborhood are not aware that the community garden has been removed from the plans
 - Neighborhood association meeting will take place on November 28
 - Adam will attend to answer questions
- Will the concrete be permeable?
 - Yes
- Cherry trees
 - Milwaukie arborist has identified as sweet cherry
 - Sweet cherry trees have a short lifespan and are an invasive species
 - Concern about plans for the trees as they reach the end of their life
- Will the Balfour Street improvements improve the whole street?
 - Yes
- Can a sand play area be added near the water feature?
 - This was an original request from the neighborhood
 - Play sand can be slippery on concrete, creating accessibility concerns



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NCPRD Staff: Heather Koch, (Planning and Development Manager)

City Staff: Natalie Rogers (Climate and Natural Resources Manager), Adam Moore (Parks Development Coordinator), Peter Passarelli, (Public Works Director)

January 25, 2023 | 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. | Zoom Meeting

Minutes for November meeting will be adopted at Feb meeting.

NCPRD Updates:

Heather gave updates on NCPRD programs/projects. DAC meeting page on the district website has more information.

- Lunar new year celebration was a big success, a lot of attendees (800!) who participated in a multi-cultural event that celebrated community. Heather gave an update on NCPRD asset development, including building out the NCPRD team.
- A strategy process on governance/funding is kicking off, including ballot measures if publicly supported, will be discussed in this process. This will include considerations for city leaving the district or proceeding together.
- Long-range planning process (18-mo effort) including community engagement will start taking place.
- Metro bond and local share process is being moved through, including a request to apply for local share money from Metro for a limited effort at Concord Elementary school plus a community driven process to use the remaining funds which will remain, including Milwaukie Bay Park development.
- Concord community park development including discussions on the library at large will begin in May/June, with a big effort on the park design including playground design and construction timelines. on the play spaces will be in 2023.
- Jennings lodge project in partnership with elementary school will start engagement in February.
- Next NCPRD packet with Gantt chart/ details on projects will be released next week.

City Updates:

Peter gave updates on the ongoing city project exploring leaving the parks district.

- Last November, the city held a townhall to discuss the parks process and financial resources that are necessary to manage and operate parks in the city. In the meeting there was a discussion on putting on a ballot measure in February/march, which last council deferred to the new sitting council. The city asked a judge to evaluate a mechanism to leave the district in the existing IGA. Delays in Judge assignment and question about court processes means that the city/district is still waiting on the determination.
- At the Feb 14th city council study session will feature a discussion on the park options and system development charges. PARB is invited to join or listen in. Following the council study session, the February 21st council regular session will be including a discussion on whether a May ballot initiative is to be added. In March there will be another community event/town hall.
- Adam and Natalie gave a brief update on the restoration projects happening around Milwaukie Bay Park. Natalie will invite the watershed councils to attend future meetings to give overviews on the city projects.

PARB Goals Discussion:

The group discussed the 2023 goals for PARB and whether to amend the existing goals or create new ones. Natalie mentioned that since we still don't know what the future holds for parks in Milwaukie, PARB may need to be flexible in agendas and group focus. The group was supportive of keeping the goals, particularly the emphasis on equity. The ideas of focusing on parks naming on the three developing parks, holding a learning session about community parks, and increasing awareness and visibility of PARB were supported by the group. PARB liked the idea of having the above ideas as tactics to implement the existing PARB goals. Natalie said she would bring the amended list of goals to the February PARB meeting.

Park Development Update:

Adam gave a brief update to PARB on the ongoing development of Balfour, Bowman Brae, and Scott Parks. Adam shared that the concept plans had been approved by Council in December, and now staff, engineers and consultants are working on the land use applications and design. There will be a spring meeting with the planning commission (Mid-May) to go over the applications. We're currently on track to break ground on the parks start of 2024, but we may need to explore all the wants for play spaces in the parks. City currently looking at grant applications and will ask PARB to submit a letter of support. Martín, Desi, Virginia, and Gary volunteered to help.

PARB asked about the easement at B+B park. Adam shared that the city has been doing its foundational work to potentially gain ownership of the property strip. Without knowing more details the city will need to inform the community as things are solidified.

Proposed 2023 PARB Goals (not adopted):

Existing: Engagement: Invite and track participation from marginalized community members and community-based organizations or stakeholders/jurisdictions in park events and planning

Increase inclusion of historically marginalized communities and community participation in parks projects, resources, and activities

- *Track demographics in city-led parks outreach and engagement where possible and discuss opportunities with staff to expand participation in marginalized communities*
- *Advocate for equitable park naming policies and participate in future park renaming efforts*

Existing: Engagement: Find or create outreach materials to increase awareness of park presence and amenities for community members

Increase community awareness of park resources and benefits

- *Find or create outreach materials to increase awareness of park presence and amenities for community members*
- *Find or create outreach materials to increase awareness of PARB as a community resource*

Existing: PARB Administration: Define how to track PARB annual goal data in monthly minutes

Revisit goals in PARB meetings and actions

- *Identify strategy to track progress of PARB annual goals in PARB meetings*

Existing: Sustainability: Learn more about food forests and edible landscaping/community gardens in parks

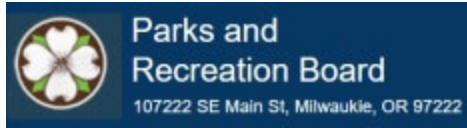
Learn more about sustainable landscaping and farming practices and programs in parks

- *Coordinate or attend presentations on sustainable landscaping and farming practices, including food forests and community garden programs in the region.*

Existing: Advocacy: Advocate for a 'destination playground' for universal ability play

Advocate for equitable play opportunities in parks

- *Explore opportunities and advocate for a 'destination playground' for universal ability play in future park development projects by submitting testimony or letters of support*



Feb 14, 2023

Oregon Parks and Recreation
Local Government Grant Program
725 Summer St. NE Suite C
Salem, OR 97301

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of park users throughout Milwaukie, the Parks and Recreation Board extends its strongest support possible for the City of Milwaukie's grant application for the Scott Park Development Project.

Our members worked with the City of Milwaukie's newly formed Equity Steering Committee and city staff to develop a public involvement plan to reduce the barriers of participation from historically marginalized groups in our community. Over the course of eight months residents from across Milwaukie and our Urban Growth Management Area participated in developing the 2022 Concept Plan for Scott Park included in this application. Thanks to this approach over 300 people participated in the planning process with 289 surveys submitted in person or online with 30% of those surveys coming from people new to the Milwaukie planning process and 13% of surveys from people who identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC).

Based on the direction of our City Council to further meet city-wide goals of Equity and Inclusion, this project also utilized a series of focus groups that convened People with Disabilities, our Spanish Speaking community, and people who identify as BIPOC. These personal conversations helped develop the amenities in the concept plan and will guide the city in how best to activate the park in an inclusive manner once constructed.

We are especially excited by this grant opportunity as it will allow us to fully meet our community's vision for the park and for us to achieve one of our Board's goals to develop the first universally accessible playground in Milwaukie. Given it is located one block from Trimet Transit Center, next door to the popular Ledding Library and the Spring Creek Ponds, and the fact that this park will offer the only public play features in our rapidly growing downtown, Scott Park represents an excellent opportunity to provide both an inclusive playground with a unitary safety surface, sensory-based play elements, and nature-based play features all in single accessible park.

We eagerly await the review committee's decision on this grant application and thank you for time in reviewing our city's application to bring inclusive play and accessible features to Milwaukie!

Best Regards,

Name, Title

Milwaukie Parks and Recreation Board