



Bend Park & Recreation District

October 20, 2026

Board of Directors

Agenda and Reports

www.bendparksandrec.org



play for life



Our Vision

To be a leader in building a community connected to nature, active lifestyles and one another.

Our Mission

To strengthen community vitality and foster healthy, enriched lifestyles through parks, trails and recreation.

Our Community Pledge

To reflect our community, welcome and serve equitably, and operate with transparency and accountability.

We Value

COMMUNITY by interacting in a responsive, considerate and efficient manner to create positive patron experiences and impact in the community.

INCLUSION by reducing physical, social and financial barriers to our programs, facilities and services, and making them more equitable for all.

SAFETY by promoting a safe and healthy environment for all who work and play in our parks, trails, facilities and programs.

STAFF by honoring the diverse contributions of each employee and volunteer, and recognizing them as essential to accomplishing our mission.

SUSTAINABILITY by fostering a balanced approach to fiscal, environmental and social assets to support the health and longevity of the district, the environment and our community.



District Office

799 SW Columbia St., Bend, Oregon 97702 | www.bendparksandrec.org | (541) 389-7275

BUSINESS SESSION

1. District Position Changes in Recreation Services and Planning and Development Departments – *Kathleen Hinman (10 min)*
2. Approve Resolution No. 2026-11 for the Purchase of Real Property Located Off Bear Creek Road– *Sara Anselment (10 min)*
3. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-12 Approving the City of Bend and Bend Park and Recreation District Shared Framework for Advancing Affordable Housing, Recreation Access, Interagency Collaboration, and Community Vitality – *Michelle Healy (10 min)*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

MEETING SUMMARY – 10/6/2026

BOARD MEETINGS CALENDAR

GOOD OF THE ORDER

ADJOURN

Accessible Meeting/Alternate Format Notification

This meeting location is accessible. Sign and other language interpreter services, assistive listening devices, materials in alternate format or other accommodations are available upon advance request. Please contact the Executive Assistant no later than 24 hours in advance of the meeting at nataliem@bendparksandrec.org or 541-706-6151. Providing at least 2 business days' notice prior to the meeting will help ensure availability.

BOARD AGENDA COMMUNICATION

AGENDA DATE:	October 20, 2026
SUBJECT:	Summer Recreation Overview
STAFF RESOURCE:	Michael Egging, Recreation Business Manager
PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:	None
ACTION PROPOSED:	None
STRATEGIC PLAN:	
Priority:	Service
Goal:	Support the recreational needs of an evolving community through programming, parks, trails and facilities
Strategy:	Monitor and adapt programming to meet community needs

BACKGROUND

The Recreation Department has prepared a Summer Recreation Overview Report summarizing community participation, program performance, and facility use during the 2026 summer season. The report provides an overview of the number and demographics of participants served, highlights key trends and accomplishments, and includes data on recreation facility usage, registered program participation, scholarship assistance and facility rentals. Together, these metrics illustrate how community spaces, programs, and services were used throughout the summer.

The report also highlights river recreation services provided through the district's agreement with Tumalo Creek Kayak & Canoe, including rental activity, trail counter data, efforts to promote safe river recreation and reduce congestion, and the status of the partnership. Year-over-year comparisons are included throughout the report to demonstrate changes in participation, community needs and service levels. Staff will present the report and provide additional context on key outcomes, trends and accomplishments from the 2026 summer recreation season.

BUDGETARY IMPACT

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

None

MOTION

None

ATTACHMENT

None

BOARD AGENDA COMMUNICATION

AGENDA DATE:	October 20, 2026
SUBJECT:	Classification, Compensation, and Pay Equity Study Update
STAFF RESOURCE:	Kathleen Hinman, Human Resources Director
PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:	FY 2026-27 Budget approval for project costs.
ACTION PROPOSED:	None
STRATEGIC PLAN:	
Priority:	Team
Goal:	Attract and retain qualified employees at staffing levels that support desired service levels
Strategy:	Implement Findings from the Compensation and Classification Study and Pay Equity Analysis project

BACKGROUND

The district partnered with Trüpp consulting to complete a Classification, Compensation, and Pay Equity Study. Trüpp is finalizing their report, which we plan to present to the board in November. The study focused on evaluating the competitiveness of the district's compensation and benefits programs compared to peer organizations.

The study will provide the district with information to support decisions regarding the design of its total compensation package, helping to attract and retain qualified employees, maintain market competitiveness, promote equitable internal pay, and support long-term workforce stability.

The Pay Equity component of the study evaluates the district's compensation practices for compliance with the Oregon Equal Pay Act, including a review of how employees performing comparable work are compensated relative to one another under the requirements of the law.

The project scope includes:

1. Current state review.
2. Market salary study.
3. Pay equity study.
4. Development of recommendations.
5. Board direction and staff implementation planning.

This work session will provide the board with an overview of the project goals, an opportunity to ask questions about the process, and provide a preview of the compensation-related decisions that will be presented for board direction in November.

BUDGETARY IMPACT

Funding for the implementation of the classification, compensation and pay equity study findings is incorporated into the district's current budget.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

None

MOTION

None

ATTACHMENT

None

BOARD AGENDA COMMUNICATION

AGENDA DATE:	October 20, 2026
SUBJECT:	District Position Changes in Recreation Services and Planning and Development Departments
STAFF RESOURCE:	Kathleen Hinman, Human Resources Director
PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:	Adopted Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget on June 2, 2026
ACTION PROPOSED:	Approve three position changes
STRATEGIC PLAN:	N/A

BACKGROUND

As part of our regular workforce planning and position management practices, leadership at the district routinely reviews organizational structure, staffing levels, and position design to ensure we are meeting both current operational needs as well as planning for future operational needs. These reviews occur on an ongoing basis, in preparation for budget development, and are often conducted when vacancies arise. This provides an opportunity to evaluate whether existing positions remain aligned with organizational priorities, workload demands, and recruitment realities.

In workforce planning, we assess whether adjustments to job classifications, schedules, or organizational structure could better support service delivery, improve operational efficiency, or position to be ready for future growth. These evaluations do not automatically result in changes; rather, they allow us to determine whether the existing position remains the best fit for the district's business needs.

As part of the fiscal year budget, staff proposes to the board the number of full-time equivalents (FTE) by employee type (i.e., full-time, part-time benefited, and part-time non-benefited or seasonal) and department. The district's personnel budget which was approved by the board for this fiscal year is built on these FTE numbers. Based on recent reviews, leadership is bringing forward a few position adjustments for consideration now that impact FTE (either with an increase or by category) in advance of the budgeting process so that we can recruit individuals with the skill sets needed now rather than hiring now based on the current position restraints. These recommendations are intended to strengthen recruitment outcomes, improve organizational effectiveness, and better align staffing resources with current and anticipated operational demands.

The proposals currently under review include:

1. Recreation Services, Events & Rentals Division

Reclassifying a vacant part-time non-benefited Customer Service Specialist II position in the Athletics and Events division to a part-time benefited 30-hour per week Events & Rentals Specialist position. This position will focus on supporting the Rental and Events team, allowing them to centralize all facility rentals and assume responsibility for those at the Pavilion and Larkspur facilities. This will create consistency for rental customers, centralize rental processes, schedule coordination, and customer communication. By centralizing all the facility rentals, the workload will be aligned with the specialist, allowing the facility managers to focus on other facility-related tasks. This change will better support growing facility rental and event coordination needs within Recreation.

2. Recreation Services, Customer Service and Athletics Divisions

Reclassifying an existing part-time benefited 25-hour per week Customer Service Specialist II position in the Customer Service division to a full-time benefited Customer Service Specialist III position that will work approximately three-quarters of their time for Customer Service and one-quarter for Athletics. This change will provide another growth opportunity for staff, additional customer service coverage, and expanded operational support as a lead in Customer Service allowing for seven-day-per-week coverage for call-outs, which currently falls heavily to the Customer Service Supervisor. Additionally, the increase in hours will allow for specific support to the Athletics division supporting scheduling, program registrations, invoicing, facility coordination, and participant communication.

3. Planning and Development Department

Converting a vacant 0.63 FTE benefited Planner position to a full-time Planner (1.0 FTE) position. We are requesting this position adjustment before recruitment begins to fill a vacancy as we forecast the need for different staffing model. Recruiting for a part-time position when the district anticipates the need for full-time can create unnecessary challenges. The increase in FTE will ensure we have adequate resources to complete core district planning functions now as well as be positioned for success in addressing the increasing workload to come. Notably, planning is currently managing 10 property acquisition projects and 2 long range planning efforts with another comprehensive planning process to begin in 2027, which is expected to take two to three years to complete. Recruiting directly for the position configuration that best meets the district's long-term operational needs sets us up for improved recruitment outcomes and reduced turnover risk and costs, creating greater stability for both applicants and the district.

The workforce planning first examines whether operational needs can be met through strategic adjustments to existing position rather than through the addition of new staffing. By reevaluating vacant positions and aligning them with current, and forecasted, operational demands, the district can enhance service levels while managing ongoing personnel costs. This approach allows us to responsibly manage resources and ensure that staffing investments are targeted where they provide the greatest organizational value as well as best support employees.

BUDGETARY IMPACT

1. \$6,000 annual cost increase to reclassify a position to a part-time benefited 30-hour per week Events & Rentals Specialist position. This can be absorbed in this year's Recreation Department budget.

2. \$15,000 annual cost increase to reclassify a position to a full-time benefited Customer Service Specialist III position. This can be absorbed in this year's Recreation Department budget.
3. \$30,000 annual cost increase to convert a position to a full-time Planner position. At this time, this cost can be absorbed in this year's Planning and Development Department budget.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend the board approve the three proposed position changes.

MOTION

I move to approve the following three position changes:

1. **Reclassify a part-time non-benefited Customer Service Specialist II to a part-time, benefited 30-hour per week Events & Rentals Specialist in the Recreation Department.**
2. **Reclassify a part-time, benefited 25-hour per week Customer Service Specialist II to a full-time benefited Customer Service Specialist III position in the Recreation Department.**
3. **Convert a part-time, benefited planner to a full-time planner position in the Planning and Development Department.**

ATTACHMENT

None

BOARD AGENDA COMMUNICATION

AGENDA DATE:	October 20, 2026
SUBJECT:	Approve Resolution No. 2026-11 for the Purchase of Real Property Located Off Bear Creek Road
STAFF RESOURCE:	Sara Anselment, Park Planner
PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:	None – Negotiations previously discussed in Executive Session
ACTION PROPOSED:	Approve Resolution No. 2026-11
STRATEGIC PLAN:	
Priority:	Service
Goal:	Support the recreational needs of an evolving community through programming, parks, trails, and facilities
Strategy:	Maintain adopted levels of service targets for parks, trails, and facilities

BACKGROUND

The district regularly acquires property for new parks in accordance with the comprehensive plan policy recommendation to “focus on providing access to parks within ½ mile of most homes.” The comprehensive plan identifies 41 park search areas which are defined areas within which the acquisition of new park land will help achieve this policy recommendation. The district has negotiated the acquisition of 4.92 acres of land located north of Bear Creek Road, east of NE 15th Street and south of Hwy 20 in Park Search Area #38 (see Exhibit A).

The district entered into a purchase and sale agreement (PSA) with the seller on September 2, 2026. Key details of the PSA include:

- **Property** – The property is located at 1750 NE Bear Creek Road (Map and Taxlot 171234CC00400) and is suitable for development of a neighborhood park.
- **Purchase Price** – The district negotiated purchase price is \$2,493,921, which includes \$20,000 to help offset a portion of the cost of demolishing existing buildings on the property performed by the current owner.
- **Encumbrances** – The district has agreed to grant the seller an easement along the eastern property line for power.
- **Property Line Adjustment** – The district and seller agreed to reconfigure the northwest corner of the property through a property line adjustment (see Exhibit B). The property line adjustment allows for a future road extension on the property to the north (also owned by the seller), and it preserves the rock outcropping and trees in the NW corner. The final size of the property is 4.92 acres. The property line adjustment has been approved by the city

and is now in review by the Deschutes County Surveyor. Concurrently with future park development, the district will build a fence along the adjusted property line.

- **Due Diligence** – Closing on the property purchase is contingent on the satisfactory completion of a Phase 1 environmental site assessment, title review and board approval. A Phase 1 environmental site assessment was performed, and no environmental concerns were found. Title review underway.

Staff are now seeking board approval to proceed with closing subject to satisfactory title review and approval of the property line adjustment by the county.

BUDGETARY IMPACT

The district's 2027-2031 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) identifies \$2,700,000 in system development charges (SDC) for the current fiscal year to acquire property for neighborhood parks. This fund is not tied to a specific location, but for use when opportunities become available to acquire property in park search areas. A design and development timeline will be established with the 2028 - 2032 CIP.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend the board approve Resolution No. 2026-11 (Exhibit C).

MOTION

I move to approve Resolution No. 2026-11 authorizing the purchase of a portion of real property identified as Map and Taxlot 171234CC00400 and designating authorized signatories.

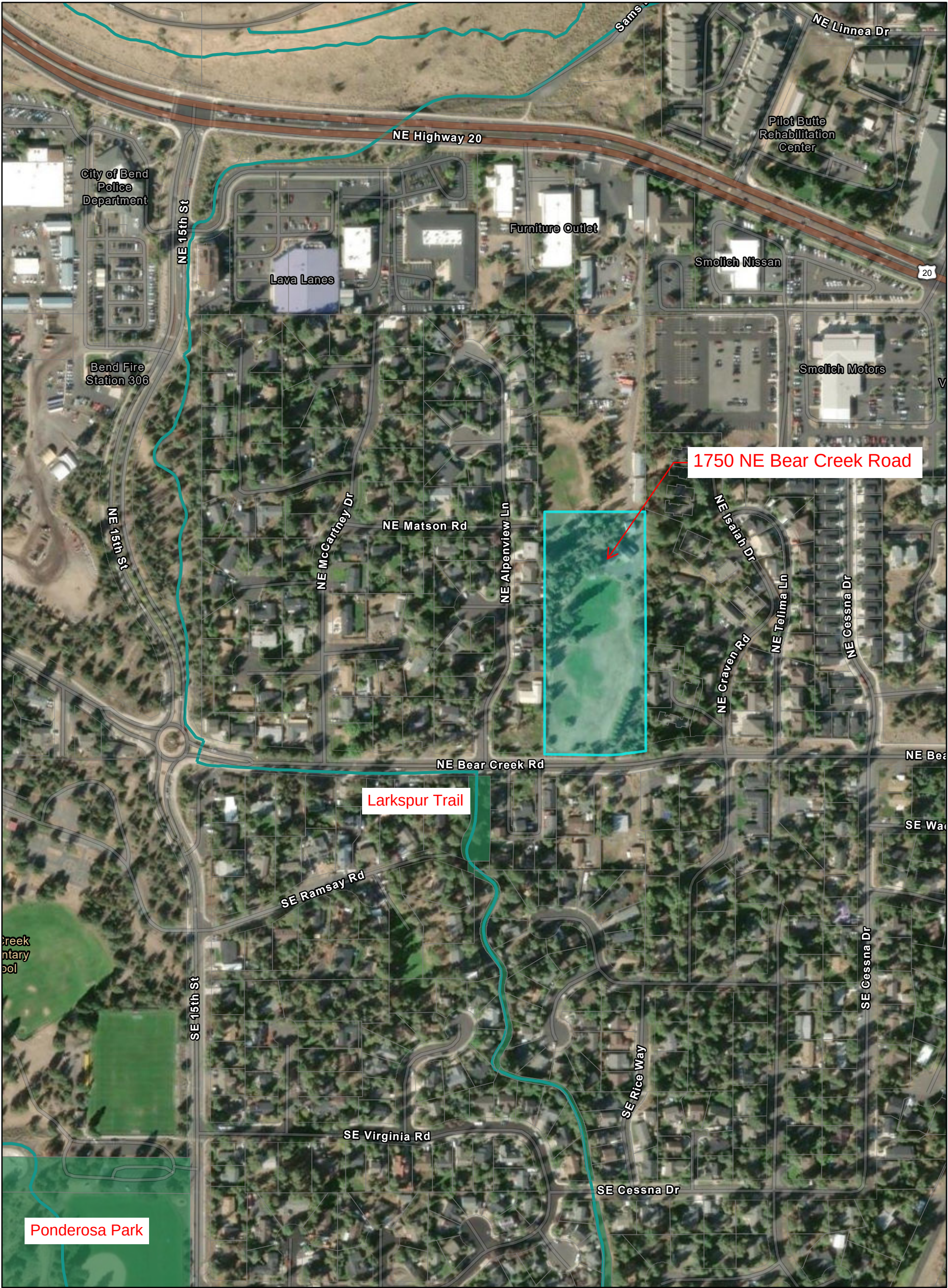
ATTACHMENT

Exhibit A – Map (Before property line adjustment)

Exhibit B – Property Line Adjustment Area

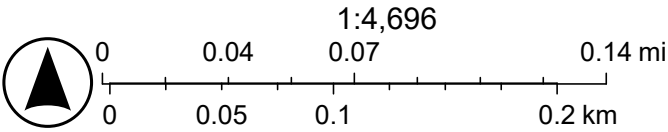
Exhibit C – Resolution No. 2026-11

Exhibit A - 1750 NE Bear Creek Road



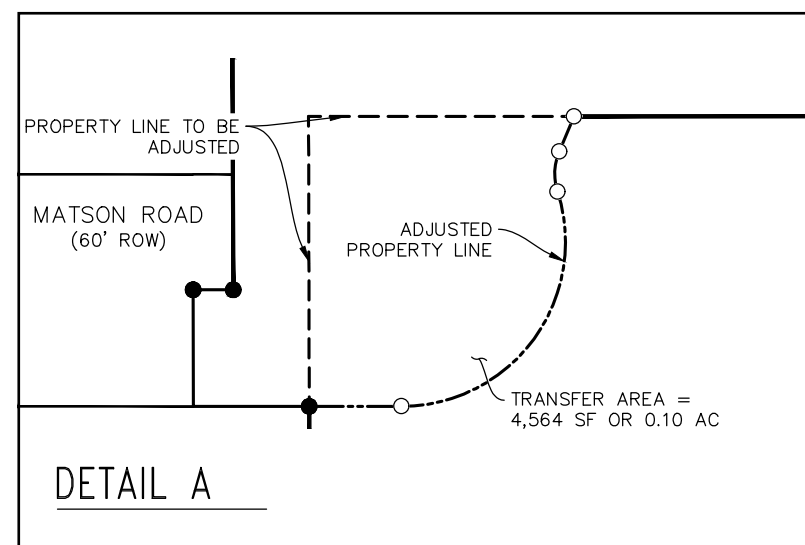
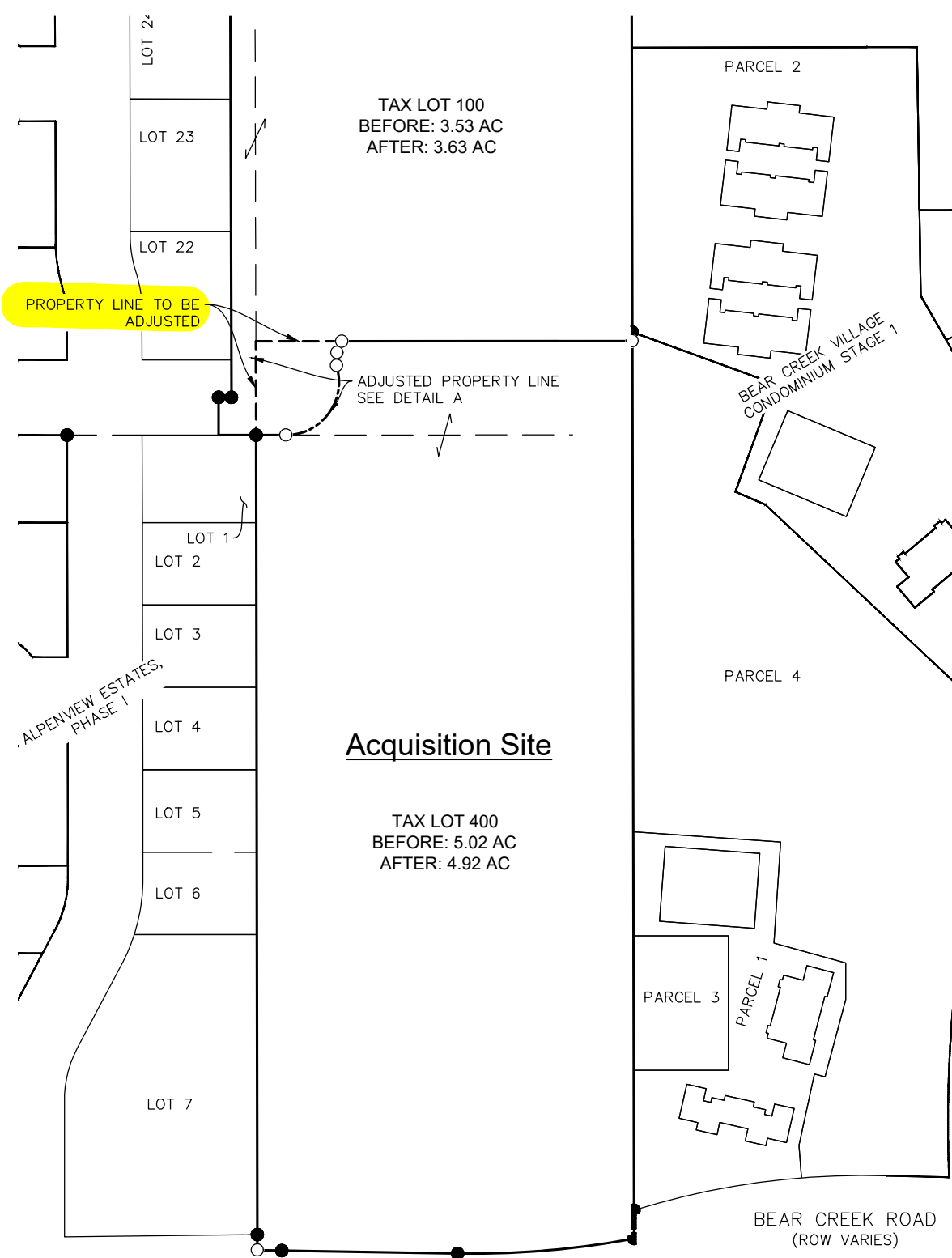
7/1/2026, 12:47:26 PM

- Taxlots
- Existing Trails (BPRD)
- Parks



ources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, ©
OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Deschutes County - Assessor's Office
Deschutes County - Surveyor's Office
Deschutes County - Community Development Department

Property Line Adjustment Map



**BEND PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-11**

**AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A PORTION OF REAL PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS MAP AND
TAXLOT 171234CC00400 AND DESIGNATING AUTHORIZED SIGNATORIES**

WHEREAS, Bend Park and Recreation District (“District”), as buyer, and Michael J. Merritt, as seller, entered into that certain Purchase and Sale Agreement dated September 1, 2026 (including all other amendments and addenda thereto, the “PSA”) whereby District would purchase a portion of the real property identified as Deschutes County Tax Assessor’s Map and Tax Lot Number 171234CC00400 consisting of approximately 4.92 acres; and

WHEREAS, the District’s Board of Directors (“Board”) desires to memorialize its ratification and approval of the PSA and designate authorized signatories to execute documents necessary to effectuate the PSA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that those instruments comprising the PSA, and any actions taken in furtherance of the PSA, that have already been executed are hereby ratified and approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes the following persons to execute, on behalf of District, the PSA, any documents or instruments contemplated by or associated with the PSA, and any documents or instruments otherwise necessary to effectuate the transactions contemplated by the PSA including, without limitation, amendments or addenda to the PSA that the authorized signatory believes to be in the best interests of the District:

Michelle Healy, Executive Director

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution supersedes and replaces all prior resolutions or authorizations relating to the PSA.

ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Bend Park and Recreation District this 20th day of October, 2026.

Cary Schneider, Board Chair

Attest:

Michelle Healy, Executive Director

BOARD AGENDA COMMUNICATION

AGENDA DATE:	October 20, 2026
SUBJECT:	Adopt Resolution No. 2026-12 Approving the City of Bend (COB) and Bend Park and Recreation District (BPRD) Shared Framework for Advancing Affordable Housing, Recreation Access, Interagency Collaboration, and Community Vitality
STAFF RESOURCE:	Michelle Healy, Executive Director Natalie Macsalka, Executive Assistant and Board Liaison
PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:	10-6-2026, Work Session Draft Review 7-21-2026, Introduction in Work Session
ACTION PROPOSED:	Adopt Resolution No. 2026-12
STRATEGIC PLAN:	
Priority:	Community
Goal:	Expand and leverage collaborations to increase impact
Strategy:	Strategically align with partners that enhance the district's efforts

BACKGROUND

Since spring 2026, the city and district have worked collaboratively to develop a framework identifying opportunities for coordination on shared community priorities, including housing affordability, parks, recreation, transportation, environmental stewardship, and long-term community vitality. The framework recognizes the distinct missions, governance responsibilities, financial constraints, and operational needs of each organization and does not commit either agency to any specific financial obligation, policy change, or implementation strategy. It also encourages evaluation of mitigation and offset strategies to protect the district's long-term financial sustainability. Following review by both governing bodies, the final framework is now presented for consideration and approval (see attached resolution). The city is scheduled to consider the framework at its October 21, 2026 council meeting.

BUDGETARY IMPACT

Potential budgetary impacts could be modest to significant depending on how the framework is ultimately implemented. The framework itself does not commit the district or city to specific expenditures, policy changes or financial obligations. However, it identifies several strategies that could affect revenues, operating costs, capital costs, and long-term maintenance obligations.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend approval of Resolution No. 2026-12.

MOTION

I move to adopt Resolution No. 2026-12, approving the City of Bend and Bend Park and Recreation District Shared Framework for Advancing Affordable Housing, Recreation Access, Interagency Collaboration, and Community Vitality.

ATTACHMENT

A. Resolution No. 2026-12

**BEND PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-12
APPROVING THE CITY OF BEND AND BEND PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT SHARED FRAMEWORK
FOR ADVANCING AFFORDABLE HOUSING, RECREATION ACCESS, INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION,
AND COMMUNITY VITALITY**

WHEREAS, Bend Park and Recreation District, an Oregon Special District (“BPRD”) and The City of Bend, an Oregon municipal corporation (“City”), are local government entities serving the residents of Bend, Oregon; and

WHEREAS, Bend is a growing community where access to housing, essential services, parks, trails, natural spaces, and recreation contributes to long-term community well-being and vitality; and

WHEREAS, in March 2026, the BPRD Board of Directors (“the Board”) and the Bend City Council met and discussed coordination for growth and housing. That discussion included the use of tools such as tax exemptions, system develop charge waivers, tax increment financing, and code updates to align housing goals with park and trail investments; and

WHEREAS, the March 2026 joint meeting established the need for a shared framework because decisions by either agency about land use, housing incentives, park and trail investments, transportation networks, and development standards can affect the other agency’s facilities, revenues, operations, and ability to serve the public. Coordinating these interrelated decisions earlier can reduce project-by-project negotiation, identify tradeoffs before commitments are made, and create more predictable pathways for community-serving investments; and

WHEREAS, following the joint meeting, BPRD and City leadership and staff developed and refined a shared framework through a series of discussions and working drafts during spring and summer 2026. A June 2026 working draft translated the joint discussion into coordinated goals and strategies addressing affordable housing, park and trail access, development approvals, financial sustainability, transportation connections, and long-term livability; and

WHEREAS, BPRD and City leaders and staff refined the shared vision, clarified that the shared framework guides future evaluation rather than approving each listed tool, and reinforced the need to protect each agency’s financial sustainability and authority while distinguishing programmatic coordination from actions requiring separate governing-body approval; and

WHEREAS, the Board reviewed the proposed shared framework during their July 21, 2026 and October 6, 2026 work sessions and the Bend City Council reviewed the proposed framework during their July 15, 2026, Council meeting and September 9, 2026, work sessions; and

WHEREAS, the shared framework establishes guiding principles for how BPRD and the City work together, including transparency, predictability, equity, mutual benefit, operational stewardship, flexibility, and a community-centered approach, and identifies potential tools that may be evaluated or developed to advance shared goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board resolves as follows:

1. The City of Bend and Bend Park and Recreation District Shared Framework for Advancing Affordable Housing, Recreation Access, Interagency Collaboration and Community Vitality, attached hereto as Exhibit A, is hereby approved.
2. The Executive Director, or designee, is directed to use the Shared Framework to help guide ongoing coordination and collaboration between the City and BPRD in evaluating potential strategies and implementation tools identified in Exhibit A.
3. Approval of this Resolution does not authorize or approve any specific project, program, policy, incentive, funding mechanism, or other implementation action. Any such action that requires Board authorization shall be presented to the Board for separate review and approval in accordance with applicable District policies and procedures.
4. This Resolution shall be effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the District on this 20th day of October 2026.

Cary Schneider, Board Chair

Attest:

Michelle Healy, Executive Director

City of Bend & Bend Park and Recreation District

Shared Framework for Advancing Affordable Housing, Recreation Access, Interagency Collaboration, and Community Vitality

Purpose

To reflect the City of Bend (“City”) and Bend Park and Recreation District’s (“BPRD”) shared commitment to collaboration and coordination, recognizing that with limited resources and a growing community, intentional partnership is needed to ensure community members have access to housing, essential services, and parks and trails that support a thriving community.

Shared Vision

A Bend where people can live, work, and play in connected, healthy neighborhoods with access to parks, nature, and essential services. The City and BPRD recognize that housing affordability and high-quality parks, trails and recreation services are desired and foundational to community well-being and long-term sustainability.

High-Level Goals

1. Expand and Sustain Affordable Housing Across the Continuum

Ensure Bend has a range of housing options—from deeply affordable to workforce housing—so residents regardless of income levels can live in the community.

2. Preserve and Enhance Access to Parks, Trails, Natural Spaces and Recreation programming

Recognize parks and recreation are essential for our entire community. Ensure equitable access to high-quality recreational and environmental amenities as parks serve as the “front and back yards” for many residents, especially as Bend becomes denser.

3. Strengthen Interagency Collaboration to Meet Community Priorities

Create predictable, transparent, and coordinated processes that allow the City and BPRD to jointly address growth pressures, rising costs, and structural revenue challenges.

4. Support a Healthy, Connected, and Thriving Community

Integrate housing, transportation, parks, trails, climate and environmental planning to ensure Bend remains livable, resilient, and economically vibrant.

Strategic Goals & Joint Strategies

GOAL 1: Coordinated Planning

Objective: Align long-range plans, development policies, and capital investments to support both affordable housing and park, trail and recreation services and access.

Strategies

- Identify areas where increased density and park/trail access can be co-planned.
- Use shared data (housing needs, park access gaps, transportation patterns, park usage data) to inform and guide decisions.
- Align City Council and BPRD Board goals to establish and reinforce shared priorities.

GOAL 2: Environmental Health & Community Well-Being

Objective: Recognize parks, trails and natural areas as essential environmental and public health infrastructure.

Strategies

- Value the role of parks in urban heat mitigation, stormwater benefits, mental health, and community cohesion.
- Ensure that as density increases, parks remain accessible, high-quality, and equitably distributed.
- Collaborate on urban forestry, wildfire mitigation, green infrastructure, and climate adaptation initiatives.
- Establish process improvements to optimize and streamline efficiencies for parks, trails, natural areas development and maintenance.

GOAL 3: Collaborative, Efficient Development Pathways for Affordable Housing

Objective: Work collaboratively to create more predictable and efficient processes that accelerate housing serving lower-income households.

Strategies

- Establish more efficient approval pathways for housing developments that provide affordable rental housing for households earning 60% area median income (AMI) or less and affordable homeownership opportunities earning 80% AMI or less.

- Explore a streamlined, tiered park SDC waiver program that aligns exemptions or reductions with affordability levels and duration.
- Evaluate in-kind contributions, incentives and policy approaches that support both housing and parks and trails development.
- Prioritize housing tools that have a lower impact on BPRD's finances, operations or long-term maintenance obligations.

GOAL 4: Shared Financial Sustainability & Revenue Innovation

Objective: Address structural revenue challenges while enabling affordable housing production and parks and trails development.

Strategies

- Explore and then develop revenue-sharing models where appropriate (e.g., tax increment, Urban Renewal Area-based offsets, joint grant pursuits, transient lodging taxes).
- Identify opportunities for state or federal funding that support both housing and parks/trails.
- Evaluate long-term financial impacts of SDC waivers, exemptions or adjustments and develop mitigation strategies.
- Develop joint advocacy for state-level structural reforms that support both agencies.
- Explore and then develop Urban Renewal as a mechanism to offset impacts or fund shared infrastructure for parks and trails.

GOAL 5: Transportation, Mobility, and Connected Communities

Objective: Ensure residents of all income levels can safely and easily access parks, trails, schools, jobs, and services.

Strategies

- Coordinate on transportation and mobility improvements that serve both housing and park access.
- Prioritize walkable, bikeable, transit-connected neighborhoods with integrated green space.
- Use shared impact assessments to evaluate how new housing affects park access and mobility networks.

Guiding Principles for “How We Work Together”

- **Transparency:** Share information early and consistently.
- **Predictability:** Establish clear processes and timelines for decision-making.
- **Equity:** Prioritize actions that improve access and outcomes for lower-income and underserved residents.
- **Mutual Benefit:** Seek solutions that support both affordable housing and park system sustainability within the means and resources of each agency.
- **Operational Stewardship:** Avoid compromising either agency’s ability to maintain essential services.
- **Flexibility:** Adapt approaches as community needs and financial conditions evolve.
- **Community-Centered:** Keep the focus on long-term livability, health, and resilience for Bend residents.

Potential Tools for Implementation

- Tiered SDC exemptions, waivers or reductions
- Approvals for affordable housing with agreed upon AMI levels or other terms that can be approved programmatically vs on a project-by-project basis
- Urban Renewal participation or mitigation with more specificity on park development projects and timing
- Joint infrastructure planning (parks, trails and mobility, utilities)
- Land swaps or co-location opportunities
- Revenue-sharing and/or cost offset mechanisms
- Grant partnerships
- Support and advocacy of alternative or additional funding
- Shared policy collaboration (e.g., density bonuses tied to park access improvements)
- Permitting and approval efficiencies for park and trail needs
- Bend Development Code changes that facilitate shared goals

- In-kind park and trail contributions, including maintenance of trails, sidewalks and roadway connections within the City's low-stress network
- Parking management
- Law enforcement coordination

continues to grow. The framework establishes a shared vision and identifies opportunities for future collaboration while recognizing the unique missions, governance responsibilities and financial constraints of each organization.

During development of the proposal, district leadership emphasized protecting the district's long-term financial sustainability and operational responsibilities while exploring opportunities to address community challenges collaboratively. Staff indicated the City of Bend plans to consider the framework later this month and recommended that the board consider formal adoption at its Oct. 20 business meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- The district's \$1 million Local Government Grant request for Hollinshead was recommended for funding by the committee and awaits final approval by the Commission.
- Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund approval was received for the Western Rivers Brooks property, which allows the grant agreement to proceed and closing on the property, expected this winter. It adds another trail connection.
- Staff will report later this fall on the Oregon Recreation and Park Association (ORPA) conference and a safety award the district received.
- The Art Station event is Sunday; volunteers are welcome.
- On October 12 at OSU-Cascades at 5:30 p.m., the City of Bend hosts the Southwest Neighborhood District Roundtable, and district staff will attend. A city neighborhood survey ranked access to nature and outdoor recreation, including COID parkland and a footbridge across the river, among top priorities.
- A letter regarding e-bikes is in the Board packet and was also emailed.
- Customer Service Appreciation week is under way.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Cary Schneider:

- Thanked the district for the opportunity to attend NRPA, describing it as one of the most insightful conferences he has attended.
- Recognized Natalie Macsalka for coordinating conference travel and logistics.
- Acknowledged the recent departures of Rachel Colton and Bronwyn, noting the significant value both brought to the organization and expressing appreciation for their contributions.
- Thanked staff, including Julie Brown and Natalie Macsalka, for their work preparing for the meeting and managing the evening's public engagement process.

Jodie Schiffman:

- Thanked BPRD's customer service staff for their excellent work.

- Shared highlights from the ORPA Conference, including BPRD receiving both the AED Lifesaving Award and an unexpected award recognizing district lifeguards.
- Praised BPRD staff who attended and presented at ORPA, particularly Kelsey Schwartz for her support, networking assistance, and well-received conference presentation.
- Noted the strong reputation BPRD staff enjoy among parks and recreation professionals statewide.
- Reported gathering ideas and vendor feedback related to the future Harmon Park boat replacement.
- Recognized Chris at Pine Nursery Park for his dedication and customer service.
- Expressed appreciation for Rachel Colton and her contributions to the district, wishing her well in her next endeavor.
- Mentioned plans to attend the Art Station open house.

Donna Owens:

- Thanked the district for the opportunity to attend NRPA conference.
- Shared that conference sessions provided valuable ideas for the Harmon Park boat replacement project and community engagement strategies to support future planning efforts.

Deb Schoen:

- Thanked the district for the opportunity to attend NRPA and praised staff for their passion, professionalism, and thoughtful work.
- Observed that BPRD continues to operate at a very high level compared with agencies across the country.
- Noted that a key takeaway from the conference was the importance of kindness, especially when addressing differing viewpoints.
- Thanked community members for their respectful and thoughtful participation in the evening's discussion.
- Congratulated Michelle Healy on her service as lead judge for the National Gold Medal Awards program.
- Shared positive feedback about the recent pickleball court grand opening and recognized Matt Mercer's contributions to the project.

Nathan Hovekamp:

- Commented positively on the progress and design of Sylvan Park, particularly the timber construction and its alignment with community feedback.
- Reflected on the district's longstanding commitment to equity, accessibility, and ADA compliance.

- Encouraged continued focus on equitable access to parks and amenities throughout the district.
- Expressed support for finding a solution that would improve access through a pedestrian bridge connection.

The meeting adjourned following Good of the Order. The next board meeting is October 20, 2026. ###

Board Calendar 2026

**This working calendar of goals/projects is intended as a guide for the board and subject to change.*

November 3 Board Reports

EXECUTIVE SESSION

WORK SESSION

- City of Bend Economic Development Initiatives – *Katy Brooks (30 min)*
- DRT Section 2 Review—*Henry Stroud (20 min)*
- Report on Historical Society for Hollinshead Museum – *Kim Johnson (20 min)*
- Budget Committee Appointment Process—*Kristin Toney (5min)*

REPORTS - Project Updates

November 17 Board Reports

EXECUTIVE SESSION

STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

Sue Glenn

- Kristine Senkier—Aquatics Recreation Supervisor

Julie Brown

- Malea Bailey – Communications Coordinator

WORK SESSION

- Optimize Play—*Kristin Toney (10 min)*
- Neighborhood Parks and Sports—Overview of Program—Trip Freeman and Mike Duarte (*20 min*)
- Events and rentals in Parks – *Jase Newton and David Kieffer (30 min)*

BUSINESS SESSION

- Approve Resolution # 2026-13 for the purchase of the Brosterhous property— *Sara Anselment (15 min)*
- Compensation and Classification – *Kathleen Hinman (30 min)*

REPORTS

- First Quarter Admin Update
- Summer Recreation Report