



Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) Meeting #1

October 9, 2018, 9:00 – 10:00 AM

City Hall, Rose Room

October 9 Meeting Summary

Agenda

I. Commissioner Fish

Wants to focus the first year on stabilization. He commended the bureau on its hard work and economical approach. Recognizing that the bureau is very stretched and under resourced, he wants to bring calm. He identified the following as his priorities:

- Hire a new director
- Navigate the new budget process, protect core services and avoid new cuts
- Align with BES
- Focus on strategic partnerships

II. What? PP&R Staff provided an overview of the changes to this year's budget and provided information on the role of the BAC. Staff provided the following:

- A high-level overview of Parks Budget over past 5 years
- Public Feedback from past 5 years
- 2019-20 Strategic Plan Goals

The following materials are available online.

- Parks Budget
- Public Feedback
- Strategic plan goals

What now? Discussion with BAC to identify priorities for budgeting

- Where should we prioritize investments?
- What are areas of de-emphasis?
- Other? (solicit questions from Kendall)

For this discussion, investments can be time, staff, money, etc.

Administration

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Nick Fish, Commissioner
Kia Selley, Interim Director



The BAC offered the following questions and comments:

- \$5 million comes from other revenues – where does that come from?
- Define community engagement liaison
- How you tell your story? Strategic plan touches on it - why PP&R is important for a city/vision of a city. How is it a critical component of our vision of a city? How do other departments engage with other components of parks? Not an amenity - it is essential for the city to function. How do you talk about the programs and the work you do and how that contributes to these critical functions? How do we work with schools to make sure that all kids learn to swim? How do you lead this with other community groups and organizations to share this story?
- Need to give Outcome 9 a very high priority. The first outcome is extremely important, need to be clear how that is being spent and that it is being spent wisely.
- Outcome 1, REP but nothing in there that speaks to that. Before improving parks, do outreach to all Portlanders. Increase access.
- Agreement on Outcome 1 - suggests several equity related items – we should always be thinking about equity. Land management/UF has a sense of equity associated to it. Instead of pin pointing equity, every item should have an equity pin point. Steer away from equity as a racial item but about equal participation. REP being tied to strategic plan is not clear/concrete, what outcomes are we looking at and decisions we are making with equity in mind?
- Outcome 2 UF management plan hasn't been updated in a while. Last plan doesn't look at equity. 2.2 tree planting programs provide opportunities for equity.
- Outcome 9 looks like mission, vision, values, and encompasses everything. Ranking would be helpful to have a stronger impact.
- Frame the conversation that Parks is not an amenity but an essential infrastructure for the city. Urban forest canopy cools and cleans the air. Be clear in describing the functions and what urban forests do for us.
- We need to frame parks as infrastructure and essential services. Some overlap in priorities. Some are further down the model. Thinking about prioritizing we can batch them.
- Safety is number one, facilities/infrastructure, staff and community use.
- Look at what we are required to do vs the services that we are being asked to provide. SDC funding for maintenance?

III. Reflection

The BAC was asked to complete an online survey to determine their priorities.

IV. Wrap up