



Portland Parks & Recreation Budget Advisory Committee

BAC Meeting Notes

Thursday, December 19, 2019

Director Welcome

- **Adena:** Welcome and thank you. We have a lot of work to do, and we are grateful for your time.

BAC Values Framework

The BAC agreed by consensus to adopt the on “Priorities, Values, “We Believe...” statement.” Three yellow cards displayed during Values portion.

FY 20-21 Budget Review – “Where are we now?” presentation (Claudio Campuzano):

- No cuts being asked of bureaus by Mayor and City Council
- 50% match needed on any requests for new funding of new items
- \$5 million in one-time funds available citywide
- Scenarios:
 - Scenario 1 (decline): Taken off the table by Council
 - Scenario 2 (maintain)
 - Scenario 3 (fulfill)
 - Add info from power point

Division Programs and Budgets (Todd):

Equity & Inclusion: Racial Equity Plan Goals

1. Change existing services within the bureau using racial equity best practices.
 2. End disparities in hiring and promotions.
 3. Strengthen outreach and engagement for communities of color and refugee and immigrant communities.
 4. Increase access to culturally and linguistically responsive services.
 5. Provide equitable access to all residents.
 6. Meet or exceed City contracting goals for Minority Business Enterprises (MBE).
- Regardless of funding levels, E&I will be prioritized

Administration

1120 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 1302
Portland, Oregon 97204
503-823-7529 | Fax 503-823-6007

PORTLANDPARKS.ORG

Nick Fish, Commissioner
Adena Long, Director



Assets & Development:

- **What A&D does:** Assess, Plan, Design, Construct, Renovate, and Maintain
- **A&D 2019-20 Budget:**
 - \$165 million budget
 - Includes \$143 in Capital construction
 - 6% of budget is personal
 - 89.5 FE
- **A&D Risks:**
 - Insufficient staff for operations and maintenance of assets and facilities
 - \$450 million in deferred maintenance
 - Highly competitive construction market
- **A&D Priorities:**
 - DMWESBV contracting
 - Prioritize equity in Capital Project selection
 - Asset condition assessment
 - ADA program (\$1 mil)
 - Capital set aside opportunities
 - Metro bond measure funding (for new construction or needed repairs on trails and natural areas – not community center opportunities)
 - 6 different goal areas (local shares or local parks dist, trails, urban development, acquisition and maintaining Metro parks, area for non-profits to apply for grant opportunities)
 - All projects and dollars must be approved by Metro

Urban Forestry:

- **What Urban Forestry does:** Urban Forest Management Plan; Community tree awareness and stewardship; Tree policies and programs; Permits for planting, pruning, and removal of public and some private trees; and Respond to tree emergencies
- **UF 2019-20 Budget:**
 - \$6.8 million budget
 - Includes Title 11 Trust Fund transfers
 - 78% of budget is personnel
 - 44 FTE
- **UF Risks:**
 - Inequitable access to trees
 - Lack of maintenance means limb failure, risk to park users, and premature tree loss
 - Insufficient Title 11 Tree Code staffing
 - Cost of street tree maintenance is a barrier to addressing inequities
 - Supervisory capacity below best practices

- **UF Priorities:**
 - Supervisory capacity
 - Tree planting strategy
 - Division Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Plan
 - Permanent staff hiring
 - Urban Forestry Commission
 - Language Access Plan
- **UF Additional Notes:**
 - 56% canopy cover on West side / 21% canopy cover on the East side (east side has a lower canopy cover than the city of Los Angeles)
 - Street tree maintenance could be taken on by City of Portland
 - Operations would be a first likely addition with additional funds
 - PGE operates with a programmatic permit (minimal charge) -- They are very focused on keeping the lines clear, and nothing else.
 - There is some cost sharing with PBOT. PP&R bills PBOT for work, and other bureaus hires UF to provide tree services.

Recreation Services Division:

- **What Recreation Services does:** Arts and Culture, Community Centers, Sports and Aquatics, Strategies and Initiatives, Recreation Support Services, Golf and PIR
- **Recreation Services Budget:**
 - 45.4 million
 - Includes General, Golf and PIR Funds (*golf and PIR funded differently*)
 - 65% of budget is personnel
 - 223 permanent position
 - 194 FTE
- **Recreation Services Risks:**
 - Revenue growth does not match expense growth
 - Deferred and ongoing maintenance
 - Aquatics staffing shortage
 - Equitable access
- **Recreation Services priorities**
 - Focus on optimizing revenues
 - Continue to prioritize available resources: Teen Program, Adaptive and Inclusive Recreation, Senior Programs, Summer Free For All
 - Sustainable operations for Multnomah Art Center and Community Music Center
 - Plan for north Portland aquatics
- **Recreation Service Additional Notes:**
 - Q: Is there a way to articulate how the cuts and reductions are impacting and low-income households?

- A: We will again be collecting voluntary demographic information at Rec registration – This is vital in capturing this information.
- Bonnie: The CJCC Aquatics initiative is of vital importance. This was a priority of the 19-20 BAC. We need to close the gap in the amount of time between a closure of Columbia Pool and the realization of a CJCC Aquatics facility.
- We need to continue prioritizing available resources (Teen Program, AIR, Senior Programs, Summer Free For All)

Land Stewardship

- **What Land Stewardship does:** Parks and natural area stewardship, Community Gardens, Environmental Education, Integrated Pest Management, Youth Conservation Crew, Public Gardens
- **Land Stewardship Budget:**
 - \$23.3 million budget
 - 70% of budget is personnel
 - 142 FTE
- **Land Stewardship Risks:**
 - Less parks maintenance staff than 10 years ago
 - Deferred and ongoing maintenance
 - Necessary equipment and vehicles for staff
- **Land Stewardship priorities**
 - Appropriate number of vehicles for staff
 - Appropriate watering of shrubs and trees
 - Additional park technician staff for East Portland parks
 - BES & PP&R Natural Area collaboration
- **Land Stewardship Additional Notes:**
 - Fewer PP&R Maintenance staff than 10 years ago
 - Large reduction in seasonal workers
 - Friends Groups and volunteer have stayed steady and have not “replaced” any PP&R staff
 - Why no mention of YCC and other youth initiatives?
 - Possibility of private funding for these programs (like SFFA)

Operations & Strategies Division

- **What Operations & Strategies does:** Sustainable future; Finance, technology, property & business development; Strategic planning and data analytics; Community relations – marketing, community engagement, volunteers, partnerships; Workforce development; Health, safety, security and transportation
 - Team driving social and environmental change

- **Operations & Strategies Division Budget**
 - \$21.5 million budget, includes bureau inter-agreements and pass-throughs to PP&R partners.
 - 87.8 FTE
- **Operations & Strategies Division Risks:**
 - Minimal staffing levels for organization's size:
 - Training
 - Health, Safety and Environment
 - Park Ranger Program
 - Marketing and communications
 - Technology
 - Need a sustainable services and financial plan
- **Operations & Strategies Division Priorities:**
 - Sustainable Future
 - Optimize business support functions
 - Equitable growth with System Development Charge funds
 - Technology: Enterprise Asset Management
 - Maximize volunteers, philanthropy, partnerships

PP&R Base Budget: Risks

- Operation and Maintenance for new parks and facilities
- Funding gap for program funded positions and expenses
- Non-represented merit increases are unfunded
- No contingency for large, dynamic budget
- Columbia Pool closure – lack of operating funds and major maintenance funds

Applying Values Framework (Discussion and activity: Break-out groups were asked to review the two lists below, and identify alignment and conflict in the BAC values and priorities and PP&R budget priorities under consideration)

- **Budget Advisory Committee values and priorities:**
 - Equity, inclusion, and accessibility
 - Employee physical and emotional safety
 - Maintenance of assets
 - Positive, affordable, and relevant experiences that promote the well-being of *all* Portlanders
 - Financial sustainability
 - Climate resiliency

- **PP&R Budget priorities under consideration:**
 - Operation and Maintenance for new parks and facilities
 - Major Maintenance
 - Sustainable Future
 - Urban Forestry Supervisor
 - Land Stewardship vehicles
 - Recreation Coordinator Marketing position
 - Watering budget increase
 - BES & PP&R Natural Areas
 - Land Stewardship Park Tech East Portland
 - Columbia Pool staying open

Report Back

- **Group 1**
 - **Most alignment:**
 - Operations and Maintenance for new parks and facilities
 - Major maintenance of assets
 - Sustainable Future
 - Columbia pool
 - **Most conflict:**
 - Three individual PP&R positions (Urban Forestry Supervisor, Rec Coordinator Marketing, and Land Stewardship Park Technician (East Portland))
- **Group 2:**
 - **Most alignment:**
 - Operations and Maintenance for new parks and facilities
 - Major maintenance of assets
 - Sustainable Future
 - **Most conflict:** Need more information about the BES & PPR collaboration
- **Group 3:**
 - **Most alignment:**
 - Operations and Maintenance for new parks and facilities
 - Major maintenance of assets
 - **Most conflict:**
 - Watering budget (did not seem align with climate resiliency)
 - Three individual PP&R positions (Urban Forestry Supervisor, Rec Coordinator Marketing, and Land Stewardship Park Technician (East Portland))
- **Group 4:**
 - **Most alignment:**
 - All would be good if the necessary funding were there. Needed more information – Struggled w/o more context –

- **Most conflict:**
 - Operations and Maintenance for new parks and facilities (Why are we building new facilities w/o funding to maintain?)

What does BAC need to know by next meeting?

- Tease out relationships (of budget priorities) to BAC values
- Can we change the SDC rules?
- Formulate FAQ for Columbia Pool
- Answering the “Why”
- Budget numbers would help with scope
- Integrate relation of climate resiliency to priorities
- Define impacts of each priority (# of FTE’s, what do we lose if it’s not funded?)

Wrap-up

- Adena: Thank you for your input and the direction on what you need when we meet next.
- Next BAC meeting: Thursday, January 9, 2020 5:30pm-8:30pm at APANO