

camp style programs, more small indoor options, outdoor sports are open and adult classes will resume at the Art Station. Mr. Mercer said the challenges are understanding maximum indoor capacity. He said the district would like to get through two periods of orange or better to ensure that facilities do not close and is targeting the first of April to open Larkspur Center, he added that staff will have more internal discussions. He said it is great to see staff back working and welcoming back the public.

2. Comprehensive Plan – Level of Service Update – Sarah Bodo and Henry Stroud

Ms. Bodo gave an overview of level of service (LOS) as a quantitative tool used to measure park acres, trails and miles per 1,000 residents. She said it is updated annually and staff uses the watershed analysis to update the LOS. She reviewed the population in 2019 and 2020 and spoke about the estimated growth through 2028 which is projected to grow to just under 115,000.

Mr. Stroud spoke about the trail user count and said that total users has increased by 23 percent in the last year with only one trail showing a decrease, the South Canyon loop. He explained that use may have declined due to one-way traffic and people choosing less crowded trails.

Mr. Stroud showed the following slide that explains the three categories of the LOS:

Category	Target Per 1,000	2019 LOS	2020 LOS	Current Need
Neighborhood + Community Parks	7.85	7.76	→ 7.67	17 acres
Regional Park	10.0	12.3	→ 12.1	0 acres
Trails	1.0	0.8	→ 0.9	6 miles

Mr. Stroud spoke about the LOS metrics in more detail:

Neighborhood and Community Parks

Current = 7.76 (target 7.85)

- 17 acres needed

Recently Completed

- Pacific Crest Athletic Fields (5.5 ac)

Upcoming Projects

- Goodrich Park (2.5 ac)
- Alpenglow Park (37 ac)
- Northpointe Park (2.0 ac)
- Discovery Park Expansion (5.7 ac)
- Shevlin West (3.5 ac)

With the addition of parks that are about to begin construction, Mr. Stroud estimated the LOS data will exceed goals over the next two years, but with the projected growth it will not be met in 2023-2026 without acquiring more acreage.

Regional Parks

LOS = 12.3 (target 10.0)

Current Need = 0 ac

Recently Completed

- Riley Ranch Nature Reserve (180 ac)

Upcoming Projects

- No need before 2028

Mr. Stroud commented that there is no current need, but staff will be thinking about where the next regional park may be planned for the future.

Trails

LOS = 0.9 (target 1.00)

Current Need = 6 mi

Recently Completed

- Westgate + Manzanita Trails (1.56 mi)
- Discovery Park (0.4 mi)
- Empire Road Extension (1.18 mi)
- Upcoming Projects
- Discovery West Single Track (1.22 mi)
- North Unit @ Petrosa (0.4 mi)
- Canal Row Park Connection (0.1 mi)
- Alpenglow Park Connections (0.3 mi)
- Manzanita Trail (0.71 mi)

Mr. Stroud said the current CIP has identified around 6.6 miles total (trails) in district projects and staff has factored in another five miles that will be built by private developers during this same timeframe.

Mr. Stroud reviewed the walkshed analyses, he said it evaluates the spatial distribution of parks and trails and helps prioritize projects to ensure assets are spread equitably throughout the district. The walkshed is calculated using geographic information system (GIS) data for distance and then analyzed for physical barriers. The data shows that 49 percent of the district residents live within a park walkshed. As park and trail planning becomes increasingly focused on equity, staff is exploring ways this tool can be used, combined with other data, to make better decisions regarding district project work. The trail walkshed identified that 36 percent of district residents live within a trail walkshed.

Mr. Stroud explained that staff is working on a new [BPRD data portal](#) developed to understand demographics, he reviewed all the data that can be considered on the portal and is anticipating more current information with the census update. In addition, staff is working with a team of stakeholders from other local agencies on equity mapping.

The board asked about collaboration opportunities that are available to fill in gaps in the transportation system for walking and biking. Mr. Stroud responded that staff is working hard to collaborate with the city to build a cohesive network and worked with the city as part of the Transportation System Plan (TSP) update on their planned network and how it works with district trails.

Executive Director Horton commented that it is worthwhile for staff to serve on city committees to provide input on crossings and connections in the TSP.

Mr. Stroud expanded on the desire of the staff to have a better understanding of how various groups use the trails and facilities and accommodating that use. He said that this is part of the diversity,

equity and inclusion project in the district. This information can help make project and design decisions for future projects.

The board asked how density may impact park resources. Ms. Healy responded that the measure that the district uses of acres per thousand will no longer be valid, this is the reason the district began focusing on the ½ mile walkshed. Some parks will be more crowded with density and may have to look at other types of open spaces. Executive Director Horton said that with density the district will be required to work with more partners to create parks in developments. The district LOS is likely to drop as a result. He added that a compact community is cheaper to build but more expensive to add parks.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes 01/19/2021

Director Schoenborn made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Director Kropf seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

BUSINESS SESSION

1. Shevlin West Purchase and Sale Agreement Approval – *Henry Stroud and Michelle Healy (15 min)*

Mr. Stroud described the location of the park and reviewed some of the information from a prior presentation. He said there is a lot of active development in the area. The park is located in an area in need of a park and said there are 1500 people living within a half mile. The plan for the park development is as follows:

Street Improvements

- Street, sidewalk, and utility connections will be constructed by developer
- BPRD will pay the seller the cost of the improvements from the road centerline to the property line
- Total cost is \$147,287, quantities based on roadway plans included in purchase and sale agreement

Overview

- BPRD is seeking to acquire 3.5 acres of land near Shevlin Park to facilitate development of a neighborhood park
- Staff have negotiated the sale of the property from Empire Shevlin LLC to BPRD for \$147,287

The district has allocated \$1.4 million in the CIP for development of this park with design beginning in summer of 2022 and park completion in 2024.

Director Méndez shared some concerns about equitable park locations. He gave a presentation on the surrounding number of people per acre in this area compared to the area around Providence Park on the east side of Bend and pointed out that the density is much greater around Providence Park. Director Mendez suggested putting a pause on projects in these types of neighborhoods (Shevlin West) until equity is better integrated into the park search analysis.

Ms. Healy explained that this search area was added to include ½ mile access for all residents to have access to a park, regardless of density. This area is part of the expansion of the UGB, and an adopted need in the comprehensive plan. Staff has been working with the developer of this property for over two years. She said density does create a disparity, and it is challenging to say that 1500 people do not deserve a park. This land is free to the district and Providence Park land and development was costly, and stated there is more to consider in the projects.

Mr. Stroud acknowledged the concerns that were shared and reviewed the park walkshed map that show six park search areas on the east side. He said these are identified because of the knowledge that dense growth is going to happen here. He said there is a flurry of development on the west side and it is almost done and the district needs to take advantage of the available land because it will be too difficult to acquire it later after all the building has occurred. He added that in the denser areas, there is no further land to provide parks because they were not planned in the beginning.

Executive Director Horton stated that the district is collecting about \$4 million in SDC fees for the homes in this development (Shevlin West) and the district is only spending about \$1.4 million for the park and the rest will be used in other areas of town. He said not building parks in the areas where the SDCs are collected could create a bigger problem for the district over time.

The board engaged in a discussion about the challenges of equity. Director Kropf asked when this decision could have been made prior to this point. Executive Director Horton replied that this decision was made at the time the comprehensive plan was approved. He added that this specific area has been discussed in executive session and no concerns were raised. He reiterated that by not acting on parks when communities are being built risks not providing a park for that community and all residents should have parks to use.

The board shared that they be interested in what the district LOS looks like under an equity lens taking into consideration the effects of density. Some board members expressed that the district must serve all residents, including people that live on the west side in less dense areas. The board agreed that this project should move forward under the circumstances. The board expressed interest in staff taking a larger look at inequities systemwide.

Executive Director Horton said that the development strategy is led by the comprehensive plan. This plan took two years with a full-time staff member, a consultant and robust community participation. He said if the board wants to change the comprehensive plan direction, it will take a lot of staff time and will take away key staff from developing parks and trails. He said to change the model, there needs to be thoughts about how to include the public. He said there is middle ground on this to take a look at equity. New tools are available that were not created when the plan was adopted. Even with a shift, he said he does not see that parks should not be put in neighborhoods with bigger lots. He added that he did not think the community would support this, but stated that staff can look for strategies aimed at equity.

Mr. Stroud said staff is constantly exploring using data to make better decisions. He said he does not see some of these issues as an either/or, the park search areas identify need in the higher density areas. The walkshed is aimed at serving all Bend residents and it is a lofty goal to have all of the community within a ½ mile of a park. He agreed that it would be nice if areas with a stronger need presented opportunities first, but that doesn't mean that the district should give

up good opportunities that make for good planning. He added that the comments shared tonight can be incorporated into further decision making.

Director Schoenborn made a motion to authorize the executive director to negotiate and execute a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Empire Shevlin LLC for the acquisition of 3.5 +/- acres of property for an amount not to exceed \$147,287, plus all related closing, legal and due diligence costs. Director Schoen seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

2. Smallwood Property Annexation – Sarah Bodo (10 min)

Ms. Bodo asked for the annexation of a 100-acre property at Pacific Heights Road on the north end of Bend. She said there is a 10-lot subdivision being planned for development and the county code requires district annexation to approve the subdivision; in addition, the property owner is requesting it. She said that in 2018 the board approved an annexation policy. This policy asks the board to approve annexations on a case by case basis. The property is within urban reserve area, adjacent to the district boundary, and in close proximity to parks and trails.

Director Méndez made a motion to adopt resolution No. 2021-02 authorizing annexation of a 100-acre property including map tax lot number 1712070000501 to the district. Director Schoenborn seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Executive Director Horton asked for a volunteer from the board to serve as a liaison for the foundation, Director Schoen volunteered to serve.
- The emergency COVID policy passed last spring has expired that allows for the Executive Director to approve some items. He said staff is getting vaccinated for COVID and some part-time staff may need some time off for the side effects. Some of this staff may not have sick time to use and he would like to be able to approve paid time off for COVID side effects. He said he would like to bring the emergency policy to the board at the next meeting.
- The DEI focus group meeting with the board is scheduled for March 15, 10 am-11:30 am, he told the board that the email about this was sent to them this morning.
- The 15-unit development for Veterans Village is underway. He said he will bring a resolution to waive SDC fees for this project to the board at the next meeting.
- A board volunteer is needed to serve on the fish passage committee. Director Hovekamp agreed to serve.

PROJECT REPORT

BOARD MEETINGS CALENDAR REVIEW

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Director Kropf said he is pleased to see the COVID numbers going down and trending in the right direction.
- Director Méndez spoke about the power outages in Oregon and remarked that it makes him think about the government's role in tackling the tough issues. He commented about the importance of government and said he is proud to serve.

- Director Schoen said she looks forward to the discussion on the legislative update. She said she appreciates the conversations tonight and that equity was brought up in every presentation. Stating that everyone is on the right track by talking about it; she added that staff and the board should be acknowledged for bringing it up.
- Director Schoenborn commented that he is looking forward to meeting face to face. He complimented the trail maintenance staff, calling them more than outstanding. He said he wants the staff at park services to know how much he appreciates their work.
- Director Hovekamp said Collective Impact Bend may need another board member to rotate in and he wanted the board to have this on the radar. Executive Director Horton said the group is now figuring out what the priorities are going to be: DEI, homelessness and active transportation may be the top priorities.

Director Hovekamp commented that the district has processes and documents (comp plan) and asked respectfully of staff, when the time is right, to remind the board when the opportunity is right to make changes to these documents. He said he relies on the passion of the board for addressing inequities, fairness, justice and equal access. He said he values the discussions and commented that there is a need to be careful to not speak in a way that puts people in a corner of defensiveness.

ADJOURN 8:43 pm

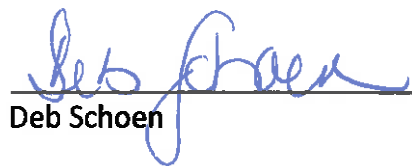


Prepared by,
Sheila Reed
Executive Assistant


Nathan Hovekamp, Chair


Ariel Méndez, Vice-Chair

Jason Kropf


Deb Schoen

Ted Schoenborn

