



**Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) Meeting #1**

December 5, 2019

5:30 – 8:30 PM

6<sup>th</sup> & Main Building, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor

**Meeting Outcomes**

- Understand Role of BAC
- Understand financial status of PP&R
  - FY 2019-20 Budget update
  - Mayors budget direction
  - Sustainable Future for Parks
- Affirm BAC Values

**Meeting Notes**

- I. Introductions 5:30 PM  
Director welcome (5 min)

***Director Long Opening Remarks***

***PPR: Budget Advisory Committee Meeting #1***

***December 5, 2019***

*Good evening, it is wonderful to be here with you tonight.*

*I am thankful to all of you for volunteering to be part of the Portland Parks & Recreation Budget Advisory Committee.*

*Your review and feedback on Portland Parks & Recreation's Fiscal Year 2020-21 proposed budget will be an important next step in stabilizing and investing in the future of our park and recreation system.*

*As many of you know, we discovered in last year's budget process that Portland Parks & Recreation suffers from a structural problem in its business model, and that the bureau was facing a multi-million dollar hole in its budget.*

**Administration**

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**PORTLANDPARKS.ORG**

Nick Fish, Commissioner  
Adena Long, Director



*We closed the gap so that the bureau's budget is balanced this year, and we made progress toward stabilizing its business model, but structural problems remain.*

*During last year's budget process, we promised we would come back to the City Council for a fuller conversation about the bureau's future, and we accomplished that last week during a City Council Work Session. You will learn more about the outcomes of that work tonight and how it will inform our annual budget for next year.*

*We heard loud and clear from the Mayor and the City Council that they want Portland Parks & Recreation to develop a strategy to put the bureau on solid, sustainable footing for the next generations of Portlanders.*

*We all recognize that Portland Parks & Recreation is critical to a healthy Portland.*

*The Mayor and Council also acknowledged that the structural challenges at Portland Parks & Recreation cannot be solved by General Fund resources alone, so we will be investigating other new funding sources.*

*Thank you again for sharing your time and talents with us. I look forward to working with you.*

*As I hand this over to my team, I want to say how thankful I am for Commissioner Fish's leadership since I arrived from New York City Parks almost 10 months ago.*

*We love our parks, and we're excited to get to work. I am optimistic about the future.*

Reviewed goal and purpose of tonight's meeting

Introductions:

- Who you are – name affiliation, experience with parks
- What do you want to contribute to this process?

NOTES:

- Bring native voice and voice of waters to process
- Learn and contribute
- Arts community – learn and contribute
- Peter – represents carpentry and wants to help solve PP&R budget problems
- Financial services retiree
- Policy and economic analysis – public health focus for parks
- Landscape architect; collaboration
- Architect/urban designer – parks are civic glue for community
- Ensure community is engaged and served by process

## II. BAC Role and Agreements

- a. Role of the Budget Advisory Committee is to:
  - Adopt/affirm BAC values framework
  - Understand PP&R programs and services
  - Use values framework to provide feedback on budget recommendations
  
- b. Decision-Making
  - Consensus based, focus on problem solving and resolving issues – red, yellow and green cards

**Committee agreed by consensus to use a consensus based decision-making process**

- c. Ground rules
  - PP&R provides draft ground rules – committee adds/edits

**Committee agreed by consensus to use the groundrules provided**

## III. PP&R Budget

- See presentation
 

Question - TPL – what is the typical percentage split of GF vs. revenue, nationwide? This is around idea of recreation needing 50% earned revenue and how that affects stability of org and structural gap. The “typical” percentage split of General Fund vs. Revenue is dependent on the types of parks and recreation services that are provided. For instance, park systems that have a portfolio with

natural areas and parks only are less fee dependent, while systems with recreation services and community centers are more fee dependent.

Participants then broke into small groups and discussed the information received. They shared significant observations and questions.

NOTES:

- Discussed the amount of deferred maintenance, how much and does the cost increase over time
  - Yes, the cost increases over time. PP&R currently has approximately \$450 million in deferred maintenance
- Mayoral directive on breaking down silos – how does the timing of this line up with this year’s budget? Bureaus are doing this on an ongoing basis – even outside the budget process
- Is the 15% of city’s land – of land mass (developed and undeveloped) – it is 15% of all land within the city
- Group discussed what is making people feel unsafe
- Lots of talk about trees
- Interested in service disparities; shocked about 21% tree canopy in East Portland
- Funding alternatives – what is the process to explore alternatives?
- Community Centers – impossible to register for certain things. Specific questions about scenario 2 and 3?
- Liked that we showed impacts on people of color and East Portland Columbia Pool – we must maintain access to water for that community.
- Scenario 3 is where we want to go

Break

6:50 PM

IV. BAC Values Framework

EKW

7:30 PM

Committee members worked in small groups to edit values framework provided in BAC letter to Mayor Wheeler last year (FY 19/20)

NOTES:

GROUP 1: making values more aspirational; mental health and wellness, biodiversity – more than for just human users; employee retention/recruitment; good quality jobs for a diverse workforce;

Values – high level budget values

Group 2: what will 15-30 year impact fulfillment budget have on communities getting new assets/resources – gentrification/displacement; additional lens

Inverted order of priorities – paragraph D – struck girls and young women and related it with building healthy comms; lead off statement (e is now a) see notes

More strategic in how we phrased it.

- |     |                        |               |         |
|-----|------------------------|---------------|---------|
| V.  | Wrap up and next steps | Director Long | 8:15 PM |
| VI. | Adjourn                |               | 8:30 PM |