



**Culturally Specific Focus Groups/Listening Sessions  
Budget Themes Executive Summary  
December 2017**

The feedback summaries below are based on information gathered from 11 separate data sources (listed on page 2) collected from 2015 to the present. These sources included listening sessions, focus groups, and surveys, it should be noted that these data sources employed different methodologies, approaches, and questions when gathering information. Close to 400 respondents were involved in the collection of this data. The respondents are primarily from culturally specific and immigrant communities that have historically been underserved. The respondents include individuals from Bhutanese, Iraqi, Myanmar, Tongan, Somali, Latina, African-American, Asian Pacific Islander, Slavic and Spanish speaking communities.

**Safety –**

The general term “safety” and lighting in parks are the most mentioned. Homelessness, needles, racially motivated attacks, and keeping dogs separate are specific examples of the importance of safety.

- All data sources mentioned safety in some capacity.
- Safety was identified as a major theme for 8 data sources.

Conclusion: An investment in the safety of these communities when visiting parks is desired and needed to feel welcome.

**Culturally Responsive –**

Having signage and other informational materials translated, the designing and building of parks reflective of multiple cultures, and creating programs & events that are specific to varied cultural traditions.

- Being culturally responsive was spontaneously brought up although no questions were specifically asked.
- Identified as a major theme in 7 data sources.

Conclusion: Being culturally responsive and equitable is what will connect these communities to PP&R. There is an agreement amongst these communities that there is a lack of programs and designs that reflect their culture, and a gap in information because of language.

**Basic Amenities –**

Bathrooms that are clean and open year-round, and drinking water/fountains were the two basic amenities repeatedly mentioned.

- All data sources mentioned basic amenities in some capacity, except Recreation Community Interest Survey which did not ask about amenities.
- Identified as a major theme in 5 data sources.



Conclusion: The frequency that basic amenities were mentioned suggests that it is more important than other features.

### **Transportation as a Barrier –**

Transportation was the top barrier that was mentioned in preventing people from getting to parks and accessing services due to lack of a personal car and the cost of public transportation.

- Identified as a theme in 4 data sources, but was mentioned in some capacity in 3 other data sources.

Conclusion: The importance that was put on the proximity to parks suggests that it surpasses the concern for other features such as amenities and being culturally responsive.

### **Access to Parks and Natural Areas –**

Majority of participants expressed enjoying wild life, nature, and the amenities of a park, while wanting to make access to these easier for all.

- Access includes ADA, creating new parks for underserved communities, and keeping parks “free.”
- Identified as a major theme in 4 data sources.

Conclusion: Accessing parks and natural areas is important to these communities, this accessibility must be available to all Portlanders.

### **Data Sources**

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|---|------------------|
| 1. Hacienda CDC and PP&R Partnership Meeting                | 17 November 2015 |
| 2. PP&R Listening Session                                   | 17 November 2016 |
| 3. Phase 1 – Forest Park Entrance and Nature Center Project | September 2016   |
| 4. Phase 2 – Forest Park Entrance and Nature Center Project | August 2017      |
| 5. Recreation Community Interest Survey                     | June 2017        |
| 6. Level of Service – Event and Focus Group                 | 2017             |
| 7. Level of Service – IRCO Focus Group #1                   | 23 October 2017  |
| 8. Level of Service – IRCO Focus Group #2                   | 7 November 2017  |
| 9. Level of Service – IRCO Focus Group #3                   | 14 November 2017 |
| 10. Level of Service – VERDE Focus Group Hacienda           | 18 October 2017  |
| 11. Level of Service – VERDE Focus Group Miraflores         | 19 October 2017  |