

Bend Park & Recreation District

Dec 1, 2026

Board of Directors

Agenda and Reports

www.bendparksandrec.org

Bend Park & Recreation DISTRICT

play for life

Bend Park & Recreation DISTRICT

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.

play for life

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

Board of Directors

Dec 1, 2026 | 5:30 pm

District Office Building-Community Room | 799 SW Columbia | Bend, Oregon

Remote Option: Join Online
Webinar ID: 814 9287 4137| Passcode: 541688
T**elephone:** 1 669 900 6833

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AGENDA

5:30 pm CONVENE MEETING
The board of directors meets twice a month for regularly scheduled meetings. In accordance with Oregon state law, these meetings are open to the public and may be attended in person or remotely.

ROLL CALL

VISITORS
The Board welcomes comments on district-related topics. This time is for listening only and is not intended to be a dialog with the board. Comments are limited to **three minutes.** Staff will follow up after the meeting if needed. Thank you for your involvement.

- **In person:** complete a comment card and submit it to staff.
- **Virtual:** use the "Raise Hand" feature; you will be called in the order received. Please turn on your camera and microphone.

STAFF INTRODUCTIONS
Sue Glenn

- Kristine Senkier, Aquatics Recreation Supervisor

Julie Brown

- Malea Bailey, Communications Coordinator

Mike Duarte

- James Etzkorn, Landscape Park Technician
- Eric Carlson, Park Maintenance Worker 1 (PM1)
- Parker Landau, Park Maintenance Worker 2 (PM2), Community Parks
- Corey Warner, Park Maintenance Worker 1 (PM1), Community Parks

WORK SESSION

1. Neighborhood Parks Landscape Program – *Trip Freeman and Mike Duarte (20 min)*
2. 2026 ORPA Annual Conference Session Presentation and Awards – *Kelsey Schwartz, David Madden, and Jase Newton (20 min)*
3. Trust for Public Land Draft Financial Feasibility Report – *Nathan Henry, TPL and Michelle Healy (30 min)*

BUSINESS SESSION

1. Classification, Compensation, and Pay Equity Study Findings – *Kathleen Hinman (30 min)*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
MEETING SUMMARY – 11/17/2026
REPORTS – Project Report; Summer Recreation Report
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:	December 1, 2026
SUBJECT:	Neighborhood Parks Landscape Program
STAFF RESOURCE:	Trip Freeman, Landscape Supervisor Mike Duarte, Landscape Manager
PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:	None
ACTION PROPOSED:	None
STRATEGIC PLAN:	
Priority:	Service
Goal:	Steward fiscal resources, and further environmental and social sustainability.
Strategy:	Continue efforts to be responsible stewards of the natural environment and evaluate and identify opportunities to respond to changing environmental conditions.

BACKGROUND

Staff will provide the board with an overview of the district's Neighborhood Parks landscape maintenance program, which encompasses the care and maintenance of more than 45 neighborhood parks. Program responsibilities include turfgrass management, irrigation, weed control, tree care, ornamental bed maintenance, and garbage collection.

The presentation will outline the district's approach to maintaining these areas, current staffing levels, and the operational challenges of providing a consistently high level of service across all neighborhood parks. These challenges are particularly evident as park use continues to increase, both through scheduled activities and unscheduled use.

BUDGETARY IMPACT

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

None, for information only.

MOTION

None

ATTACHMENT

None

BOARD AGENDA COMMUNICATION

AGENDA DATE:	December 1, 2026
SUBJECT:	2026 ORPA Annual Conference Session Presentation and Awards
STAFF RESOURCE:	Kelsey Schwartz, Planning and Property Specialist David Madden, Safety Coordinator Jase Newton, Director of Recreation
PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:	None
ACTION PROPOSED:	For informational purposes only
STRATEGIC PLAN:	
Priority:	Team
Goal:	Invest in the growth and development of all district employees.
Strategy:	Provide opportunities for employees to contribute in areas beyond their daily activities, and advance in the organization.

BACKGROUND

At the recent Oregon Recreation and Parks Association (ORPA) conference in Seaside, staff member Kelsey Schwartz presented a session titled “Deeds, Easements, and Encumbrances, Oh My” in an effort to better inform conference attendees about the variety of conditions and encumbrances that can exist on the parks, land, trails, and facilities they own and manage. The session also offered an opportunity for professional development and skill development for Kelsey, utilizing key knowledge and skill areas of her position. Conference attendees include statewide parks and recreation professionals across multiple departments, and the conference provides an opportunity for staff to collaborate, learn and recognize great work in the industry. Kelsey will share a summary of her presentation and experience during the work session. A copy of her full presentation is attached to this board report.

Additionally, Bend Park and Recreation District teams received two awards during the conference. The two awards recognized the district's commitment to safety and exceptional emergency response, and they reflect the dedication, training and teamwork demonstrated by employees across the organization.

BPRD received the *SDIS Safety Excellence Award* for its program to install Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) at community sports complexes. Sponsored by Special Districts Insurance Services (SDIS), the award recognizes organizations and programs that demonstrate a unique commitment to improving safety in parks and recreation facilities and activities. The award highlights BPRD's proactive effort to make lifesaving equipment more accessible in public spaces. New AEDs have been installed at Pine Nursery Park, Big Sky Park, Bend Whitewater Park/McKay

Park and Skyline Park, locations that collectively see approximately 1.4 million visits each year. The initiative was developed in partnership with Bend Fire & Rescue, Deschutes County 9-1-1 and HEARTsafe Bend. The award video for the *SDIS Safety Excellence Award* will be shown during the meeting.

The ORPA Aquatics Section presented its *Lifesaving Award* to the BPRD Lifeguard Team in recognition of two critical incidents at Juniper Swim & Fitness Center that demonstrated extraordinary professionalism, training and teamwork. In the first incident during fall 2025, lifeguards responded to a youth experiencing a seizure in the water. Staff removed the patron from the pool, provided rescue breathing and oxygen support, and continued care until the individual regained consciousness and resumed independent breathing before EMS arrived. The patron later made a full recovery. In a second incident in June 2026, staff responded to an unresponsive individual who was not breathing independently. Lifeguards administered Narcan, provided rescue breathing and oxygen support, and continued care until emergency responders arrived. The individual regained consciousness and was transported for additional medical treatment.

BUDGETARY IMPACT

Annual funding for staff training and conference attendance is included in individual department budgets. The AED program was added to the safety budget in 2026. The cost for each AED unit and its ancillary supplies was about $3,125, with an estimated total of $18,762 for six units.

ATTACHMENT

Attachment A - "Deeds, Easements, and Encumbrances, Oh My!" PowerPoint Presentation



DEEDS, EASEMENTS, AND ENCUMBRANCES,

OH MY!

Kelsey Schwartz,

Planning and Property Specialist

Bend Park and Recreation District

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ORPA COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS

In order to create a safe and supportive environment, those participating in any ORPA event or meeting are expected to adhere to these agreements.

RESPECT

Listen for understanding and be respectful of each other and the views of others.

EMPOWER YOURSELF

Bring your whole self to this space. Respect your own mind, body and spirit and vocalize and process your experience as you see fit.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Accept responsibility for your words and actions. Be aware of your power, positionality, and privilege.

ONGOING LEARNING

Engage with materials and new information with curiosity and an open mind. Have courage to challenge ideas and ask questions to seek understanding. Recognize that everyone is at different points in their learning and give room for others to learn without judgment.

SPEAK YOUR TRUTH

Say what you know to be true for you and your experience and not someone else's experience.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Personal information shared in workshops or meetings should not be shared outside the session. Lessons go. Stories stay.

WAIT

Why am I talking?

Be conscious of why you are (or are not) sharing. Be willing to share airtime with others in the group.

EXPECT NON-CLOSURE

Not every question or challenge can be resolved in one session or meeting.

2026 ORPA
ANCHORED TOGETHER

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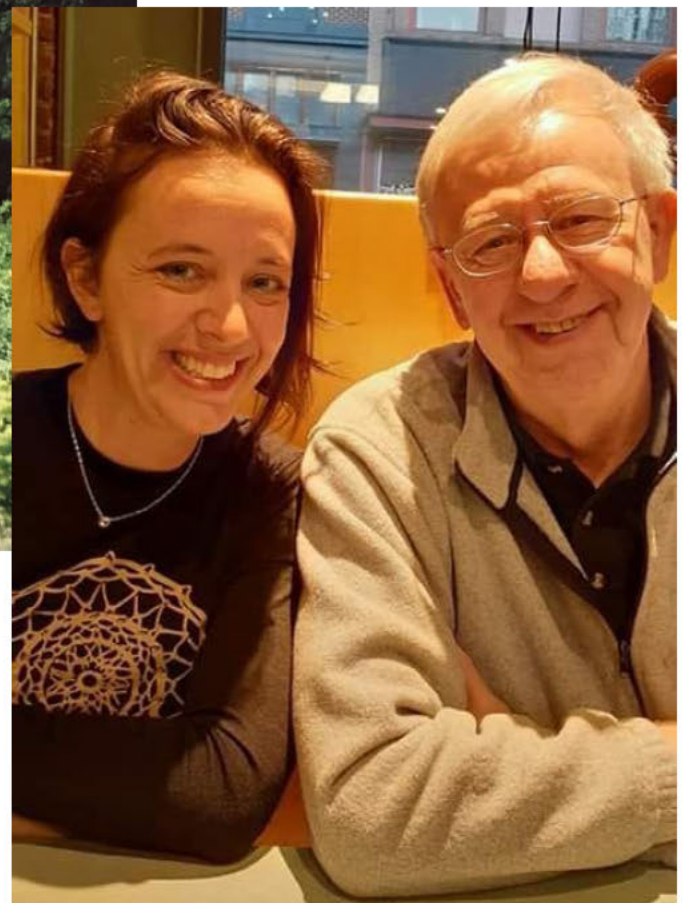

The Forest

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Attachment A

BENTON COUNTY SURVEYORS OFFICE - CORNER RESTORATION 3342

T. 14 S, R. 9 W, W. B. & M., BENTON COUNTY, OREGON

SECTION

REPORTED BY Mike Schwartz

TITLE Land Surveyor #1922

DATE ~~June~~ June 19, 1985

22 23

OFFICIAL CORNER FOUND

CORNER SET

1/4 CORNER COMMON TO SEC. 22 & 23

IS DESCRIBE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

From original B.T.'s as call bearings & distances, set a 2½" x 30" Aluminum Pipe with a flared base with a 3" Aluminum Cap marked as shown on back. Set an Orange Fiberglass post with a "Land Surveyor Marker" decal 3 feet North of new monument. Trees painted with red bands have BT and Reflective tapes. New BT has a brass washer with my 2544 nailed to BT blaze OVER

LEGIBLE MARKS ON BEARING OBJECTS

	Found	Found	Set
	Original Sawn Open with visible scribing	Original Sawn Open with visible scribing	Scribed & Marked X BT
KIND	D. Fir	D. Fir	D. Fir
SIZE	36"	52"	49"
BEARING	N58°W	N38°E	S32½°W
DISTANCE	24.4' (7.37m)	51.5' (15.7m)	31.1'
BT TAG POSTED	Yes	Yes	Yes

- WITNESS: Larry Hunsinger
- MAG. DECL.: 19° EAST
- EQUIP: STAFF COMPASS, LEDGERS TAPE
- ORIGINAL CORNER SET BY ALONZO GIBSON

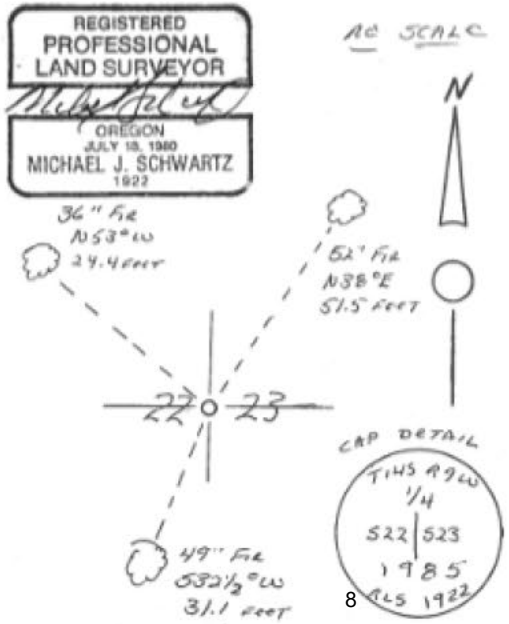
LOCATION:

From junction of FS Roads #3310, 3310-112, travel on 112 for approx. 0.6 miles to old spur going right. (is now overgrown) Walk out this old spur for approx 1500 feet to pink "Lead Line" ribbon. Travel northerly for approx 600 feet to the corner which lies on a flat.

(Old corner set by Henderson which was rejected as approx. 400 feet [illegible] of good corner.)

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR
OREGON
JULY 15, 1980
MICHAEL J. SCHWARTZ
1922

AS SCALE



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OVERVIEW



- What are encumbrances?
- Why does it matter?
- Where do I find encumbrances?
- And…… how do I understand them?
- Examples from BPRD
- Questions

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WHAT IS AN ENCUMBRANCE?

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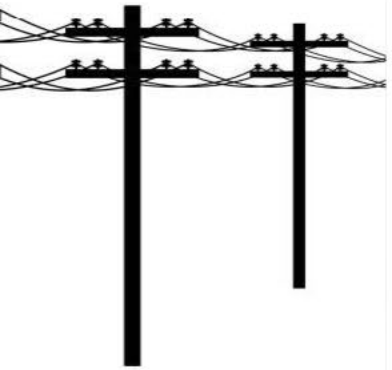
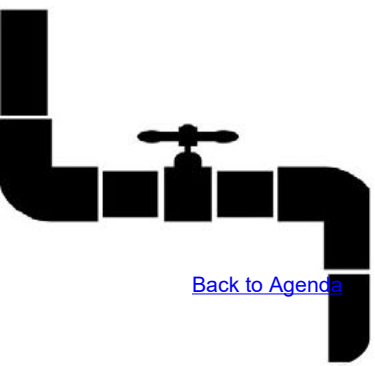
ENCUMBRANCES







- They do not change ownership of the property
- An encumbrance is any legal interest, liability, or limitation attached to a property by someone who is not the owner.
- It restricts the property's use and/or transferability.
- It acts as a burden that limits what you can do with the property.
- They "run with the land" unless terminated.

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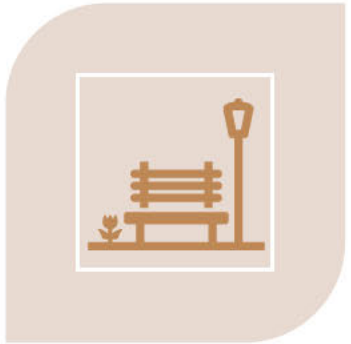


EASEMENTS AND OTHER RECORDED DOCUMENTS



NON RECORDED DOCUMENTS



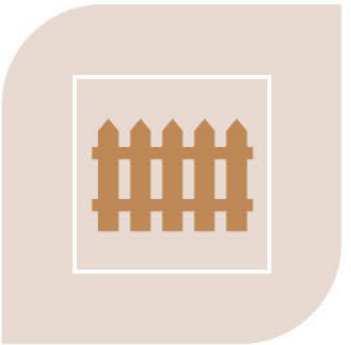
GOVERNMENT AND AGENCY PERMITS



FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS



MINERAL AND WATER RIGHTS



ENCROACHMENTS

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EASEMENTS

- Utility
- Right of Way/Access/Trail
- Conservation
- City/County
- Temporary
- Other

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Multnomah County Official Records 2023-058911
E Murray, Deputy Clerk

$121.00

03056853202300589110080087

09/20/2023 02:11:07 PM

EASE-EASE Pgs=8 Stn=1 ATMH

$40.00 $11.00 $60.00 $10.00

After Recording Return to:
Portland Parks & Recreation
1120 SW 5th, Suite #858
Portland, OR 97204

NON-EXCLUSIVE RESIDENTIAL ACCESS EASEMENT

The City of Portland, a municipal corporation of the State of Oregon, acting by and through Portland Parks and Recreation (Grantor), in consideration of the sum of Zero Dollars ($0), and other good and valuable consideration to it paid Juliette Soihl (Grantee), owner of the property located at 15339 SE Martins with State ID 1S2E13 900 & 1000 (Grantee Property), does hereby grant unto Grantee a nonexclusive perpetual easement (the Easement) over and across the parcel identified as 1S2E13D 1200 or R334932, and commonly referred to as a portion of the Springwater Corridor, in the City of Portland, County of Multnomah, State of Oregon (the Property or Springwater Corridor), specifically within the defined area of the Property (the "Easement Area") more particularly described and depicted in Exhibit A and B hereto.

It is understood that Grantee's Property cannot be accessed without crossing the Springwater Corridor since SE Martins Rd, which fronts Grantee Property, is bifurcated by the Springwater Corridor.

TERMS, CONDITIONS and COVENANTS

1. **Purpose and Use of Easement.** The Easement is granted to Grantee and its successors in title, in accordance with authority provided by City Council Ordinance No. 184930 for the sole purpose of allowing pedestrian and vehicular crossing of the Property through the Easement Area to access SE Martins. Grantee shall not park or store anything within the Easement Area and Grantee use shall be consistent with current residential use. All other rights are reserved to Grantor, its successors or assigns. Grantee hereby acknowledges the paramount use of the Grantor's property is for the public's use and enjoyment and hereby agrees to conduct all activities approved under this easement in strict accordance with the administrative rules adopted by the City of Portland applicable to the Grantor's property, as those rules may change over time.

2. **Grantor's Use of Easement Area.** Grantee's privileges issued under this Easement shall not limit the Grantor's authority to use or to grant additional rights, privileges or interests within the Easement Area to third parties, so long as such use does not unreasonably interfere with the Grantee's use. The rights of Grantor to maintain the Property and of the public to use the Property as a recreational trail supersede the rights of Grantee under this Easement.

RECORDED DOCUMENTS

- Lease or Contract
- Agreement
- License
- Deeds
- CC&Rs
- Plat or Survey

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CITY: Bend
STATE: Oregon
COUNTY: Deschutes
E. R. NO. 1070-090-39057

Attachment A

90-26087

217 - 1910

RIGHT OF WAY CONTRACT

For and in consideration of the sum of Ten ($10.00) Dollars cash, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, ROBBERSON SMITH INVESTMENTS, an Oregon general partnership comprised of GORDON E. ROBBERSON, WILLIAM SMITH PROPERTIES, INC., an Oregon corporation, and WILLIAM L. SMITH, hereinafter referred to as Grantor, does hereby grant and convey unto Cascade Natural Gas Corporation, its successors and assigns, hereinafter referred to as Grantee, the right to construct, maintain, inspect, operate, protect, repair, replace, alter and remove a pipeline or pipelines and necessary appurtenances thereto for the transportation of oil, gas and the products thereof, on, over and through the following described land, of which Grantors warrant that they are the owners in fee simple, situated in the County of DESCHUTES; State of OREGON, to-wit:

Property Description:

The Northeast quarter of the Southeast quarter (NE1/4 SE1/4) of Section Thirty (30), Township 17 South, Range 12, East of the Willamette Meridian, Deschutes County, Oregon, EXCEPT the South 300 feet of the NE1/4 SE1/4 of said Section 30. ALSO EXCEPT Hillside Park, Phase I and Hillside Park, Phase II.

Easement Location:

All roadways in the above described property.

Together with the right of ingress and egress to and from said line or lines, or any of them, for the purposes aforesaid. Together with the right during temporary periods Grantee may use such portions of said property along and adjacent to said right of way as may be reasonably necessary in connection with construction of its facilities.

Grantors shall have the right to use and enjoy the above described premises, except as to the rights herein granted; and Grantors agree not to build, create or construct or to permit to be built, created or constructed any obstruction, building, engineering works, or other structures over or that would interfere with said pipeline or lines or Grantee's rights hereunder. Grantee hereby agrees to pay any damages which may arise to fences, buildings, sidewalks, parking lots or landscaping of said Grantors from the exercise of the rights herein granted.

The Grantee shall have the right to assign this grant in whole or in part including, without limitation, the right of assignment under any presently outstanding or future mortgage or mortgages given to secure any bonds or other bona fide indebtedness of the Grantee.

UNRECORDED DOCUMENTS

- Grant Agreement
- Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA)
- Agreements/ MOUs/MOAs
- Lease or Contract
- Irrigation/ Canal Rights
- Development Agreement
- Purchase and Sale Agreement
- Internal Plans

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GROUND LEASE

Date: May 1, 2014

Landlord: Bend Park & Recreation District ("**Landlord**")
799 SW Columbia Street
Bend, Oregon 97702

Tenant: Deschutes Academy and Futbol Club ("**Tenant**")
dba Bend FC Timbers
PO Box 8340
Bend, Oregon 97708

Landlord is the owner of that certain real property commonly known as Pine Nursery Community Park (the "**Park**"). Landlord desires to lease to Tenant, and Tenant desires to lease from Landlord, that portion of the Park consisting of approximately 8.5 acres and generally depicted on the attached Exhibit A (the "**Premises**"). Upon completion of the Improvements (as defined below), the parties will amend Exhibit A to show the exact area of the Premises.

Tenant intends to develop the Premises with four soccer/multi-purpose fields, together with related improvements to support the fields.

Landlord and Tenant agree as follows:

Section 1. Agreement to Lease

1.1 Subject to the terms and conditions contained in this Ground Lease (the "**Lease**"), Landlord leases the Premises to Tenant and Tenant leases the Premises from Landlord. Landlord and Tenant will be bound in accordance with the terms of this Lease from and after the date of the parties' mutual written execution of this Lease (the "**Effective Date**").

1.2 Tenant represents and warrants that (a) Tenant has entered into this Lease on the basis of its own examination and personal knowledge of the Premises and Park, and (b) Tenant has not relied on any representations or warranties made by Landlord other than those expressly provided in this Lease. Except as described in this Lease, Landlord has made no promise or agreement to repair, alter, construct, and/or improve the Premises and/or Park.

Section 2. Term

Subject to the terms and conditions contained in this Lease, the term of this Lease will commence on the Effective Date and will continue for a period of thirty (30) years thereafter (the "**Lease Term**"), unless sooner terminated as provided in this Lease.

CITY, COUNTY, AND OTHER AGENCY PERMITS

Land Use Decision

WOZ Decision

DSL/Army Corp/DEQ

Ordinances

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Attachment A

FINDINGS AND DECISION

FILE NO.	S-49-89 and C-24-89
APPLICANT	Bend Metro Park and Recreation District
REQUEST:	Application for a site plan and conditional use permit for development of Hollinshead Park
PLANNING STAFF REPRESENTATIVE:	Anita Yap Powell
BURDEN OF PROOF:	Applicant must establish that the proposed use conforms with City of Bend Zoning Ordinance No. NS-1178, Section 29(3), General Conditional Use Permit criteria, and Section 23, Site Plan Approval.

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

1. LOCATION:

The property is located at 1235 NE Jones Road and is further described as 17-12-28 DA Tax Lots 4900, 4902 and 4901.

2. ZONES:

The property is zoned RS Urban Standard Density Residential and is designated as Urban Standard Residential on the Bend Area General Plan map.

HEARING AND EXHIBITS

The hearing was held on October 17, 1989 at the Deschutes County Administration Building. The following exhibits make up the record in this matter:

A. Application;
B. Excerpt from park district newsletter;
C. Warranty deeds;
D. Departmental Responses;
E. Letter dated September 5, 1989 from Leigh and William Casler;
F. Letter from Dennis and CaRene Heat, dated September 10, 1989;
G. Letter from Mark and Gina Kulper.
H. Letter dated September 8, 1989, from Shirley M. Sherman, Leigh Casler and Mariam Knop, (for the Hollinshead Neighbors);

FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS AND MINERAL RIGHTS

Liens and Mortgages

Surface and Mineral Rights

Water Rights

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7061-429641

FORM No. 881-1 – TRUST DEED (No restriction on assignment). COPYRIGHT 1999 STEVENS-NESS LAW PUBLISHING CO., PORTLAND, OR 97204

NN

Attachment A

DESCHUTES COUNTY OFFICIAL RECORDS
NANCY BLANKENSHIP, COUNTY CLERK
2004-76374
$66.00
12/22/2004 12:00:24 PM
M-DT Cnt=1 Stn=1 BECKEY
$40.00 $11.00 $10.00 $5.00

TRUST DEED

BEND METRO PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT
AN OREGON SPECIAL DISTRICT
200 PACIFIC PARK LANE, BEND, OR 97701
Grantor's Name and Address

RIVER BEND LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
15 SW COLORADO AVE, STE A
BEND, OR 97702
Beneficiary's Name and Address

After recording, return to (Name, Address, Zip):
RIVER BEND LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
15 SW COLORADO AVE, STE A
BEND, OR 97702

SPACE RESERVED FOR RECORDER'S USE

and/or as fee/file/instrument/microfilm/reception No. ____, Records of this County.

Witness my hand and seal of County affixed.

NAME TITLE

By ____, Deputy.

THIS TRUST DEED, made on DECEMBER 21 2004, between

BEND METRO PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT, AN OREGON SPECIAL DISTRICT, as Grantor,
FIRST AMERICAN TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY, as Trustee, and
RIVER BEND LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, as Beneficiary,

WITNESSETH:

Grantor irrevocably grants, bargains, sells and conveys to trustee, in trust, with power of sale, the property in DESCHUTES County, Oregon, described as:

PARCEL 2 OF PARTITION PLAT NO. 2004-100, CITY OF BEND, DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON.

FIRST AMERICAN TITLE
INSURANCE COMPANY OF OREGON
P.O. BOX 329
BEND, OR 97709

together with all and singular the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances and all other rights thereunto belonging or in any way now or hereafter appertaining, and the rents, issues and profits thereof, and all fixtures now or hereafter attached to or used in connection with the property.

FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECURING PERFORMANCE of each agreement of grantor herein contained and payment of the sum of THREE MILLION SIX HUNDRED SEVENTY FOUR THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED TWENTY EIGHT AND 00/100 ($3,674,928) Dollars, with interest thereon according to the terms of a promissory note of even date herewith, payable to beneficiary or order and made by grantor, the final payment of principal and interest, if not sooner paid, to be due and payable on DECEMBER 22 2009.

The date of maturity of the debt secured by this instrument is the date, stated above, on which the final installment of the note becomes due and payable.

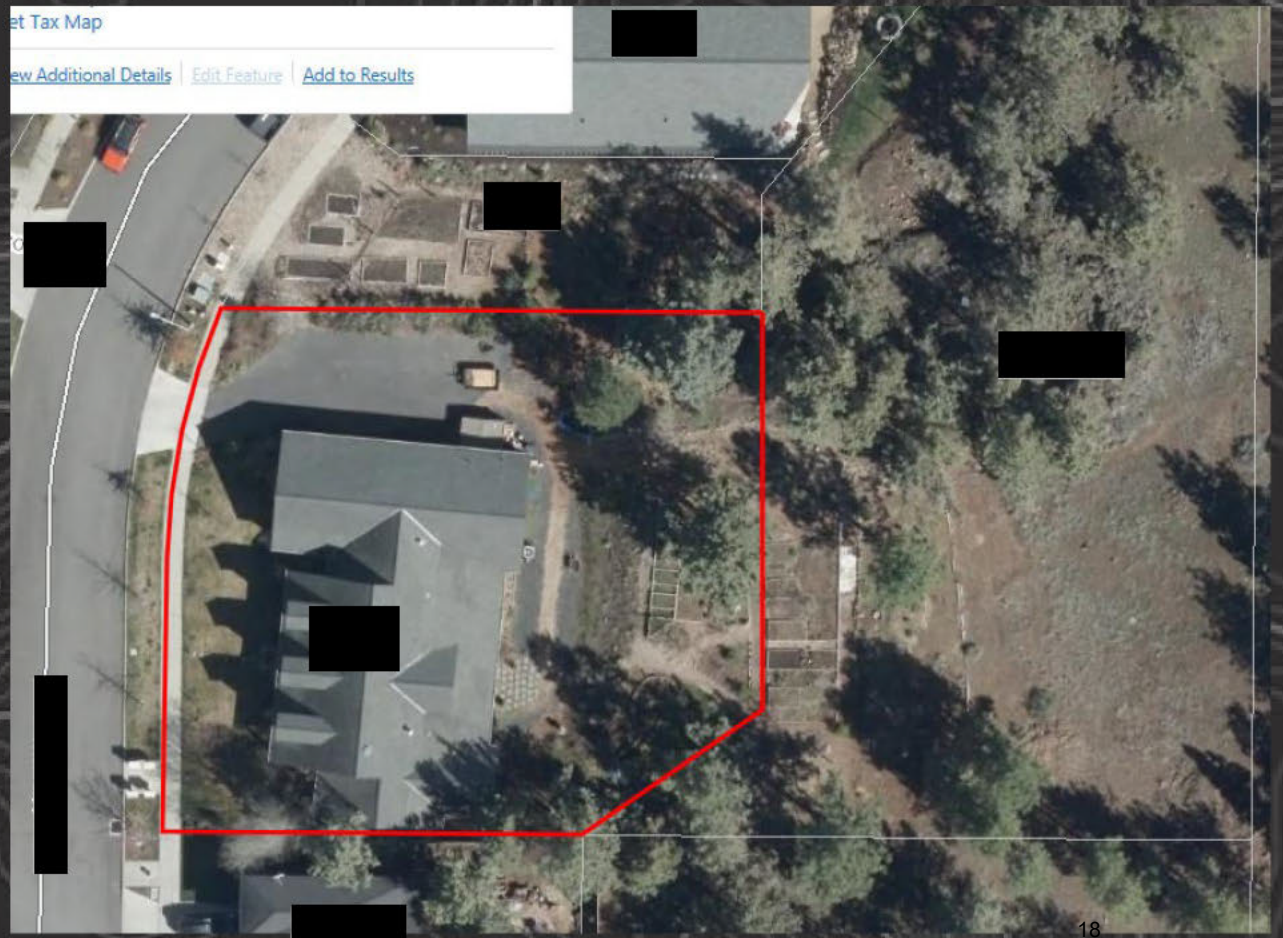
To protect the security of this trust deed, grantor agrees:

1. To protect, preserve and maintain the property in good condition and repair; not to remove or demolish any building or improvement thereon; and not to commit or permit any waste of the property.
2. To complete or restore promptly and in good and habitable condition any building or improvement which may be constructed, damaged or destroyed thereon, and pay when due all costs incurred therefor.
3. To comply with all laws, ordinances, regulations, covenants, conditions and restrictions affecting the property; if the beneficiary so requests, to join in executing such financing statements pursuant to the Uniform Commercial Code as the beneficiary may require, and to pay for filing the same in the proper public office or offices, as well as the cost of all lien searches made by filing officers or searching agencies as may be deemed desirable by the beneficiary.
4. To provide and continuously maintain insurance on the buildings now or hereafter erected on the property against loss or damage by fire and other hazards, as the beneficiary may from time to time require, in an amount not less than $ REPLACEMENT VALUE, written by one or more companies acceptable to the beneficiary, with loss payable to the latter. All policies of insurance shall be delivered to the beneficiary as soon as issued. If the grantor shall fail for any reason to procure any such insurance and to deliver the policies to the beneficiary at least fifteen days prior to the expiration of any policy of insurance now or hereafter placed on the buildings, the beneficiary may procure the same at grantor's expense. The amount collected under any fire or other insurance policy may be applied by beneficiary upon any indebtedness secured hereby and in such order as beneficiary may determine, or at option of beneficiary the entire amount so collected, or any part thereof, may be released to grantor. Such application or release shall not cure or waive any default or notice of default hereunder or invalidate any act done pursuant to such notice.
5. To keep the property free from construction liens and to pay all taxes, assessments and other charges that may be levied or assessed upon or against the

ENCROACHMENTS

An encroachment is an unauthorized physical intrusion onto a neighboring property or public land.





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WHY DOES IT MATTER?

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LEGAL LIABILITIES

- Property restoration – improvements or alterations not allowed per the encumbrance may be required to be removed and the property restored
- Damages – the right to be made whole from a monetary perspective as a result of the breach
- Liquidated damages - stipulated amounts to be paid when difficult to quantify damages resulting from a breach
- Specific performance – a court ordering a party to perform some obligation that they failed to complete
- Termination of the easement – some instruments provide for termination of the easement
- Reversion – some instruments that dedicate land for a public use provide that the property will revert back to the grantor if the public use ceases or if multiple breaches occur
- Injunction – a court ordering a party to stop breaching the agreement or be found in contempt
- Attorney Fees – most recorded instruments provide some right to recover attorney fees if a party prevails in court on a claim

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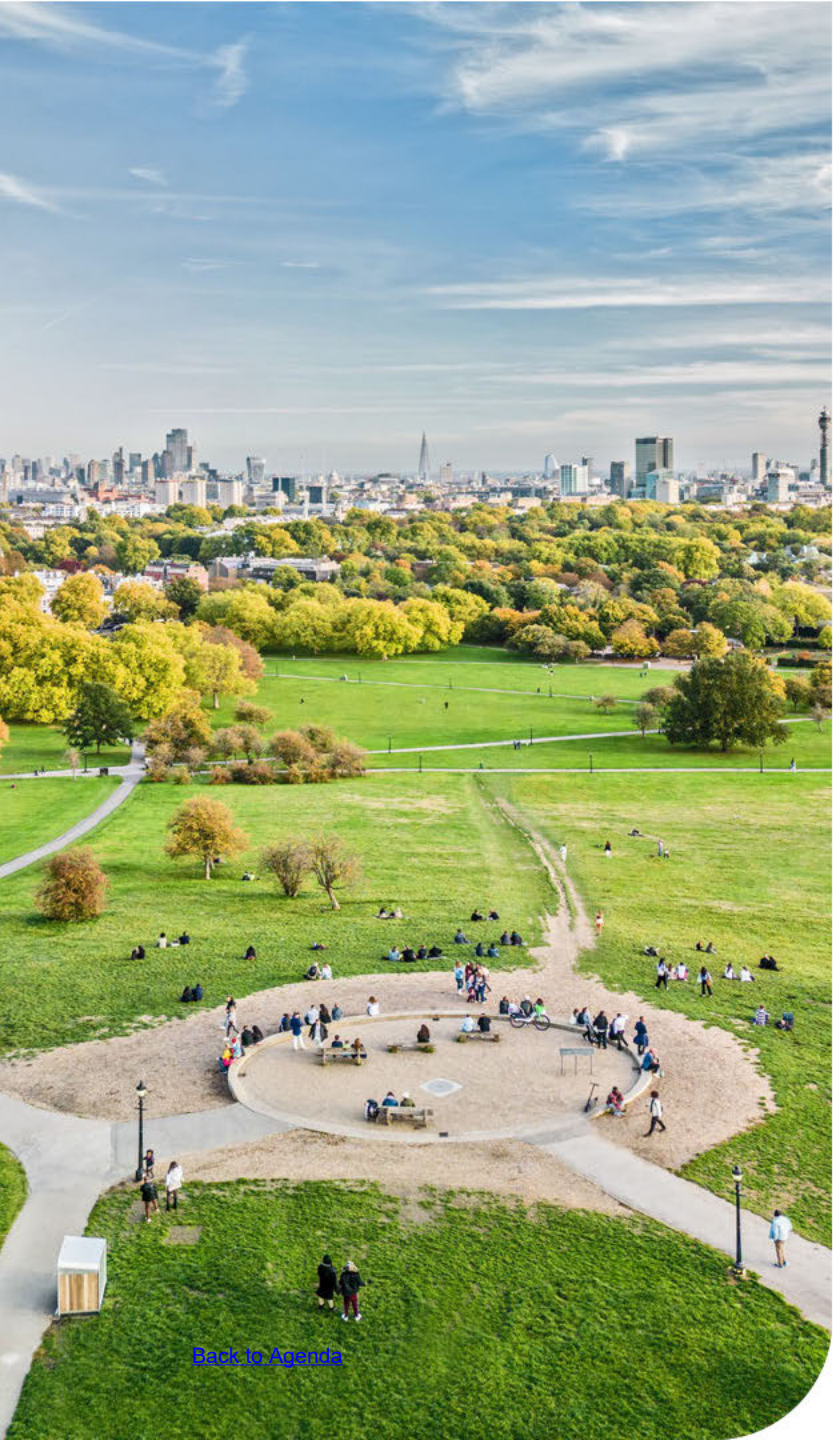

Project Planning

- City/County Land Use and Permitting
- Don’t plan for something you can’t do or may have to be undone later. *Changing designs = time, money, and labor.*

Property Management

- Know what are your responsibilities, and what are not.
- Damage prevention – don’t hit a utility underground or end up in violation of an agreement.

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Grants

- Encumbrances can delay final grant agreements and the project timeline or necessitate a conversion with another on of your properties.

Land Use/Will Serve Letters

- Knowledge allows you to respond appropriately and protect your interests.

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WHERE DO I FIND ENCUMBRANCES AND HOW DO I UNDERSTAND THEM?

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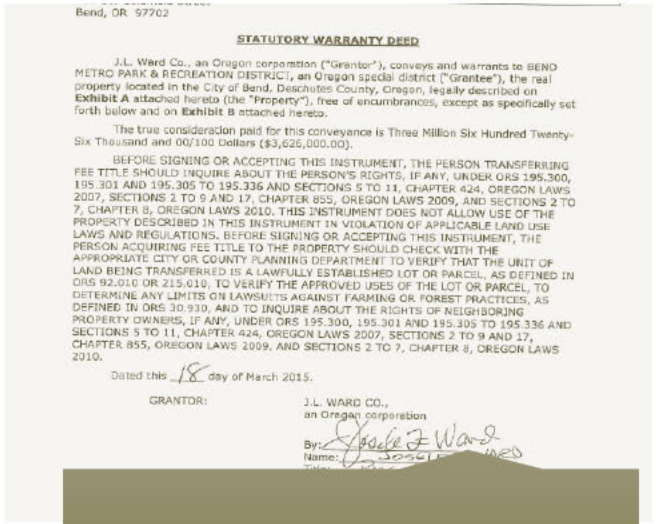


Bend, OR 97702

STATUTORY WARRANTY DEED

J.L. Ward Co., an Oregon corporation ("Grantor"), conveys and warrants to BEND METRO PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT, an Oregon special district ("Grantee"), the real property located in the City of Bend, Deschutes County, Oregon, legally described on **Exhibit A** attached hereto (the "Property"), free of encumbrances, except as specifically set forth below and on **Exhibit B** attached hereto.

The true consideration paid for this conveyance is Three Million Six Hundred Twenty-Six Thousand and 00/100 Dollars ($3,626,000.00).

BEFORE SIGNING OR ACCEPTING THIS INSTRUMENT, THE PERSON TRANSFERRING FEE TITLE SHOULD INQUIRE ABOUT THE PERSON'S RIGHTS, IF ANY, UNDER ORS 195.300, 195.301 AND 195.305 TO 195.336 AND SECTIONS 5 TO 11, CHAPTER 424, OREGON LAWS 2007, SECTIONS 2 TO 9 AND 17, CHAPTER 855, OREGON LAWS 2009, AND SECTIONS 2 TO 7, CHAPTER 8, OREGON LAWS 2010. THIS INSTRUMENT DOES NOT ALLOW USE OF THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THIS INSTRUMENT IN VIOLATION OF APPLICABLE LAND USE LAWS AND REGULATIONS. BEFORE SIGNING OR ACCEPTING THIS INSTRUMENT, THE PERSON ACQUIRING FEE TITLE TO THE PROPERTY SHOULD CHECK WITH THE APPROPRIATE CITY OR COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO VERIFY THAT THE UNIT OF LAND BEING TRANSFERRED IS A LAWFULLY ESTABLISHED LOT OR PARCEL, AS DEFINED IN ORS 92.010 OR 215.010, TO VERIFY THE APPROVED USES OF THE LOT OR PARCEL, TO DETERMINE ANY LIMITS ON LAWSUITS AGAINST FARMING OR FOREST PRACTICES, AS DEFINED IN ORS 30.930, AND TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE RIGHTS OF NEIGHBORING PROPERTY OWNERS, IF ANY, UNDER ORS 195.300, 195.301 AND 195.305 TO 195.336 AND SECTIONS 5 TO 11, CHAPTER 424, OREGON LAWS 2007, SECTIONS 2 TO 9 AND 17, CHAPTER 855, OREGON LAWS 2009, AND SECTIONS 2 TO 7, CHAPTER 8, OREGON LAWS 2010.

Dated this 18 day of March 2015.

GRANTOR: J.L. WARD CO., an Oregon corporation

By: Name:

Deeds

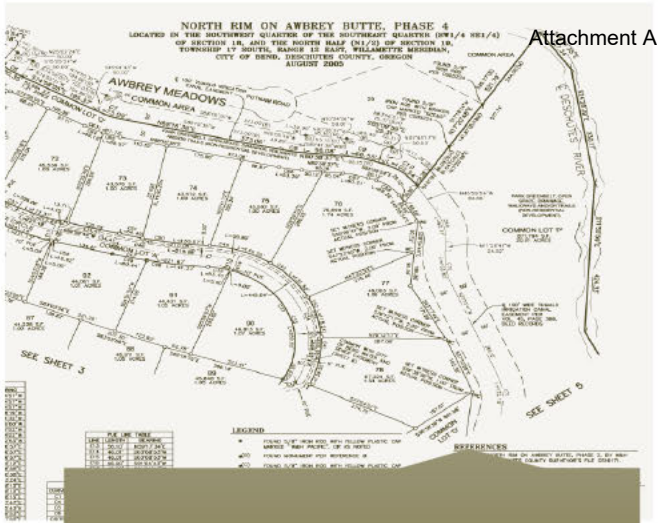


Page 2

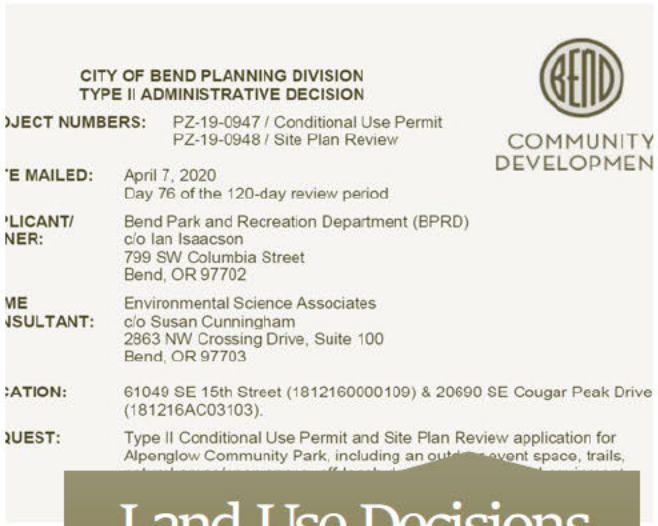
Said property is subject to the following on record matters:

1. Taxes assessed under Code No. 1001 Account No. 254474 Map No. 181216A0 00200, including the current fiscal year, not assessed because of Municipal Ownership Exemption. If the exempt status is terminated an additional tax may be levied.
2. City liens, if any, of the City of Bend.
3. Regulations, including levies, assessments, water and irrigation rights and easements for ditches and canals of Arnold Irrigation District.
4. An easement including the terms and provisions thereof, affecting the portion of said premises and for the purposes stated therein as reserved in instrument:
   Recorded: October 29, 1999
   Instrument No.: 1999-52533
5. Reservation of oil, gas, casing head gas and all ores and minerals of every kind and nature and all water, including the terms and provisions contained therein, in deed from The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company, a Delaware Corporation.
   Recorded: October 29, 1999
   Instrument No.: 1999-52533
   The Company makes no representation as to the present ownership of any such interests. There may be leases, grants, exceptions or reservations of interests that are not listed.
6. Development Agreement, including the terms and provisions thereof.
   Dated: October 1, 2014
   Recorded: October 2, 2014
   Instrument No.: 2014-33057
   Between: City of Bend, an Oregon Municipal Corporation
   And: J.L. Ward Co.
7. Irrigation Water Easement Assignment, including the terms and provisions thereof.
   Recorded: February 2, 2017
   Instrument No.: 2017-04994
8. Temporary Construction Easement Agreement Murphy Corridor Improvements Project (1XMCI) including the terms and provisions thereof.
   Recorded: April 19, 2019

Title reports and Insurance



Plats



CITY OF BEND PLANNING DIVISION
TYPE II ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMEN

)JECT NUMBERS: PZ-19-0947 / Conditional Use Permit
PZ-19-0948 / Site Plan Review

'E MAILED: April 7, 2020
Day 76 of the 120-day review period

'LICANT/ NER: Bend Park and Recreation Department (BPRD)
c/o Ian Isaacson
799 SW Columbia Street
Bend, OR 97702

ME NSULTANT: Environmental Science Associates
c/o Susan Cunningham
2863 NW Crossing Drive, Suite 100
Bend, OR 97703

CATION: 61049 SE 15th Street (1812160000109) & 20690 SE Cougar Peak Drive (181216AC03103).

)UEST: Type II Conditional Use Permit and Site Plan Review application for Alpenglow Community Park, including an outd... event space, trails,

Land Use Decisions and Permits



Your Well-Organized Internal Files



County E-Files

DEEDS

5. Mountain View Park – simple reference

6. Coulter Grove Park – listed encumbrances as exhibit

7. Hollinshead Park – “subject to” conditions

TITLE REPORTS

8. Title Reports – Sylvan Park
   - SORT Report
   - Preliminary Title Report
   - Lot Book report
   - Chain of title

9. Title Insurance Policy – Northpointe Property

Title companies are excellent resources!

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PLATS

0. Shevlin Crest – Tract dedication

1. Northwest Crossing Phase 53 – Platted easement without recording numbers

2. Boyd Park – platted easements with recording numbers

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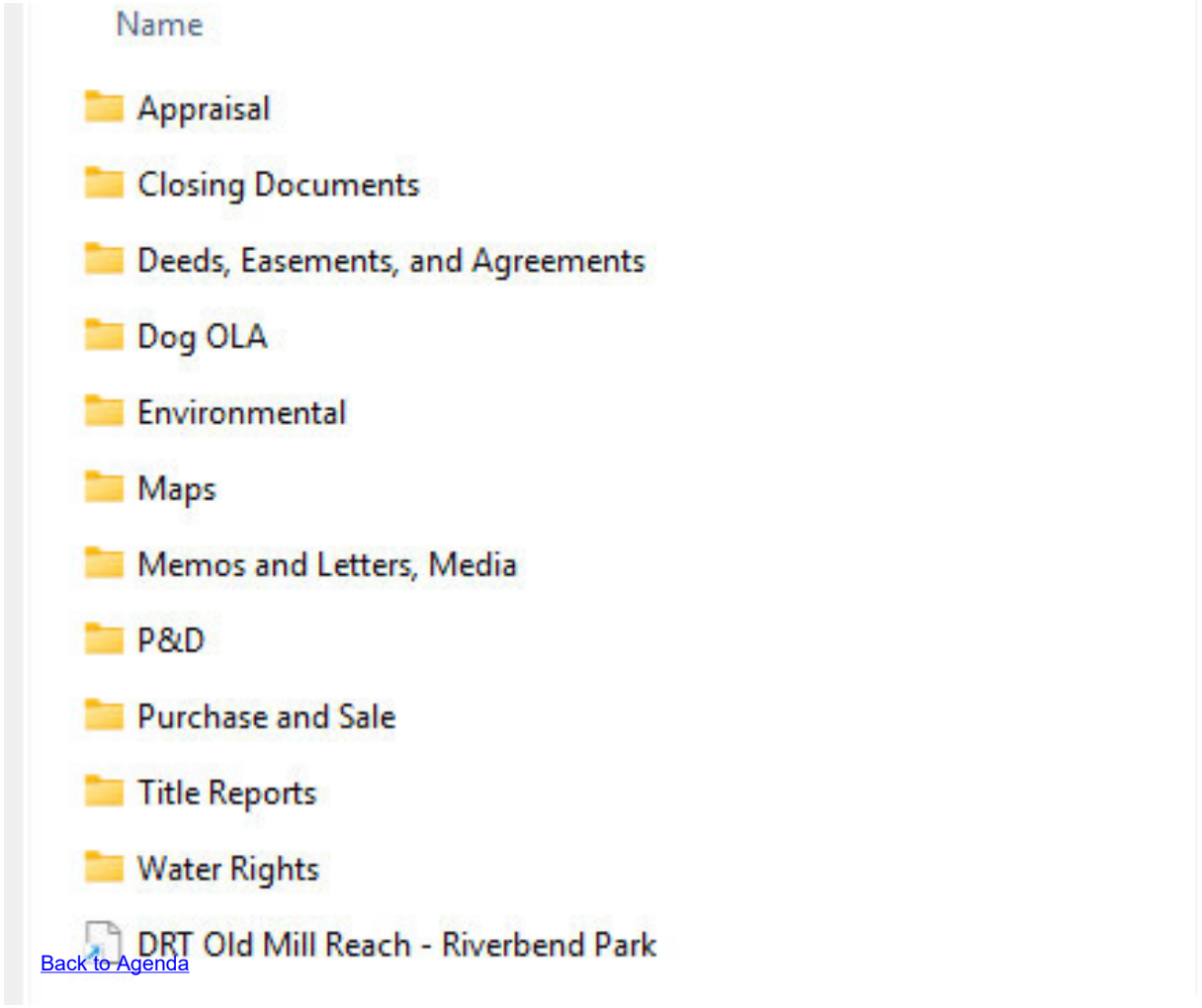
LAND USE DECISIONS

9. Alpenglow Park

YOUR RECORDS





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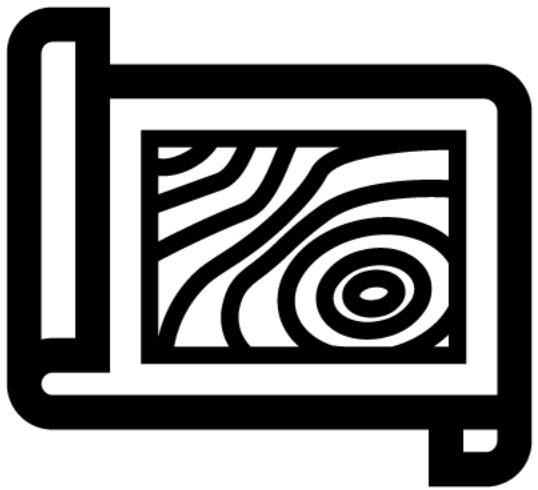
COUNTY RECORDS





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ENCUMBRANCE DOCUMENTS IN GENERAL

- Parties
- Purpose/Description/Recitals
- Conditions
  - Dates
  - Monetary items
  - Duties of each party, and/or of the agreement
  - Rights and restrictions
  - All the “legal” stuff
- Acknowledgements – signatures and notary
- Exhibits
  - Legal description
  - Legal map/survey
  - Referred to items

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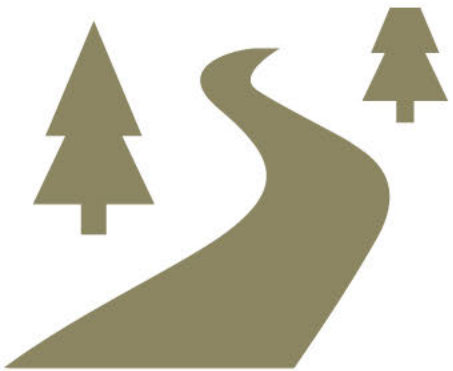
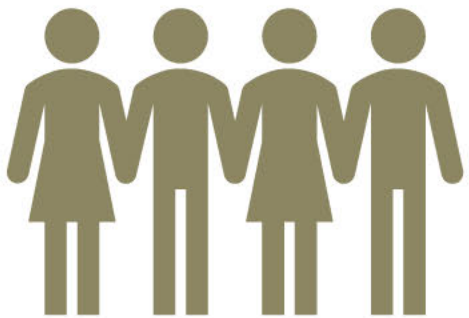
EASEMENTS CONTINUED



Specific or Blanket



Exclusive or Non-Exclusive



Simple or Complex



Grantee versus Grantor

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RECORDED VERSUS NON-RECORDED

- ***Recorded***:
  - Filed with the county office
  - Public notice about legal interest or ownership in a property
  - Protects your rights against future property owners or third parties
  - Establishes a chronological timeline and interest in the property
- ***Non- Recorded***:
  - Not filed with the county office
  - Invisible to the general public, lenders, and future owners.
  - Valid and binding between original parties who signed it
  - Does not have the same legal protections
  - Vulnerable to claims

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EXAMPLES FROM OUR WORK

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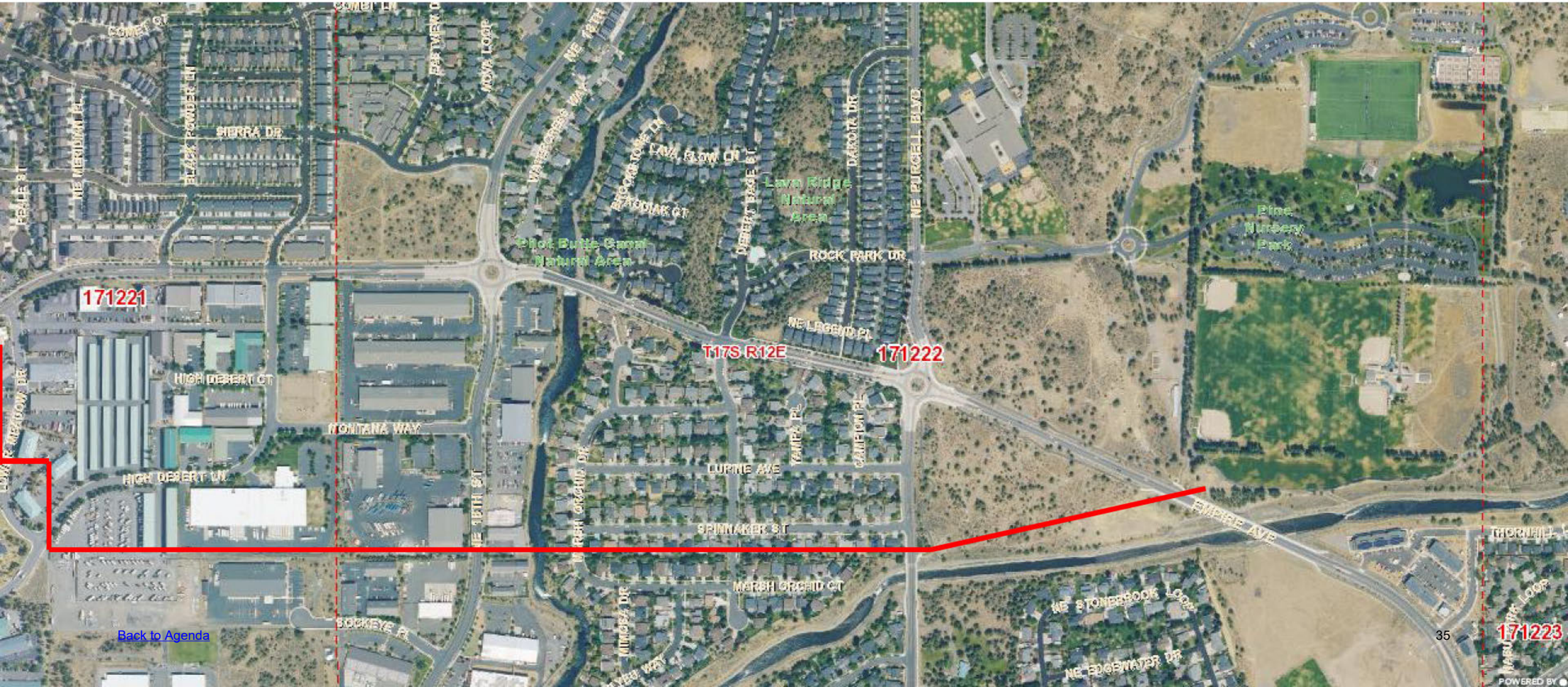
Pine Nursery Park Irrigation Line/Easement



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Alpenglow Park Blanket Easement



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Harmon Park River Access Point



Cascade Highlands Trail Easement



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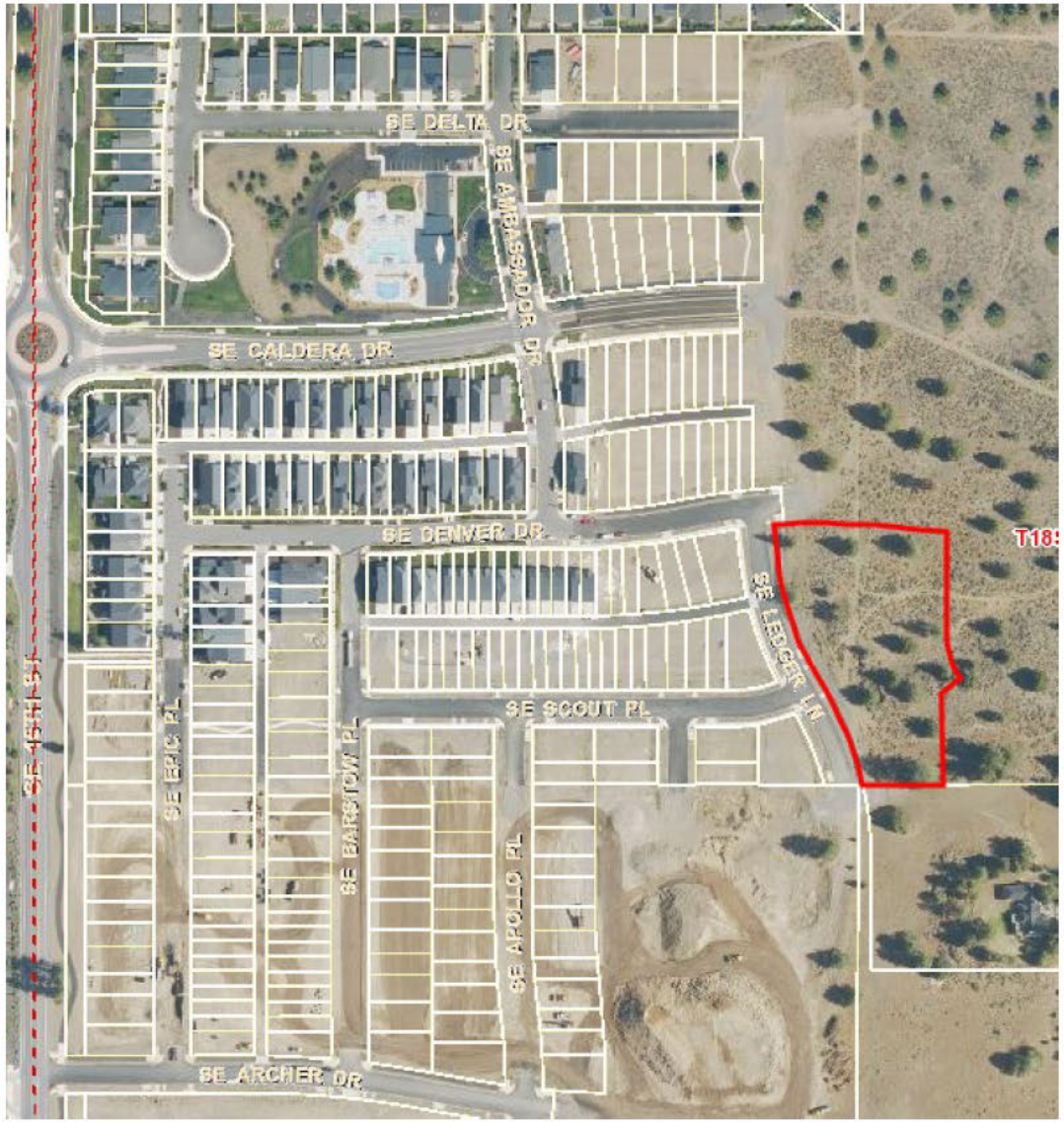
Easton Title Report



Columbia Park Stormwater Line



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QUESTIONS?

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BOARD AGENDA COMMUNICATION

AGENDA DATE:	December 1, 2026
SUBJECT:	Trust for Public Land Draft Financial Feasibility Report
STAFF RESOURCE:	Michelle Healy, Executive Director
GUEST PRESENTER:	Nathan Henry, Trust for Public Land
PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:	Authorized TPL technical assistance letter May 5, 2026 TPL presentation April 7, 2026
ACTION PROPOSED:	None
STRATEGIC PLAN:	
Priority:	Service
Goal:	Steward fiscal resources, and further environmental and social sustainability
Strategy:	Use financial modeling and other planning tools to holistically evaluate, plan and forecast necessary expenditures for system expansion, operations and maintenance

BACKGROUND

In April 2026, Nathan Henry, Western Conservation Finance Director for the Trust for Public Land (TPL), presented information to the board about TPL's Conservation Finance program, which supports public agencies in designing, passing and implementing funding measures for parks, open spaces, trails and related public projects.

At its May 5, 2026 meeting, the board authorized the board chair to execute a technical assistance letter requesting TPL's assistance in evaluating potential funding strategies. TPL has now completed a draft financial feasibility report and will present the report to the board for discussion and direction regarding next steps.

BUDGETARY IMPACT

None, TPL provides these services at no cost to public agencies.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

None

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – TPL Draft Financial Feasibility Report

TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND™

Bend Park and Recreation District, Oregon

Public Finance Feasibility Study

November 2026



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Bend Park & Recreation DISTRICT

May 5, 2026

Nathan Henry
Western Conservation Finance Director
Trust for Public Land
6220 SE 23rd Avenue
Portland, OR 97202

Kristin Kovalik
Oregon Program Director
Trust for Public Land
15 SW Colorado Avenue, Suite 100
Bend, OR 97702

Dear Mr. Henry and Ms. Kovalik:

On behalf of the Bend Park and Recreation District (BPRD), I would like to request technical assistance from Trust for Public Land in connection with our efforts to finance parks, trails, open spaces, and other related community and conservation priorities. As part of your advice and assistance, I understand that you may undertake feasibility research, conduct public opinion surveys, and develop strategies for our consideration.

I am interested not only in the facts that you can provide, but also your organization's opinions and recommendations on public financing measures available to BPRD. This could include the public's priorities and attitudes concerning outdoor recreation, parks, trails, natural areas, and other aspects of land and water conservation.

Information provided to BPRD will be public record as a matter of law. This request does not in any way commit public funds to the efforts of Trust for Public Land related to this request, nor does it require public disclosure of any confidential information of the organization.

This request will continue in effect for any advice you offer or presentations you submit for the use of this body related to such measures. In addition, I would like to take this opportunity to request that you continue to be available to provide technical advice and assistance in this area and on related matters in the future.

Sincerely,

Donna Owens, Chair
Bend Park and Recreation District Board of Directors

Cover photo: First Street Rapids on the Deschutes River in Bend, Darcy Kiefel

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Introduction

The Trust for Public Land is a national nonprofit land conservation organization working to protect land for human enjoyment and well-being. The Trust for Public Land helps conserve land for parks, greenways, recreation areas, watersheds, working lands, and wilderness. Since 1972, the Trust for Public Land has protected more than 4 million acres and completed more than 4,900 park and conservation projects. In Oregon, TPL has completed over 170 projects, protecting over 117,000 acres. To help public agencies or land trusts acquire land, the Trust for Public Land's Conservation Finance program assists communities in identifying and securing public financing. The Trust for Public Land offers technical assistance to elected officials, public agencies, and community groups to design, pass, and implement public funding measures that reflect community priorities.

Since 1996, the Trust for Public Land has been involved in more than 700 successful ballot measures and dozens of successful legislative campaigns that have created more than $131 billion in new funding for parks, restoration, climate and land conservation. Voters have approved 84 percent of the ballot measures assisted by the Trust for Public Land, including 20 successful measures in Oregon since 1996. These measures include supporting the successful $29 million parks and open space bond passed by Bend Park and Recreation District voters in November 2012. The bond included funding for protecting natural areas, connecting trails, improving parks, and providing water safety.

Recent successes include the 2025 renewal of a 5-year City of Portland property tax levy for parks and recreation with a focus on equitable access to parks. Additionally, in May 2026, Willamalane Park and Recreation District voters approved a proposed 5-year operating levy. TPL assisted both jurisdictions. Finally, Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District voters approved a $280 million parks bond in May 2026.

The Bend Park and Recreation District has asked the Trust for Public Land to explore public funding options available for parks and conservation in the district. Given the substantial investment of time and resources required for a successful conservation finance initiative, preliminary research is essential to determine the feasibility of such an effort. This research provides a stand-alone, fact-based reference document that can be used to evaluate financing mechanisms from an objective vantage point.[1,2]

If district officials decide to pursue dedicated funding, then the finance option(s) should match political and fiscal realities in the district. Next steps might include testing voter attitudes toward a specific set of funding proposals. The Trust for Public Land would recommend conducting a public opinion survey that tests ballot language, tax tolerance, and program priorities of park district voters.

[1] The contents of this report are based on the best available information at the time of research and drafting, November 2026.
[2] This feasibility study is not a legal document and should not be relied upon as a legal opinion.

Executive Summary

The Trust for Public Land has undertaken an analysis of finance options available to the Bend Park and Recreation District to fund district priorities like the protection of working lands and other natural areas. In order to understand what an appropriate funding source or sources would be, this report first provides a brief overview of existing park and recreation programs, governance, and funding as well as some background about the community. Next, the report analyzes possible alternatives for funding parks and conservation, including the authority for their use and revenue raising-capacity. Finally, since most revenue options require approval by voters, this report provides pertinent election information, such as voter turnout history and election results for local finance measures.

In Oregon, local funding options for conservation have primarily taken the form of general obligation bonds and property taxes. The funding options considered in this report are as follows:

- Property Tax or Local Option Levy. The district could use a local option levy to fund operations, maintenance and capital projects. It is currently maximizing the use of its permanent property tax rate at $1.461 per $1,000. An additional levy must be approved by voters. For instance, an increase of $0.15 per $1,000 of assessed value would generate roughly $2.8 million per year at a cost of $41 per year for the average household, notwithstanding any Measure 5 compression.

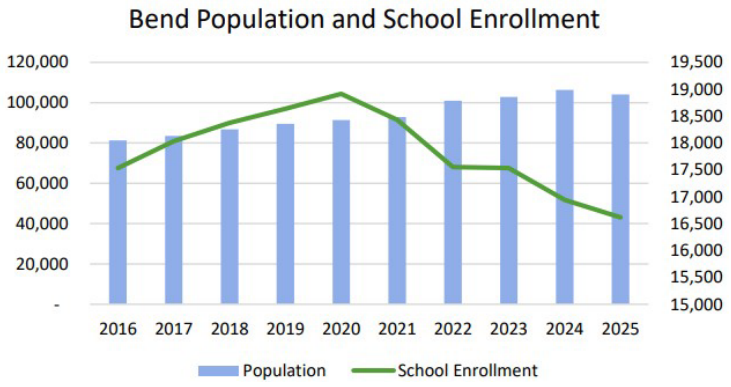
- General Obligation Bonds. The Bend Park and Recreation District has the capacity to issue a general obligation bond for land acquisition and natural resources. The issuance of general obligation bonds must be approved by a majority of those voting at an election called for that purpose. A $35 million bond would add about $2.8 million to the district's annual debt service and would cost approximately $40 per year for the average homeowner over the life of the bond (20 years). GO bonds may only be used for capital purposes and could not be used for district operations and maintenance.

This feasibility report is meant to inform the district's consideration of new funding for parks and conservation by identifying potential funding mechanisms and determining the fiscal capacity and legal requirements of various approaches. Next steps should include narrowing funding options to those that match the needs identified by the district and testing voter attitudes toward a specific set of funding proposals. TPL recommends conducting a public opinion survey that tests ballot language, tax tolerance, and program priorities of voters in the Bend Park and Recreation District.

Overview and Background[3]

Bend began as a logging town but is now a gateway for many outdoor recreational activities such as cycling, hiking, golfing, rock climbing, and ice, snow and water sports. Voters established the Bend Park and Recreation District (district) on May 28, 1974. The district was a department of the City of Bend prior to that date and was formed as a separate special district under the Oregon Revised Statutes as a priority of the community citizens to protect park and recreation funding from the pressures of other community priorities. In 1976, the citizens voted to dedicate property tax funding for the sole purpose of providing this community with park and recreation services. The district boundaries and population are slightly larger than those of the city of Bend. The city of Bend is in Central Oregon, just east of the Cascade Mountain range, and encompasses an area of 37.6 square miles. Bend is the largest city in Central Oregon with a population estimate of 107,079. Bend serves as the seat for Deschutes County and as the hub of economic activity in a three-county region including Deschutes, Jefferson and Crook counties.

The district has averaged a 3.2 percent increase in population over the last 5 years per Portland State University Population Research Center's Certified Population Estimates. Rapid growth of the community could call for larger levels of reserves, lest service requirements expand beyond the local government's ability to continue services in the face of revenue interruption. In addition, the population of Bend is estimated to rise over 50 percent in the next 30 years and by over 70 percent in the next 50 years.[4]



This table presents ten years of demographic and economic statistics (FY2016–FY2025) for the BPRD. Over the period, population grew steadily from 81,310 to 104,089, while the district's area expanded from 32.5 to 44.5 square miles, and average population density fluctuated between roughly 2,077 and 2,670 persons per square mile. Personal income more than doubled, rising from about $3.39 billion to $8.43 billion, with per capita income climbing from $41,675 to $81,025. School enrollment (from Bend-La Pine Administrative School District No. 1) grew through the mid-2010s, peaked around 2019–2021 near 18,900, and then declined to 16,616 by 2025. The unemployment rate for the Bend Metropolitan Statistical Area stayed relatively low most years (around 3–5

Bend Metro Park and Recreation District, Oregon
Demographic and Economic Statistics
Last Ten Fiscal Years
(unaudited)

Fiscal Year Ended June 30,	Population[1]	Area (square miles)	Average Density* (person/ square miles)	Personal Income* (expressed in thousands)	Per Capita Income[2]	School Enrollment[3]	Unemployment Rate[4]
2016	81,310	32.5	2,502	$ 3,388,594	$ 41,675	17,534	5.2%
2017	83,500	32.5	2,569	3,710,323	44,435	18,034	3.2%
2018	86,765	32.5	2,670	4,327,925	49,881	18,375	3.9%
2019	89,505	43.1	2,077	4,492,703	50,195	18,637	4.2%
2020	91,385	43.1	2,121	5,158,409	56,447	18,914	12.3%
2021	92,840	43.1	2,155	5,683,293	61,216	18,432	4.4%
2022	100,922	43.1	2,342	6,178,041	61,216	17,552	3.4%
2023	102,834	43.9	2,342	6,966,284	67,743	17,533	3.8%
2024	106,275	43.9	2,421	7,612,159	71,627	16,940	4.0%
2025	104,089	44.5	2,341	8,433,811	81,025	16,616	4.6%

Sources and Notes:

(1) Population figures obtained from Portland State University Population Research Center's Certified Population Estimates. In fiscal year 2022, population figures were retroactively updated to report populations as of beginning of fiscal year. The certified population estimates are revised annually; however, for consistency the district reports the original certified population estimate figures.

(2) Per capita personal income figures are for the Bend Metropolitan Statistical Area and are obtained from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis. Although the Bureau of Economic Analysis provides annual revisions to prior year data, the district, for consistency, continues to report the data that was originally reported in prior years.

(3) School enrollment figures obtained from Bend-La Pine Administrative School District No. 1.

(4) Unemployment rates represent June seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for the Bend Metropolitan Statistical Area obtained from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Seasonally adjusted data for metropolitan areas and metropolitan divisions based on the 2010 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) delineations were introduced on July 1, 2015.

* Data was revised in 2022 due to population figures being retroactively updated to beginning of fiscal year.

[3] Excerpted from adopted 26-27 Budget and Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, December 2025
[4] Portland State University Population Research Center, "Population Estimate Reports," Portland State University. https://www.pdx.edu/population-research/population-estimate-reports

percent) but spiked sharply to 12.3 percent in 2020, reflecting the COVID-19 pandemic's economic impact, before recovering to about 4.6 percent by 2025.

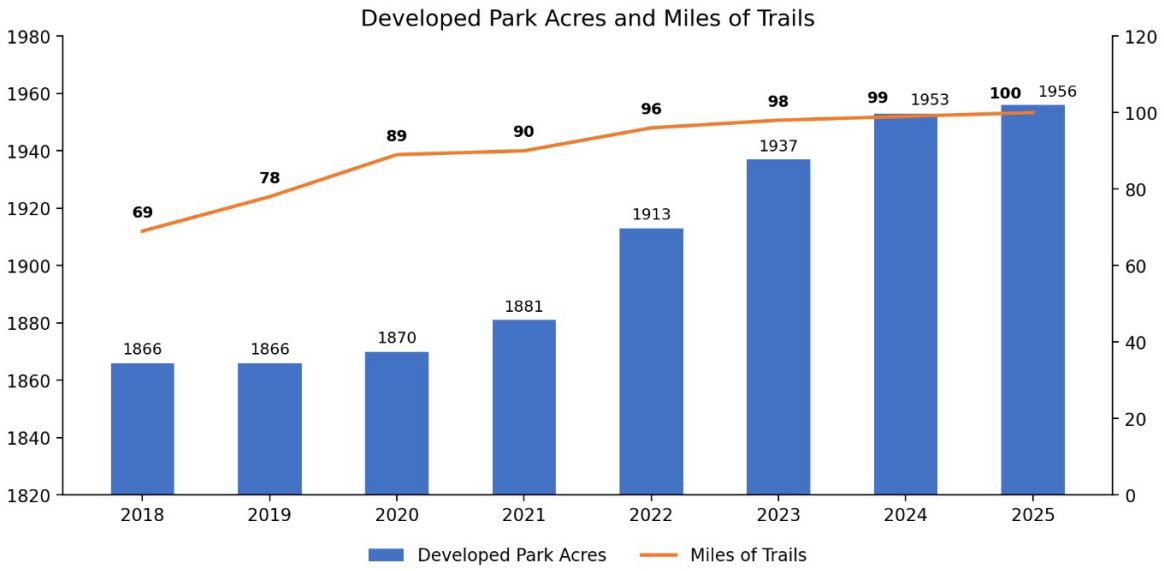
The demographics of district residents have continued to change, mirroring national trends. Between 2018 and 2022, the percentage of the population that identifies as white alone and not-Hispanic decreased from 86 percent to 82 percent, the percent of population over the age of 65 has increased slightly from 16.5 percent to 17 percent, and the population under 18 decreased from 22.6 percent to 20.8 percent.[5]

St. Charles Health System is the largest employer in Bend, while Bend-La Pine School District No. 1 remained second. Government and public-sector entities (Deschutes County, City of Bend, U.S. Forest Service) and healthcare/education were in the top ten of employers over the last decade. Newer entrants to the 2025 top ten include Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort, Bend Park and Recreation District, Safeway, Summit Medical Group Oregon, and Epic Aircraft, while 2016-era employers like Bend Memorial Clinic, IBEX Global, and Jeld Wen Windows and Doors dropped off the list. Overall, total employment among the top ten employers grew from 9,867 (12.1 percent of the metro population) in 2016 to 12,955 (12.4 percent) in 2025, indicating that the largest employers kept pace with — and slightly outgrew — the area's substantial population growth over the decade.

Bend Park and Recreation District maintains and operates more than 3,600 acres of developed and undeveloped parkland. That includes 86 parks/open spaces and over 90 miles of trail. It offers over 1,000 recreation programs for all ages and abilities throughout the area and at the Juniper Swim & Fitness Center, The Pavilion and the Larkspur Community Center. On any given day, more than 675 employees support programs, parks, and services across the district, representing approximately threequarters of the General Fund budget.



[5] Portland State University Population Research Center and Bend Park and Recreation District



Overall, looking at national, state and local economic indicators, there is a stable but cautious outlook for BPRD. While Deschutes County is outperforming much of Oregon, the overall economic environment is less robust than in past decades. The district should plan for steady, but not rapid, growth in participation and revenues.

Indicator	Trend/Status	Implication for BPRD
Population growth	Slowing, but positive	Steady demand, aging patrons
Net Migration	Strong	New residents, diverse needs
Labor Market	Cooling, but resilient	Stable revenues, staffing pressure
Housing Affordability	Challenging	Staff recruitment, fee sensitivity

Comprehensive, Capital and Strategic Plans

The Comprehensive and Strategic Plans provide the foundation for the district's work and guide annual decision making. Using this framework, the district annually develops and adopts a five year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), a five year financial forecast, and the annual operating and capital budget, ensuring that resources are aligned with community needs and organizational priorities.

The Comprehensive Plan serves as the district's primary 10year planning document. Originally adopted in July 2018, it was updated through a Midterm Comprehensive Plan Update approved by the Board in November 2024. The plan responds to Bend's rapid growth and provides direction for parks, trails, amenities, and indoor recreation facilities over the next decade. Key elements of the plan include community vision and values, population and demographic analysis, policies, park and trail inventory, maps, a community needs assessment, and level of service standards.

As part of this update, the district fielded a community survey at the end of 2023[6].

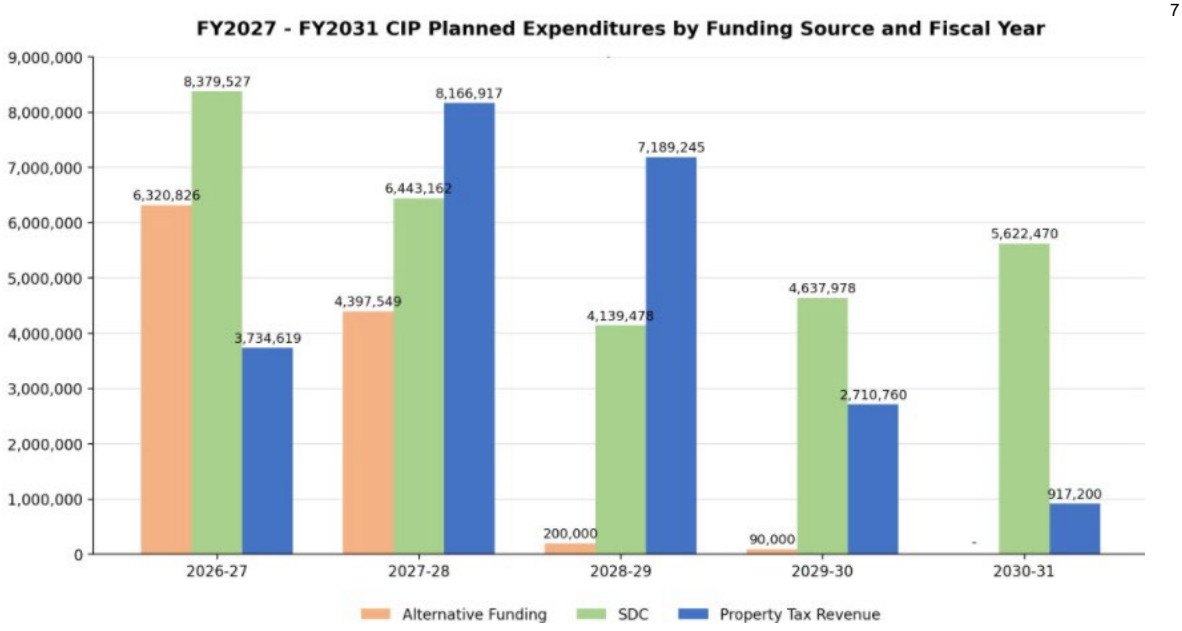
- With regards to increased funding, responses were mixed as to whether to pay extra to support BPRD in bonds. A quarter of those invited to take the (statistically valid) survey said they would not pay extra while 27 percent were willing to pay additional $95-$110 per year in bonds. Overall, for those that were invited to take the survey, support for passing a bond measure was at 53 percent, which was within the surveys 3.2 percent margin of error.

[6] Survey conducted by RRC Associates

- The top three community priorities for both samples (invited and open link) included maintaining parks and facilities, conserving natural areas along the Deschutes River, and developing parks and trails in underserved areas. Conversely, there is minimal support for permitting overnight camping for the homeless on district-managed lands.
- Trails, including both natural and paved surfaces, are the most utilized recreational facilities, with over 90 percent of community members using them in the past year. Natural area parks, large community parks, riverfront parks, and river access points were used by 70 percent of community members.

The **Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)** is a planning tool that implements the district's Comprehensive Plan, focusing on the acquisition and development of parks, trails, and recreation facilities for the following five-year period, as well as maintenance and improvement projects to existing amenities. BPRD develops and maintains the CIP that is amended each year during the annual budgeting process. It is reviewed and revised by the board of directors in order to prioritize the most important needs and to recognize budget constraints. The plan is drafted in April and adopted in June for the next Fiscal Year, which is effective July 1 – June 30.

[7]



The Strategic Plan was designed to strengthen the district's operations and management practices, community relationships, and employees and workplace culture. The board adopted the 2024-2029 Bend Park and Recreation District Strategic Plan October 2024. The plan is based on three core areas: Team, Service and Community. One strategy listed under "Community" is to "dedicate resources to seek grant and alternative funding opportunities to support priorities." A Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis performed for the Strategic Plan listed district funding as an area of strength, opportunity and threat.

2025 Survey[8]

In late 2025, Problosky Research conducted BPRD's most recent Public Perception Survey. Results of the survey showed residents expressing a desire to maintain park funding as Bend grows, with less support for reducing park revenues to address housing affordability through fee waivers or tax exemptions.

[7] FY 27 is the first year of the CIP and the only year fully incorporated into the adopted budget. The remaining years provide planning and forecasting guidance

[8] Bulletin Staff. "Bend Residents Give High Marks to Parks, Strong Support for Future Investment." *The Bulletin*, 27 Feb. 2026, https://bendbulletin.com/2026/02/27/bend-residents-give-high-marks-to-parks-strong-support-for-future-investment/.

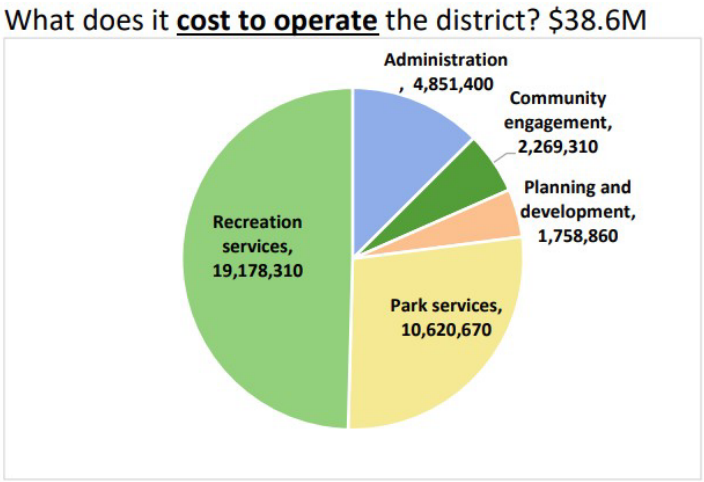
Seventy-two percent of respondents said they would support a bond measure to fund park acquisition, development and facility renovations. That support could prove vital in the years to come as Bend considers a bond measure to pay for future infrastructure that could include a new aquatics facility, indoor ice rink or sports facility.

The survey asked about dollar tolerance for a bond measure, and there was a softening of support compared to the 2023 survey.

Bond Impact Range	2023	2025
I would not pay extra:	25%	30%
$50 - $65 a year	29%	20%
$65 - $80 a year	14%	9.5%
$80 - $95 a year	5%	7.5%
$95 - $110 a year	27%	21.5%
Unsure	None listed	11.5%

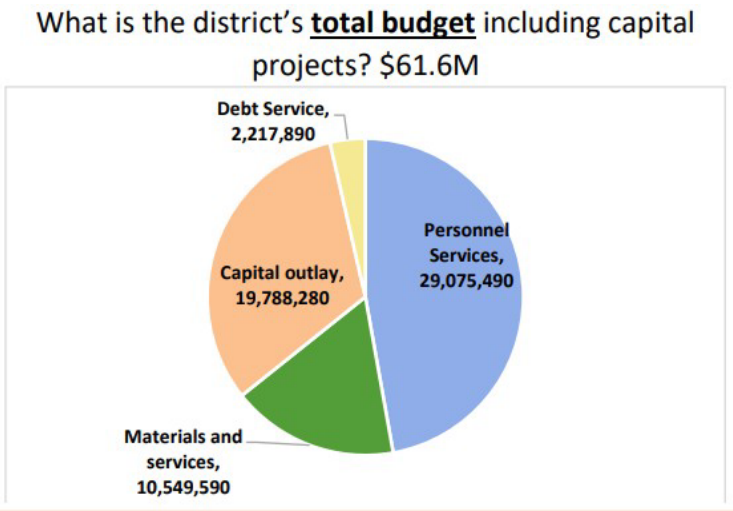
The survey found strong public trust in the district. Seventy-four percent said they trust the organization, and 67 percent believe it uses taxpayer funds responsibly. While overall perceptions were positive, the report notes that ratings were slightly lower in areas such as transparency and community partnerships, suggesting potential areas for additional outreach.

Budget fiscal year 2026-2027[9]



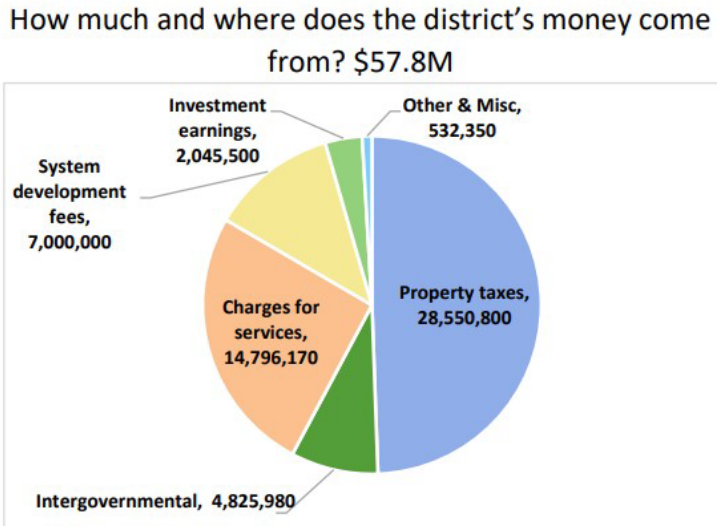
The district's Fiscal Year 2026–27 budget maintains healthy reserves to support planned future projects and ongoing asset maintenance. The Adopted budget anticipates $57.8 million in revenues and $61.6 million in expenditures, for total budgeted requirements of $120.6 million, including contingencies and reserves. This budget supports 305 fulltime equivalent (FTE) employees, representing $29.1 million in personnel costs, and includes $19.8 million in capital investment to maintain and improve district facilities and infrastructure. An analysis for the district looked at one future scenario where it included every desired project in its plans, kept scholarships high, increased employee compensation by what was suggested with a comparative study of pay, moved ahead with improvements to the Bend Whitewater Park project and more. In that scenario, the district would be spending more than it is taking in by the 2029-2030 budget year. [10]

[9] Excerpted from FY26/27 Budget
[10] Bulletin Editorial Board. "Editorial: Bend Parks May Go for New Bond." *The Bulletin*, 19 Jan. 2026, https://bendbulletin.com/2026/01/19/editorial-bend-parks-may-go-for-new-bond/.

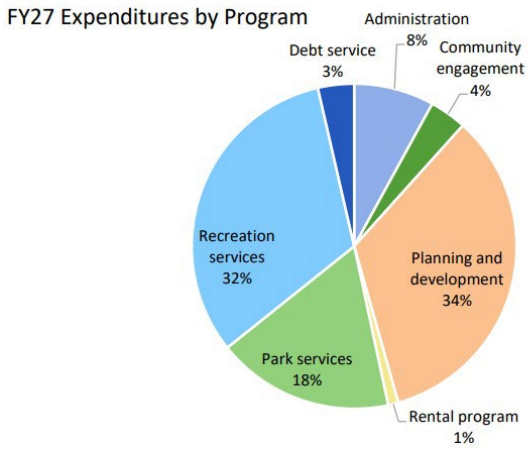


Revenues

The district's primary revenue sources include property taxes (nearly half of all revenue), charges for services (user fees), and System Development Charges (SDCs). Total revenues are projected to increase by approximately $7.4 million, a 14.6 percent increase over the prior year's budget. This increase is largely attributable to the prior year's conservative property tax and SDC estimates and increased grant funding supporting capital projects and land acquisition. Together, these revenue sources provide a stable foundation to support both ongoing operations and capital investments



Expenditures
While broader economic conditions continue to influence operations, labor costs remain a significant budget consideration, particularly as the district implements adjustments from recent compensation, classification, and pay equity studies. Overall expenditures in the FY 27 Adopted budget are projected to decrease by $10.3 million, or 14.3 percent, compared to the prior year. This decrease is primarily the result of reduced capital spending following several large projects completed or underway in the previous budget year, including the purchase and remodel of the Park Services Shop and major SD funded projects such as the Art Station and Pine Nursery. In FY 27, more projects are in planning or design phases. Despite the overall decrease, personnel and operating expenditures increased by 6.6 percent and 6.4 percent respectively, reflecting continued investment in staffing, service delivery, and the cost of maintaining district facilities and programs. These increases total approximately $2.4 million.



BPRD budgets by activity: Administration, Community Engagement, Planning and Development, Park Services, Recreation Services and Debt Service. With all the large projects last year, Planning and Development is a smaller portion this year.

Other Budgetary Issues

Wildfire
As wildfire concerns grow across Central Oregon, the BPRD has expanded forest thinning and fuels reduction work across thousands of acres in and around the city. The district plans to increase vegetation management in the coming years, with a focus on improving forest health while reducing wildfire risk near neighborhoods. Central Oregon re-enters a period of drought after two relatively wet years. Currently around 96 percent of Oregon is experiencing some form of drought. Low snowpack in the Cascades could lead to drier ground conditions this summer in Bend, increasing wildfire risk.

The district has been conducting forest health and fuels reduction work for more than 20 years, beginning primarily in larger natural areas such as Shevlin Park, Eastgate Natural Area and Riley Ranch Nature Reserve before expanding into neighborhood parks. Additional funding will be needed to continue to carry out these activities.[11]

In an October 2026 editorial, the Bend Bulletin supported the city moving ahead on defensible space, the state's model code for keeping flammable vegetation away from homes. It acknowledges that compliance can be costly for property owners. Council members want to move both quickly and slowly, with a possible demonstration project in a high-risk neighborhood that may get volunteer help. The longer-term goals are a code residents will support and a way to pay for compliance. Mayor Melanie Kebler wants community input before the code is set. The city's fire levy expires in 2029, with a new levy likely in 2028, and that part of it could fund wildfire prevention.[12]

Tax Increment Financing and Revenue Impacts
In addition to wildfire mitigation costs, the district faces a separate fiscal pressure from the City of Bend's use of tax increment financing (TIF) districts and other property tax exemptions to encourage redevelopment and affordable housing. Under Oregon's urban renewal statutes, property values within a designated TIF district are frozen for tax-distribution purposes at the time the district is formed; as those properties appreciate, the resulting increment in tax revenue is directed to the urban renewal agency rather than being distributed among the overlapping taxing districts, including BPRD. The district

[11] Bulletin Staff. "Bend Parks Expand Forest Thinning, Wildfire Mitigation Efforts." *The Bulletin*, 6 May 2026.
[12] Bulletin Editorial Board. "Editorial: Bend should move ahead on defensible space." *The Bulletin*, 26 Oct. 2026, https://bendbulletin.com/2026/10/26/editorial-bend-should-move-ahead-on-defensible-space/.

continues to collect tax revenue at its current base, but does not share in assessed value growth generated within active TIF boundaries for the duration of the district.

BPRD board members have identified this as an ongoing constraint on general fund revenue, citing an estimated annual loss in the range of $800,000 tied to current city tax-exemption and TIF programs. While this loss does not reduce the district's existing revenue base, it does limit growth in property tax collections that would otherwise accompany rising property values citywide, and its cumulative effect will compound as additional or expanded TIF districts are adopted. This dynamic is a relevant consideration in evaluating the district's long-term fiscal capacity for both operating and capital funding.[13]

Government and District Structure

The Board of Directors, composed of five elected board members, forms the legislative branch of the district government, and sets policy, appoints Budget Committee members, adopts the annual budget, and hires and directs the Executive Director. The Executive Director is responsible for the administration of the district. The district's annual budget planning process is the culmination of a more comprehensive long-term planning process, which starts with a vision, mission and value statements. These statements serve the purpose of defining for the public, staff, volunteers and board of directors why the organization exists, who it serves and how it serves them.

Board of Directors		
Name	**Seat**	**Term Expires**
Cary Schneider	Chair	June 30, 2029
Deb Schoen	Vice Chair	June 30, 2029
Nathan Hovekamp	Director & Legislative Liaison	June 30, 2029
Jodie Schiffman	Director	June 30, 2027
Donna Owens	Director	June 30, 2027

Choosing a Local Funding Strategy

Generally, there are three primary types of revenue sources available to local governments to pay for parks and recreation: discretionary annual spending, creation of dedicated funding streams, and debt financing. The financing options utilized by a community will depend on a variety of factors such as taxing capacity, budgetary resources, voter preferences, and political will.

Significant, dedicated funding generally comes from broad-based taxes and/or the issuance of bonded indebtedness, which often require the approval of voters. In the Trust for Public Land's experience, local governments that create funding via the budget process often provide substantially less funding than those that create funding through ballot measures. As elected officials go through the process of making critical budgetary decisions, funding for parks and land conservation often lags behind other public purposes, and the amount appropriated tends to be less than what voters would support. It is understandably difficult to raise taxes without an indisputable public mandate for the intended purpose.

Ballot measures provide a tangible means to implement a local government's vision. With their own funding, local governments are better positioned to secure scarce funding from state or federal governments or private philanthropic partners. In addition, having a predictable funding source empowers the local jurisdiction to establish long-term parks and recreation priorities that meet important community goals and values.

[13] Bulletin Editorial Board. "Editorial: A Bend Tax Deal with Tradeoffs." *The Bulletin*, 6 Jul. 2026, bendbulletin.com.
Bulletin Editorial Board. "Editorial: The Polite Fight over Bend Park Money." *The Bulletin*, 3 Nov. 2025, bendbulletin.com.

Nationwide, a range of public financing options has been utilized by local jurisdictions to fund parks and open space, including general obligation bonds, the local sales tax, and the property tax. The ability of local governments to establish dedicated funding sources depends upon state enabling authority.

In Oregon, a range of public financing options have been utilized to fund parks and land conservation, such as the property tax and general obligation bonding. TPL's research will focus on broad-based mechanisms capable of generating significant funding at the local level that are practical and have been proven. Many of these funding options require voter approval.

Local Conservation Finance Ballot Measures in Oregon

The property tax and general obligation bonds are the principal local, voter-approved revenue sources that are permitted for parks and conservation purposes in Oregon. Counties and municipalities are authorized to acquire land and easements for purposes including parks, trails, watershed protection, floodplain management, farmland, and cultural and historic preservation. These mechanisms have different requirements for authorization. In Oregon, municipalities and districts rather than counties have largely undertaken conservation finance ballot measures. Most of these measures are bonds, which can only be used for capital expenses.[14] The property tax may be used to fund operations and maintenance.

Oregon voters have shown moderate support for funding parks and open space measures – approving 25 of 37 local funding questions (68 percent) since 1996. The most common finance mechanism utilized by local jurisdictions in the state is general obligation bonds, which accounted for 18 of the successful ballot measures.

The City of Portland, the Metro Regional Government, the City of Eugene, and Willamalane Park and Recreation District are examples of local option property taxes for parks and land conservation.[15]

Oregon Local Conservation Finance Measures 1996–present

Finance Mechanism	# Of Measures	# Passed	% Passed	Parks and Conservation Funds Approved	Total Funds Approved
Bond	25	18	72%	$991,910,000	$1,106,695,000
Meals Tax	1	1	100%	$6,000,000	$30,000,000
Property tax	11	6	55%	$850,012,364	$850,012,364
Total	**37**	**25**	**68%**	**$1,847,922,364**	**$1,986,707,364**

Source: The Trust for Public Land's LandVote Database

Public Finance Options for Bend Park and Recreation District

Local Option Property Tax Levy [16]

While property tax revenue makes up only a portion of most local government budgets, it is usually a critical resource supporting daily operations. Both the Oregon Constitution and Oregon Revised Statutes limit the amount and types of tax a city may impose. The first property tax limitation came in 1990 with the passage of Ballot Measure 5. Article XI, Section 11(b), Oregon Constitution. Ballot Measure 5 imposed a tax rate limit on local governments: one for schools (kindergarten through community colleges), and one for all other local governments. Oregon local governments are limited to billing each property tax account no more than $10.00 per $1,000 of ***real market value*** (RMV) plus any voter approved general obligation bonded debt (school districts have a $5.00 limit).

[14] The Trust for Public Land's Conservation Almanac Database
[15] The Trust for Public Land's LandVote Database. LandVote tracks measures that partially or entirely have funding for land protection.
[16] The property tax overview was largely excerpted from the Oregon Municipal Handbook.

Ballot Measure 50 was adopted by the voters in November 1996. Measure 50 created a new property tax system by repealing the tax base system and replacing it with a permanent tax rate system with some local options and the concept of maximum assessed value. The measure set the maximum assessed value for each property in 1997 equal to 90 percent of the 1995-96 real market value and placed a cap on ***assessed value*** (AV) growth of 3 percent annually, except for new construction, subdivision, remodeling, rezoning, loss of special assessment or exemption. These permanent tax rates cannot be changed by any action of the district or its voters and remains at the 1997 rates.

Because assessed values were initially established at levels below real market values, and because the real estate market has appreciated at a rate of more than three percent in most years since Ballot Measure 50 passed, the assessed values of many properties are substantially lower than their real market values. This means that assessed values may continue to increase even though the real market value of a property can be falling as a result of current market conditions.

When the total of a local government (non-school) tax rates on a property for all purposes except payment of general obligation bonds exceed $10 per $1,000 of real market value, the property is said to be in compression. All property tax levies except levies for general obligation bonds are subject to compression.

Local option levies are subject to “special compression.” This means that local option levies are reduced (to zero if necessary) before other levies are reduced to bring the total tax on the property down to the Measure 5 limit. Compression is calculated separately for each property, so it is possible for one property to be in compression, while the neighboring property is not.

A district may determine through the budget process that it needs additional funds to operate. State law allows for local option levies, either for a specific or general purpose. Local option levies for operating purposes may only extend for five years. Levies for capital purposes may extend for ten years or the useful life of the project, whichever is shorter. Majority voter approval is required.

Local option levies can be structured as either a fixed dollar amount per year for the term of the levy or as a fixed rate per thousand dollars of assessed value. There are pros and cons to each approach, and a government should carefully weigh these as they decide what to put forth to the voters.

Operating Levies

Local option levies for operating purposes provide local governments with the possibility of collecting additional operating dollars from property taxes beyond the permanent levy. Although these collections are subject to Measure 50 compression, local option levies may present the most significant, efficient and equitable form of revenue raising options for local governments.[17] Local option levies for operating purposes may only extend for five years.

Capital Levies

Local option levies can be used for capital purposes. Levies for capital purposes can extend up to the lesser of 10 years or the useful life of the financed capital items. Capital items can include any capitalizable asset, including items that are specifically excluded from general obligation debt by Measure 50. Capital local option levies are rarely seen in Oregon. Because the levy is subject to the same voter approval requirement as GO bonds, but the revenue stream is subject to the Measure 5 tax rate limits, municipalities tend to favor GO bond authority over the local option levy for capital purposes. However, because general obligation bond proceeds are more limited in usage, some jurisdictions have opted for local option levies to pay for things that would otherwise be disallowed under general obligation bond provisions (for example, supplies and equipment).[18]

[17] League of Oregon Cities, Debt Issuance Manual
[18] League of Oregon Cities, Debt Issuance Manual, September 2007

The chart below shows some examples of park-related operating levies. For example, the Willamalane Park and Recreation District had a property tax levy in 2026 for park operations and maintenance:

Property Tax Ballot Measures for Parks Approved in Oregon, 1996				
Jurisdiction Name	**Date**	**Description**	**Total Funds Approved**	**% Yes**
Willamalane Park and Recreation District	5/19/2026	5-year, $.25 cents per $1000 property tax increase for park district operations	$8,427,000	51%
Portland	11/4/2025	5-year, $1.40 per $1,000 property tax increase for parks, recreation and natural area protection	$456,057,364	56%
Eugene	5/15/2018	5-year, $.19 per $1,000 local option levy for park operations and maintenance	$15,750,000	66%
Portland Metro	5/21/2013	5-year, local option levy of $.096 per $1,000 for park improvement and operations and maintenance	$50,000,000	56%
Source: The Trust for Public Land's LandVote Database				

The ballot language for the 2026 Willamalane Park District levy (which passed with 51% of the vote) was as follows:

Willamalane Park & Recreation District

Measure No: 20-384

Caption: Preserve park safety, recreation, and ongoing maintenance with five-year levy

Question: Shall Willamalane preserve park safety, maintenance, recreation programs, and wildfire prevention with 25-cents per $1,000 assessed five-year levy, beginning 2026-2027? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

Summary: Willamalane Park and Recreation District is seeking approval for a tax levy to maintain and preserve current services, programs, and staffing levels, including:

- *Trash pickup and reduction of illegal dumping*
- *Ranger patrols to improve park safety*
- *Parks and natural area maintenance*
- *Removal of dead, down, overgrown vegetation and brush*
- *Protection of wildlife habitat and water quality*
- *Safe public river and pool access for recreation*
- *Affordable summer camps and preschool*
- *Recreation and wellness programs for seniors*
- *Community events*
- *Daily restroom cleaning*
- *Recreation facility and pool hours*

Based on a median assessed value of $196,803, a homeowner would pay approximately $4.10 per month for the first year of the levy. Public disclosure of all spending for full transparency. Appointed budget committee, elected board members would review levy expenditures. Independent audit, monthly financial reports required. If not approved, the District would reduce its budget by approximately 10%, resulting in reduced maintenance, hours, programs, and services.

The proposed rate would raise approximately $1,571,484 in 2026, $1,626,486, in 2027, $1,683,413 in 2028, $1,742,332 in 2029, and $1,803,314 in 2030 for a total of $8,427,029 over five years. The estimated tax cost for this measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based on the best information available from the county assessor at the time of estimate and may reflect the impact of early payment discounts, compression and the collection rate

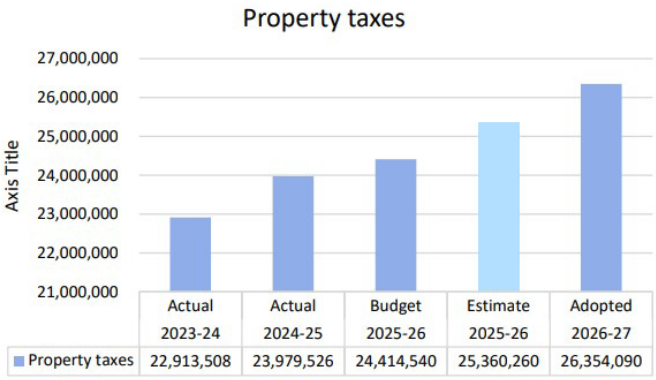
Local Option Levy in Bend Park and Recreation District

Each year, the district board determines and fixes the amount of money to be levied and raised by property taxes. The property tax fixed by the board may not exceed the permanent rate limitation approved by voters at the formation election. Due to Ballot Measure 50, the district has a permanent tax

rate levy authority of $1.461 per $1,000 of assessed property value, which it is currently using.[19]

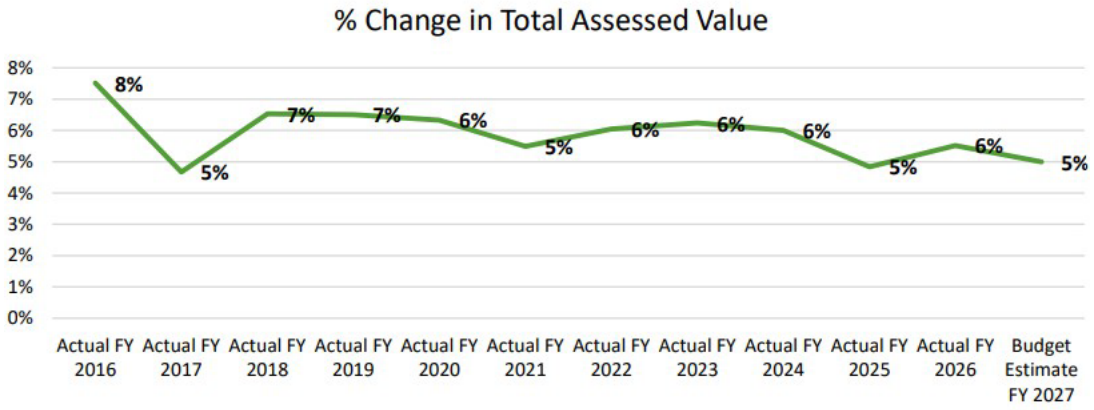
If a special district's expenses rise over the maximum rate allowed, then revenue may be provided through local option levies. The local option levy differs from the permanent property tax because it is a temporary assessment, only in place for a prescribed period of time as approved by the voters for specific use and based on the assessed valuation. The local option levy may be used for either operation and maintenance or capital projects. Local option levies are subject to the $10 per $1,000 of assessed value limitation. An operation levy may be imposed for a maximum of five years, while a capital project levy may be imposed for the lesser of the useful life or ten years. The district may also levy an additional property tax for the payment of debt service on bonds.

When property tax rates exceed the permanent limitation, the imposed taxes are reduced proportionately ("compressed") to conform to these requirements. The reduction in taxes due to compression is equivalent to the difference between what taxing districts wished to raise through property taxes (tax extended) and the amount they actually raised (tax imposed). The amount by which tax revenue is reduced on a property is called "compression loss." Local option taxes are compressed before all other property tax rates are adjusted such that districts with local options account for the majority of compression loss. As of 2026, the district does not levy a local option tax.



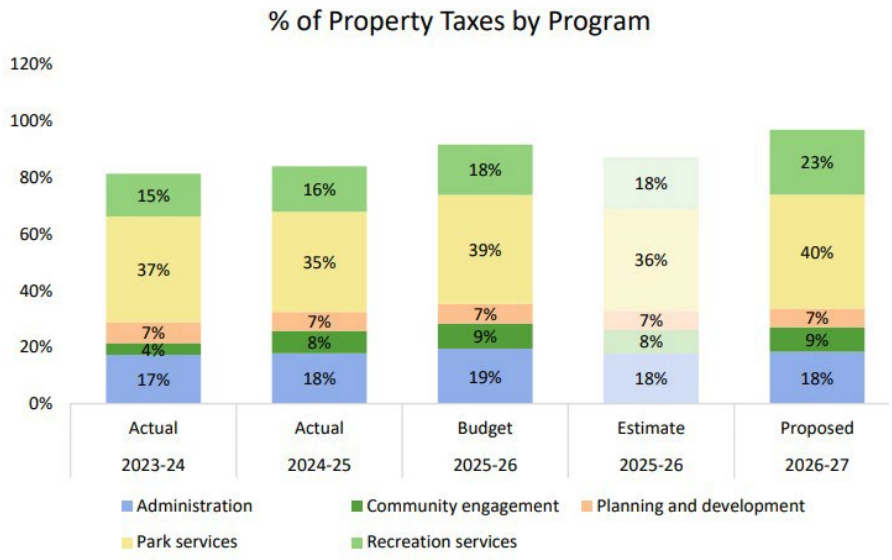
Actual property tax revenues in FY2025-26 came in at 6 percent, higher than the 4 percent assumption in the FY26 budget, and for this current year the district is estimating a total increase of 7.9 percent of the prior year budget in property tax revenue.

Assessed values have held steady and are expected to rise 5 percent, as shown in the chart below:



[19] As set by the Oregon Constitution – Measures 5 & 50

Property taxes make up about 53-56 percent of the General fund's revenues. The district has permanent authority to levy property taxes to support its operations up to a maximum rate. As a part of the annual budget adoption, the Board of Directors adopts a resolution to impose the tax rate that is to be assessed for the upcoming fiscal year. The district relies on a mixture of property tax revenues and user fees to provide high quality, accessible and diverse park, and recreation services to district residents. Tax revenues fund basic services such as parks, trails, natural areas and help support a wide variety of recreation opportunities.



Compression currently appears minimal for BPRD. The district's collection rate has held at 95–96 percent while its levy rose from $16.8M to $26.9M, with no downward trend that would signal a growing compression problem. Compression depends on the combined tax rate of all overlapping districts, and several recent local measures have added to that rate, including fire and emergency levies approved in 2023 and a permanent rate limit approved in 2024. General obligation bonds are outside the Measure 5 limit and do not contribute to compression. Near-term pressure appears limited, but the expected renewals of the 2023 levies and any new overlapping levy would increase BPRD's exposure. Tax levies utilized to pay the debt service for bonds are not subject to the $10 per $1,000 of assessed value limit. The revenue generated from this additional property tax must be retained by the county treasurer and kept in a separate fund designated as the "Bend Park and Recreation District bond interest and sinking fund."[20]

A local option levy can be used to fund land acquisition. There is a $10 per $1,000 aggregate tax rate limitation. The district could potentially issue a local option levy because this limit may not have been reached district wide or in any of its jurisdictions. An increase in the levy can only be issued district wide versus incorporated and unincorporated areas. A local option levy for operation and maintenance may not exceed five years, while a local option levy for capital projects may not exceed the lesser of the expected useful life of the project or ten years. The county assessor should be contacted for further information if this option is pursued to calculate any possible compression which could happen to levy revenue given multiple local option levies overlapping in the district.

The table below summarizes the estimated revenues and costs of various local levy amounts. For example, an increase of $0.15 per $1,000 of assessed value would generate roughly $2.8 million per year at a cost of $41 per year for the average household, notwithstanding any Measure 5 compression or any exemptions.

[20] Besides a sinking fund for debt service, the park and recreation board may establish sinking funds for the purpose of defraying the costs of acquiring land for park and recreation sites, and for acquiring or constructing buildings or facilities thereon or therein.

Bend PRD Property Tax Estimates				
Mill Increase	2026 Taxable valuation	Annual revenue	Annual cost per household*	5 years of revenue
0.0500	$18,488,847,648	$924,442	$14	$4,622,212
0.0750	$18,488,847,648	$1,386,664	$20	$6,933,318
0.1000	$18,488,847,648	$1,848,885	$27	$9,244,424
0.1250	$18,488,847,648	$2,311,106	$34	$11,555,530
0.1500	$18,488,847,648	$2,773,327	$41	$13,866,636
0.1750	$18,488,847,648	$3,235,548	$48	$16,177,742
0.2000	$18,488,847,648	$3,697,770	$54	$18,488,848
0.2250	$18,488,847,648	$4,159,991	$61	$20,799,954
0.2500	$18,488,847,648	$4,622,212	$68	$23,111,060
Estimated median assessed value for BPRD of $272,480 , Deschutes County Assessor's Office				

Implementation Procedure

Local option levies can be imposed only with voter approval. Local option levy elections are subject to the same “double majority” requirements as general obligation bonds. If the election was held in May or November, the double majority requirement would not apply. The March and September elections are subject to the “double majority” requirement.

Ballot Language Requirements and Examples

The ballot title of any measure, other than a state measure, to be initiated or referred shall consist of:

- A caption of not more than 10 words which reasonably identifies the subject of the measure;
- A question of not more than 20 words which plainly phrases the chief purpose of the measure so that an affirmative response to the question corresponds to an affirmative vote on the measure; and
- A concise and impartial statement of not more than 175 words summarizing the measure and its major effect.[21]

If the election is not the May or November election, and thus the “double majority” requirement applies, the ballot must include the following statement as the first statement of the ballot title summary:

- “This measure may be passed only at an election with at least a 50 percent voter turnout.”
- The words of this statement do not count towards the word limits described above.[22]

The ballot title for a measure authorizing the imposition of local option taxes shall contain the following statement and information:

- “This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.”[23]

As part of the question, the ballot title for a measure authorizing or renewing the authorization of the imposition of local option taxes shall state:

- The length in years of the period during which the proposed local option tax will be imposed.
- The first fiscal year in which the proposed local option tax will be imposed.[24]

If the measure is authorizing the imposition of local option taxes, the front of the outer envelope in which the ballot title is delivered shall state, clearly and boldly printed in red, “CONTAINS VOTE ON PROPOSED TAX INCREASE”.[25]

[21] ORS 250.035
[22] ORS 250.035
[23] ORS 280.070
[24] *Id.*
[25] ORS 250.038

For a levy imposed based on a fixed amount, the statement in the ballot title for the measure that explains the chief purpose of the measure and gives reasons for the measure shall state the total amount of money to be raised by the proposed local option tax, in dollars and cents. If this levy raises more money than estimated, the excess collections above that estimate shall be considered a budget resource for the levy fund in the next fiscal year of the subdivision. This statute does not apply to an election authorizing general obligation bonds or the tax levies to repay general obligation bonds. This statement is to be added to and made a part of the 175-word statement, however, will not count towards the 175-word limitation.[2627]

A ballot measure authorizing the local option levy may also state that the taxing district may issue bonds payable from the levy and voter approval of the levy constitutes voter approval of the bonds.[28]

If more than one proposal to impose local option levies is submitted to the electors at the same election, the several ballot measures shall be voted upon separately. However, not more than four separate ballot measures proposing local option levies may be submitted to the electors within a single calendar year. Local option levy ballots for capital projects with a term greater than five years must be submitted to the electors separately than local option taxes with a term of five years or less.[29]

If BPRD wants to proceed with a 2027 measure the only date currently scheduled for elections is May 18, 2027.

February 26, 2027 — the deadline to file the ballot title for publication of notice with the county elections office (SEL 805), for inclusion on the May 18, 2027 ballot.[30]

March 18, 2027 — Last day to file the notice of measure election and explanatory statement with the county elections office (SEL 803). This can't be filed until the seven-business-day ballot title challenge period (following publication of notice) has passed.

March 22, 2027 — Last day to file measure arguments for the county voters' pamphlet.

Bonds

A park and recreation district may issue general obligation or revenue bonds to provide funds for the acquisition of land, for land improvements and development of parks and recreation grounds, and for capital recreation facility construction and improvements.[31] The issuance of general obligation bonds must be approved by a majority of those voting at an election called for that purpose. The bond election may be called by the district board on its own resolution or must be called by the board when a petition specifying the bond is filed.[32] Federal regulations governing the issuance of tax-exempt bonds limit the use of proceeds to capital purposes so bonds cannot be used to resolve the district's current operational funding shortfalls.

In order to pay the principal of and interest on outstanding general obligation bonds, the district levies annually an ad valorem property tax on the taxable property within the boundaries of the district. The revenues of this levy may only be used to pay the principal of and interest on the general obligation

[26] ORS 280.075
[27] Because the amount levied each year is, as stated in ORS 280.060(1)(b), "Computed annually at the same dollar rate per thousand dollars assessed value in the subdivision," and that rate is "declared in and made a part of the ballot measure to be submitted to the electorate" - the "ESTIMATE ONLY" language is not required. See ORS 280.075(2), which says that the "ESTIMATE ONLY" statement doesn't apply to a local option tax described in ORS 280.060(1)(b).
[28] ORS 280.075 and 280.060(5).
[29] ORS 280.060(4)(a).
[30] OAR 165-014-0005
[31] Federal regulations governing the issuance of tax-exempt bonds limit the use of proceeds to capital purposes such that only a small fraction (up to 5%) of bond funds may be used for maintenance or operations directly related to the funded facilities. Treas Reg 1.148-6(d)(3)(ii)(A)(5). State and local laws may further limit the use of bond proceeds.
[32] The requirements for preparing, circulating and filing a petition must follow the procedure for an initiative petition, as contained in ORS 255.135 to 255.205.

bond.[33] Property taxes imposed to pay the principal and interest on voter-approved general obligation bonds for capital construction or improvements are not subject to the property tax limits of Measure 5.[34] General obligation bonds are a popular finance mechanism for funding land conservation in Oregon. Since 1996, several municipalities and park districts in Oregon have passed general obligation bonds for parks and recreation.

Debt Limit

Park and recreation districts formed under ORS Chapter 266 are limited in the amount of indebtedness they may incur. The aggregate amount of general obligation bonds issued and outstanding at any one time shall in no case exceed two- and one-half percent (2.50%) of Real Market Value of all taxable property within the district. The calculation of debt capacity is described below. As of August 2026, BPRD has an outstanding principal of $14,480,000 from the 2012, $29 million bond. Moody's Investors Service has assigned a credit rating of Aa2 to the district for its general obligation bonds.

General Obligation Bond Capacity	
	Statutory Limit
FY27 Real Market Value	$44,002,357,699
ORS Chapter 266 Limitation 2.5% of RMV	$1,100,058,942
Current Outstanding Debt	$14,480,000
Remaining General Obligation Bond Capacity	**$1,085,578,942**
Debt Capacity %	**98.7%**

Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest	Payment
2027	1,725,000	492,881	2,217,881
2028	1,840,000	423,881	2,263,881
2029	1,960,000	350,281	2,310,281
2030	2,065,000	291,482	2,356,482
2031	2,175,000	226,950	2,401,950
2032	2,295,000	156,263	2,451,263
2033	2,420,000	81,675	2,501,675
	$ 14,480,000	$ 2,023,413	$ 16,503,413

In November 2012, 52 percent of BPRD voters supported the passage of a $29 million bond. The measure read as follows:

Bend Metro Park & Recreation District
9-86 Bonds for parks, safety, water, natural areas and trail improvements.

Question: Shall BPRD protect natural areas, connect trails and improve parks by issuing up to $29 Million in General Obligation Bonds? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution, ORS250.037(1).

SUMMARY:
This measure provides funds for capital costs to:

- *Preserve natural areas and parkland for future generations*
- *Preserve fish and wildlife habitat, and water quality in and along Deschutes River*
- *Complete Deschutes River Trail*
- *Create safe passage at Colorado Dam*
- *Create, equip, and improve parks*
- *Create open-air recreation facility*

[33] ORS 287A.140
[34] Oregon Constitution Article XI Section 11b. Measure 5 constitutionally limits total non-school property taxes to one percent ($10 per $1,000 assessed value), which significantly limits local revenue options.

The District has placed this measure on the ballot to fund construction of new projects and purchase land for trail connection to serve the community and its guests.

The District would provide oversight of the proposed projects. Proceeds would be annually audited and open for review by the public.

Bonds would mature in 21 years or less from issuance and may be issued in one or more series. The estimated additional annual cost to property owners if all $29 million in bonds are sold would be $.24 per $1,000 assessed valuation. For the owner of a home with an assessed value of $200,000, the estimated additional monthly cost would be about $4 per month, or $48 per year.

General Obligation Bond for Parks and Open Space

Bend Park and Recreation District could consider issuing general obligation bonds for parks and open space. The tables below illustrate the estimated annual debt service, required property tax rate, and annual household cost of various general obligation bond issue amounts that could be considered by the district using maturity terms of 20 years and 10 years. For example, a $35 million bond would add about $2.8 million to the district's annual debt service and would cost approximately $40 per year for the average homeowner over the life of the bond (20 years).

Bend Park and Rec District Bond Financing Estimates								
Bond Issue	**Rate**	**Maturity (years)**	**Annual Debt Service**	**Total Assessed Value**	**Mill Levy Required**	**Median Assessed Value**	**Annual Cost for Average Home**	**Monthly Cost for Average Home**
$15,000,000	5.0%	20	$1,203,639	$18,902,426,332	$0.0637	$272,480	$17	$1
$20,000,000	5.0%	20	$1,604,852	$18,902,426,332	$0.0849	$272,480	$23	$2
$25,000,000	5.0%	20	$2,006,065	$18,902,426,332	$0.1061	$272,480	$29	$2
$30,000,000	5.0%	20	$2,407,278	$18,902,426,332	$0.1274	$272,480	$35	$3
$35,000,000	5.0%	20	$2,808,491	$18,902,426,332	$0.1486	$272,480	$40	$3
$40,000,000	5.0%	20	$3,209,703	$18,902,426,332	$0.1698	$272,480	$46	$4
$55,000,000	5.0%	20	$4,413,342	$18,902,426,332	$0.2335	$272,480	$64	$5
Source: Deschutes County Assessor; 2026-2027 Tax Reports.								

Bend Park and Rec District Bond Financing Estimates								
Bond Issue	**Rate**	**Maturity (years)**	**Annual Debt Service**	**Total Assessed Value**	**Mill Levy Required**	**Median Assessed Value**	**Annual Cost for Average Home**	**Monthly Cost for Average Home**
$15,000,000	5.0%	10	$1,942,569	$18,902,426,332	$0.1028	$272,480	$28	$2
$20,000,000	5.0%	10	$2,590,091	$18,902,426,332	$0.1370	$272,480	$37	$3
$25,000,000	5.0%	10	$3,237,614	$18,902,426,332	$0.1713	$272,480	$47	$4
$30,000,000	5.0%	10	$3,885,137	$18,902,426,332	$0.2055	$272,480	$56	$5
$35,000,000	5.0%	10	$4,532,660	$18,902,426,332	$0.2398	$272,480	$65	$5
$40,000,000	5.0%	10	$5,180,183	$18,902,426,332	$0.2740	$272,480	$75	$6
$50,000,000	5.0%	10	$6,475,229	$18,902,426,332	$0.3426	$272,480	$93	$8
Source: Deschutes County Assessor; 2026-2027 Tax Reports.								

The Trust for Public Land's bond cost calculations provide a basic estimate of debt service, tax increase, and cost to the typical homeowner in the community of potential bond issuances. Assumptions include the following: the entire debt amount is issued in the first year and payments are equal until maturity; 20-year maturity, and 10-year maturity; and a conservative five percent interest rate.[35] The property tax estimates assume that the jurisdiction would raise property taxes to pay the debt service on bonds. The

[35] Shorter term bonds may be eligible for lower interest rates.

cost per household represents the maximum estimated annual impact of increased property taxes levied to pay the debt service. The estimates do not take into account growth in the tax base due to new construction, annexation over the life of the bonds, or the possibility that the jurisdiction will sell bonds only as needed for specific projects, rather than all at once. The annual debt service and cost per household are the maximum tax impacts that could occur if the entire debt amount is issued at once. The jurisdiction's officials, financial advisors, bond counsel and underwriters would establish the actual terms of any bond.

Implementation[36]

General obligation bonds must be approved by a majority of the voters voting in a May or November general election, or at a special election with at least 50 percent voter turnout (i.e., approved by a "double majority" of voters).

Bond measures can be submitted to voters on the following dates:

- second Tuesday in March (double majority required);
- third Tuesday in May;
- third Tuesday in September (double majority required); or
- first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

The general election is held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each even-numbered year.

Ballot Language Requirements

The ballot title of any measure, other than a state measure, to be initiated or referred shall consist of:

- A caption of not more than 10 words which reasonably identifies the subject of the measure;
- A question of not more than 20 words which plainly phrases the chief purpose of the measure so that an affirmative response to the question corresponds to an affirmative vote on the measure; and
- A concise and impartial statement of not more than 175 words summarizing the measure and its major effect.[37]

If the election is not the May or November election, and thus the "double majority" requirement applies, the ballot must include the following statement as the first statement of the ballot title summary:

- "This measure may be passed only at an election with at least a 50 percent voter turnout."
- The words of this statement do not count towards the word limits described above.[38]

The ballot title of any measure requesting elector approval of bonds, the principal and interest on which will be payable from taxes imposed on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limitations of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution (including general obligation bonds), shall contain the following statement immediately after the ballot title question and appearing with it, in this manner:

- "Question: (herein the question is stated) If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution."
- The words of this statement do not count towards the word limits described above.

The ballot title statement for any measure requesting elector approval of bonds, the principal and interest on which is to be payable from taxes imposed on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limitations of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution (including general obligation

[36] ORS 255.345
[37] ORS 250.035
[38] ORS 250.036

bonds), shall contain a reasonably detailed, simple and understandable description of the use of proceeds.

The front of the outer envelope in which the ballot title is delivered shall state, clearly and boldly printed in red, "CONTAINS VOTE ON PROPOSED TAX INCREASE."[39]

Election Analysis

Voter Registration and Turnout

As of August 2026, Bend Park and Recreation District had 80,811 registered voters. The tables below summarize party affiliation and turnout. Voter turnout for the November 2024 election was 81 percent. District voters supported former Vice President Kamala Harris with 64 percent support in the 2024 presidential election (compared with 53% countywide).

Bend PRD Voter Registration		
By Party Affiliation		
Democrat	29,365	36%
Republican	15,857	20%
Non-affiliated	28,855	36%
Minor party	6,734	8%
Total	**80,811**	
Source: Deschutes County Elections, August 2026.		

BPRD Voter Turnout	
Date	% Turnout
May 2026	45%
Nov. 2024	81%
May 2024	42%
May 2023	34%
Nov. 2022	70%
May 2022	38%
May 2021	34%
Nov. 2020	86%
May 2020	44%

Upcoming Elections

There are four regularly scheduled elections every year; however, the majority of elections occur in May and November.[40]

- The 2nd Tuesday in March
- The 3rd Tuesday in May
- The 3rd Tuesday in September
- The 1st Tuesday, after the 1st Monday, in November

Whether an election is held depends on whether the local jurisdiction is putting something before the people to vote on.

- Primary elections are held in May, of even-numbered years, to select candidates for the general election.
- General elections are held in November, of even-numbered years.
- Cities are bound by the Oregon Constitution to hold regular elections for municipal officers on the same dates that state and county primary and general biennial elections are held: the third Tuesday in May and the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in even-numbered

[39] ORS 250.037
[40] ORS 221.230

years. (Oregon Constitution, Article II, section 14a.) State statutes provide for special elections for municipal officers on other dates.

If BPRD wants to proceed with a 2027 measure the only date currently scheduled for elections is May 18, 2027.

- February 26, 2027 — the deadline to file the ballot title for publication of notice with the county elections office (SEL 805), for inclusion on the May 18, 2027 ballot.[41]

- March 18, 2027 — Last day to file the notice of measure election and explanatory statement with the county elections office (SEL 803). This can't be filed until the seven-business-day ballot title challenge period (following publication of notice) has passed.

- March 22, 2027- Last day to file measure arguments for the county voters' pamphlet.

Procedures and Requirements for Board to Submit a Measure

In instances where a jurisdiction itself submits a measure to the voters, the procedure usually involves the following:

- Ordering submission of the measure at an election on a specified date;
- Preparation of a ballot title for the measure; and
- Submission of the measure at the election.

The table on the following page outlines the filing deadlines for elections in May and (if called) November 2027. Please note that there are no elections currently scheduled for November 2027. The county has a special district election in each May of odd-numbered years. That election is generally for district director positions but districts often place measures on the ballot as well. If a district were to file their SEL 805 with the intent to put a measure in, for example, November 2027 (if scheduled), they would need to file their forms after the deadlines pass for the preceding election. The filing applies to the next election date.

The Deschutes County Clerk bills jurisdictions based on the cost per voter, and a general election costs more than other elections. Oregon's rule (ORS 255.305) says the district pays, and when several districts share a date, the cost is split among them.[42]

Hypothetical Election Cost for a BPRD Referendum in November 2027

Cost per registered voter	Estimated cost*
$2.00	$161,622
$2.25	$181,825
$2.50	$202,028
$2.75	$222,230
$3.00	$242,433
$3.25	$262,636
$3.50	$282,839

*Based on 80,811 registered voters

[41] OAR 165-014-0005

[42] A 2015 Sightline analysis reported that Oregon's elections historically cost around $1.50 per registered voter. This is a statewide average from 2015, not a current Deschutes County or Bend Park & Recreation District rate. Adjusted for inflation to 2026 dollars, the figure is roughly $2.10 to $2.15 per registered voter, based on CPI-U. Current costs should be confirmed with the Deschutes County Clerk, which bills jurisdictions on a per-voter basis.
Source: Sightline Institute, "Voter Suppression is Exorbitantly Expensive" (March 25, 2015), https://www.sightline.org/2015/03/25/voter-suppression-is-exorbitantly-expensive/

Upcoming Elections and Filing Deadlines For May and November 2027 Elections		
Description	Date	Reference
Last day for governing body to file referral text or prepared ballot title in order to complete challenge period by deadline to file notice of measure election.	26-Feb-27	OAR 165-014-0005
Last day to file measure arguments for county voters' pamphlet.	22-Mar-27	OAR 165-022-0010
Last day to print and mail ballots to military and overseas voters	02-Apr-27	253.065
First day the county clerk may provide, in person or by mail, a ballot to voter who will be away during an election.	05-Apr-27	254.47
First day to mail ballots to voters with a non-Oregon mailing address who are not military or overseas voters.	19-Apr-27	253.065; 254.470
Last day to register to vote. Registration cards postmarked by this date or submitted online no later than 11:59 pm are valid.	27-Apr-27	247.025
First day to mail ballots to voters.	28-Apr-27	254.47
Last day to mail ballots to voters without daily mail service.	30-Apr-27	254.47
Last day to distribute county voters' pamphlet.	04-May-27	251.315
Last day to mail ballots to voters.	04-May-27	254.47
Last day absentee or replacement ballots are required to be mailed to voters.	13-May-27	247.307; 253.545; 254.470
Election Day. County Clerk's office open 7 am - 8 pm. Official dropsites open until 8 pm, for minimum of 8 hours.	**18-May-27**	**254.47**
Last day for voter to return ballot. Ballots that are mailed must be postmarked by election day. Ballots deposited in an official drop box must be received by 8 pm on election day.	18-May-27	254.470; 253.070
Last day to receive valid postmarked ballots by mail. Adjusted under ORS 187.010(3).	25-May-27	253.070; 254.470
Last day for governing body to file referral text or prepared ballot title in order to complete challenge period by deadline to file notice of measure election.	13-Aug-27	OAR 165-014-0005
Last day to file measure arguments for county voters' pamphlet.	07-Sep-27	OAR 165-022-0010
Last day to print and mail ballots to military and overseas voters	17-Sep-27	253.065
First day the county clerk may provide, in person or by mail, a ballot to voter who will be away during an election.	20-Sep-27	254.47
First day to mail ballots to voters with a non-Oregon mailing address who are not military or overseas voters.	04-Oct-27	253.065; 254.470
Last day to register to vote. Registration cards postmarked by this date or submitted online no later than 11:59 pm are valid.	12-Oct-27	247.025
First day to mail ballots to voters.	13-Oct-27	254.47
Last day to mail ballots to voters without daily mail service.	15-Oct-27	254.47
Last day to distribute county voters' pamphlet.	19-Oct-27	251.315
Last day to mail ballots to voters.	19-Oct-27	254.47
Last day absentee or replacement ballots are required to be mailed to voters.	28-Oct-27	247.307; 253.545; 254.470
Election Day. County Clerk's office open 7 am - 8 pm. Official dropsites open until 8 pm, for minimum of 8 hours.	**02-Nov-27**	**254.47**
Last day for voter to return ballot. Ballots that are mailed must be postmarked by election day. Ballots deposited in an official drop box must be received by 8 pm on election day.	02-Nov-27	254.470; 253.070
Last day to receive valid postmarked ballots by mail. Adjusted under ORS 187.010(3).	09-Nov-27	253.070; 254.470

Ballot Requirements

According to state law, all ballot titles must contain a caption with a maximum of 10 words, a question of not more than 20 words, and a summary of up to 175 words. Cities have the option of compiling, printing and distributing their own voters' pamphlets for measures and candidates to be voted upon exclusively by city voters. Provisions are made for inclusion of pictures and statements of municipal candidates in the state voters' pamphlet.[43]

[43] League of Oregon Cities – City Handbook, ORS 250.035, 250.175, 250.195, 250.275, 250.296, 255.145, 255.155, and 255.215

Recent Results

Voters in the Bend Park and Recreation District have shown receptivity to tax and bond related measures over the past decade.[44] Looking ahead, fire and emergency levies passed in May 2023 will likely be on the ballot for renewal in 2028 or 2029.[45]

Bend Park and Recreation District Local Election Results						
Jurisdiction Name	Measure #	Election	Description	Status	% Total Yes	% BPRD Yes
Deschutes Soil & Water Conservation District	9-176	11/5/2024	Establish Permanent Tax Rate Limit at $.06 per $1,000	Passed	51%	57%
Bend-La Pine Schools	9-167	5/21/2024	Five-year, local option levy for student learning	Failed	43%	47%
City of Bend	9-158	5/16/2023	Five-year local option levy for fire and emergency medical services.	Passed	53%	53%
Deschutes Rural Fire Protection District #2	9-159	5/16/2023	Five-year local option levy for fire-emergency medical services.	Passed	52%	50%
Bend-La Pine Schools	9-155	11/8/2022	$250M infrastructure bond	Passed	57%	64%
Deschutes County Public Library	9-139	11/3/2020	Bonds to Renovate, Upgrade, Construct and Equip Library Facilities	Passed	52%	57%
City of Bend	9-135	11/3/2020	Bonds for Traffic Flow, East-West Connections, Neighborhood Safety Improvements	Passed	58%	58%
City of Bend	9-115	5/15/2018	Five-year operating levy for fire and emergency medical services.	Passed	78%	78%
Deschutes Rural Fire Protection District #2	9-116	5/15/2018	Five-year operating levy for fire and emergency medical services.	Passed	76%	76%
Bend-La Pine Schools	9-114	5/16/2017	$268M bond to build schools, renovate classrooms, and improve safety	Passed	57%	64%
City of Bend	9-110	11/8/2016	Recreational Marijuana Sales Tax	Passed	74%	74%
Deschustes County 911 County Service District	9-107	5/17/2016	Form 9-1-1 District with Permanent Rate, Withdraw from Existing District	Passed	72%	73%
City of Bend	9-105	3/8/2016	Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax	Failed	36%	36%

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[44] Data from Deschutes County Elections Website
[45] Bulletin Editorial Board. "Editorial: Bend May Need New Fire Levy." *The Bulletin*, 13 Apr. 2026, bendbulletin.com.

Appendices

Appendix A: Property Levy Ballot Language Example

Willamalane Park and Recreation District May 19th, 2026

HEADER:

10 words which reasonably identifies the subject of the measure

Preserve park safety, recreation, and ongoing maintenance with five-year levy

QUESTION:

20 words which plainly phrases the chief purpose of the measure

Shall Willamalane preserve park safety, maintenance, recreation programs, and wildfire prevention with 25-cents per $1,000 assessed five-year levy, beginning 2026-2027?

REQUIRED (not in word count)

This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

SUMMARY:

175 words which concisely and impartially summarizes the measure and its major effect

Willamalane Park and Recreation District is seeking approval for a tax levy to maintain and preserve current services, programs, and staffing levels, including:

- Trash pickup and reduction of illegal dumping
- Ranger patrols to improve park safety
- Parks and natural area maintenance
- Removal of dead, down, overgrown vegetation and brush
- Protection of wildlife habitat and water quality
- Safe public river and pool access for recreation
- Affordable summer camps and preschool
- Recreation and wellness programs for seniors
- Community events
- Daily restroom cleaning
- Recreation facility and pool hours

Based on a median assessed value of $196,803, a homeowner would pay approximately $4.10 per month for the first year of the levy. Public disclosure of all spending for full transparency. Appointed budget committee, elected board members would review levy expenditures. Independent audit, monthly financial reports required.

If not approved, the District would reduce its budget by approximately 10%, resulting in reduced maintenance, hours, programs, and services.

REQUIRED (not in word count)

The proposed rate would raise approximately $1,571,484 in 2026, $1,626,486, in 2027, $1,683,413 in 2028, $1,742,332 in 2029, and $1,803,314 in 2030 for a total of $8,427,029 over five years.

Appendix B: G.O. Bond Ballot Language Examples

Portland Metro, November 2019 (67% Yes)

Metro Measure
Referred to the People of the Metro Region by the Metro Council 26-203 Bonds to protect water quality, fish, wildlife habitat, natural areas

Question: Shall Metro protect clean water, natural areas, access to parks and nature; issue bonds estimated to maintain current tax rate? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Summary: If passed, the measure would: Authorize $475 million in general obligation bonds to continue regional programs to protect and improve water quality in local rivers and streams, and help salmon and other native fish. Protect headwaters of local rivers like the Willamette, Tualatin and Clackamas, wildlife habitat, and natural areas. Restore wetlands to control flooding. Fund local water quality, wildlife habitat, trail, and park maintenance projects, and largescale community nature access projects. Continue Nature in Neighborhoods grants to protect and connect people and nature. Maintain Metro's parks, including Oxbow and Blue Lake, and make these parks and natural areas safer, more accessible and welcoming, especially for low income families and communities of color. Due to previous bonds retiring, this program is not expected to increase tax rates. Requires community oversight committee; yearly independent financial audits. Bond costs estimated at $0.19 per $1,000 of assessed value annually, approximately $4.00/month for the average homeowner. Actual costs may differ. Bonds may be issued in multiple series and mature in no more than 30 years.

Appendix C: Recent Parks and Open Space Measures[46]

Successful Local Parks and Open Space Measures since 2006				
Jurisdiction Name	Date	Finance Mechanism	Parks and Open Space Funds Approved	% Yes
Portland	11/4/2025	Property tax	$ 456,057,364	56%
Portland	11/3/2020	Property tax	$ 239,078,000	64%
Lake Oswego	5/21/2019	Bond	$ 30,000,000	62%
Portland Metro	11/5/2019	Bond	$ 475,000,000	67%
Bend Park and Recreation District	11/6/2012	Bond	$ 22,040,000	52%
Willamalane Park and Recreation District	11/6/2012	Bond	$ 20,000,000	53%
Tigard	11/2/2010	Bond	$ 13,600,000	52%
Ashland	11/3/2009	Other	$ 6,000,000	59%
Cannon Beach	5/19/2009	Bond	$ 4,000,000	51%
Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District	11/4/2008	Bond	$ 32,200,000	51%
Eugene	11/7/2006	Bond	$ 20,200,000	59%
Portland Metro	11/7/2006	Bond	$ 227,400,000	59%

[46] Includes only measures that have some funding for land protection.

Appendix D: Measure 9-86, November 6, 2012: Voter Mailer

Bend Park & Recreation DISTRICT

Why Now?

The Bend Park & Recreation District Board of Directors has placed Bond Measure 9-86 on the ballot for these reasons:

- Land prices are low.
- Construction costs are competitive.
- Acquiring land ahead of new development allows for parks to be integrated into our community.
- Key land parcels and trail links are currently available.
- Partnerships with river recreation, sports groups and OSU-Cascades have been formed to leverage taxpayer investments and recreation opportunities.
- The district has the capacity to maintain new parks and trails through stewardship planning.
- Bond (loan) rates are low.

Bond Measure No. 9-86
Project Information:



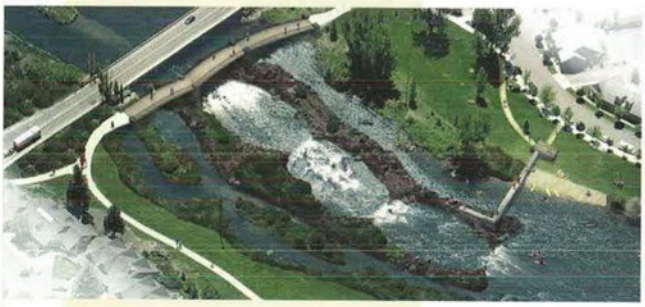
Deschutes River Trail connection to US Forest Service lands and trails to Sunriver

Protection of Bend's Natural Beauty & Quality of Life

Full connection of the Deschutes River Trail from Sunriver to Tumalo State Park

The bond would provide:

- Gopher Gulch Community Park development; creating 1.5 miles of the Deschutes River Trail.
- Trail connectivity through land adjacent to Gopher Gulch Community Park.
- Footbridge and trail development to connect both sides of the Deschutes River Trail and to US Forest Service trails.
- Easements and improvements linking the trail to downtown Bend and Pioneer Park.
- Total of 3 miles of new Deschutes River Trail.



Colorado Dam improvements (artist's rendering)

River Safety

Colorado Dam Safe Passage

Thousands of people float the Deschutes River and must exit the river to go around the dam to avoid serious accidents. The bond would provide:

- In-stream river channel improvements to diminish hazards and enhance recreational enjoyment for locals and visitors.
- Replacement of the Colorado Dam footbridge.

Additional project fundraising led by Bend Paddle Trail Alliance.

Bend Park & Recreation District • 799 SW Columbia St., Bend, OR 97702 • (541) 389-7275 • www.bendparksandrec.org • info@bendparksandrec.org



Deschutes River Trail connection to Tumalo State Park

Preservation of Natural Areas & Water Quality

Colorado Dam and Deschutes riverfront parks and trails

The bond would provide:

- Protection of natural areas along river banks to support water health and wildlife habitat.
- Trail development to manage access within a wildlife sanctuary.
- Preservation of natural areas and wildlife protection along the Deschutes River at Davis Park.

Economic & Community Development

Simpson Ave. Community Recreation Center with OSU-Cascades

OSU-Cascades and Bend Park & Recreation District plan to combine resources to co-develop the Simpson Ave. parkland (former Mt. Bachelor Park & Ride) to serve the needs of residents and students. Bond funded projects would provide new jobs in construction, service and recreation industries.



Simpson Ave. Community Recreation Center



Pine Nursery Park Phase 2



Southeast Bend Community Parks

Expansion of Year-round Recreation for Kids & Families

Simpson Ave. Community Recreation Center, Pine Nursery and Southeast Bend Parks

The bond would provide:

- A covered, outdoor recreation facility on Simpson Ave. to host a winter ice rink as well as other year-round sports and special events. Funding includes required road and utility work for park development.
- Required road and utility work for expansion of Pine Nursery Community Park sports fields.
- Two land purchases in southeast Bend: 25 acre+ for future community park and land for expansion of Larkspur Park and the Bend Senior Center.

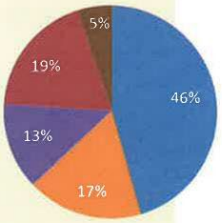
Additional recreation facility and field development funding by Bend Ice and Bend-based Oregon Rush Soccer Club.

What the Bond Would Cost?

The bond is $29 million spread out over 20 years, or $.24 per $1,000 assessed property value. For example, the average assessed value of a Bend home is $200,000 which would cost $4 per month or $48 per year.

Transparency & Accountability

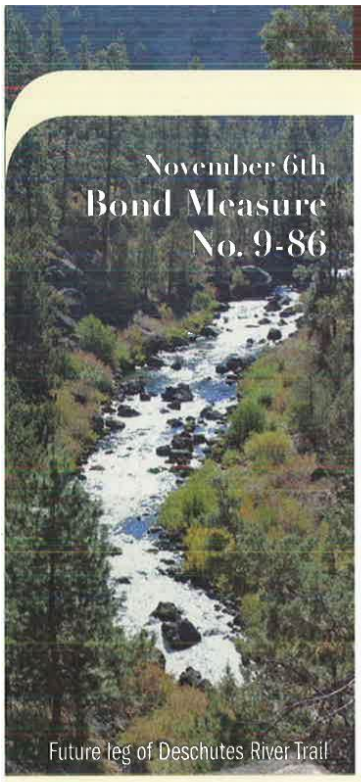
The Bend Park & Recreation District is accountable to tax payers and patrons. The bond incudes requirements for citizen oversight and regular audits to ensure that tax dollars are spent effectively.



Distribution

- Deschutes River Trail & Parks
- Colorado Dam Safe Passage
- Simpson Ave. Community Recreation Ctr.
- SE Bend Community Parks
- Pine Nursery Phase 2

Additional project information, maps and images available online at www.bendparksandrec.org under "About BPRD."



Parks. Trails. Natural Areas. Recreation. These are in large part what create our community's quality of life. In Bend, these services are provided by Bend Park & Recreation District (BPRD), a separate taxing body established in 1974 for the sole purpose of providing park and recreation services.

Bend Park & Recreation DISTRICT

Responding to Community Priorities for Today and Future Generations

Parks, trails, river access and natural areas close to home enhance our quality of life, build upon Bend's unique character and increase long-term property values.

Why Bond Measure No. 9-86?

The Bend Park & Recreation District Board of Directors has placed the bond measure on the ballot for these reasons:

- Land prices are low.
- Construction costs are competitive.
- Acquiring land ahead of new development allows for parks to be integrated into our community.
- Key land and trail links are available.
- Partnerships with local non-profits will leverage taxpayer investment.
- Bond (loan) rates are low.

Appendix E: 2012 Voters' Pamphlet Measure 9-86 BPRD Ballot Title, Summary, Explanatory Statement, Arguments

Measure 9-86 Bend Metropolitan Park & Recreation District

Ballot Title

9-86

Bonds for parks, safety, water, natural areas and trail improvements.

QUESTION: Shall BPRD protect natural areas, connect trails and improve parks by issuing up to $29 Million in General Obligation Bonds? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution, ORS250.037(1).

SUMMARY: This measure provides funds for capital costs to:

- Preserve natural areas and parkland for future generations
- Preserve fish and wildlife habitat, and water quality in and along Deschutes River
- Complete Deschutes River Trail
- Create safe passage at Colorado Dam
- Create, equip, and improve parks
- Create open-air recreation facility

The District has placed this measure on the ballot to fund construction of new projects and purchase land for trail connection to serve the community and its guests.

The District would provide oversight of the proposed projects. Proceeds would be annually audited and open for review by the public.

Bonds would mature in 21 years or less from issuance and may be issued in one or more series. The estimated additional annual cost to property owners if all $29 million in bonds are sold would be $.24 per $1,000 assessed valuation. For the owner of a home with an assessed value of $200,000, the estimated additional monthly cost would be about $4 per month, or $48 per year.

Explanatory Statement

If approved by voters, this measure would authorize the Bend Park & Recreation District to issue up to $29 million of general obligation bonds to pay for capital construction, equipment, improvements, land purchases, and bond issuance costs. Specifically, the measure would provide funds to do the following:

- Complete the Deschutes River Trail. The River Trail would extend from Sunriver to Tumalo State Park with connections to US Forest Service Trails and would provide (a) public access to Gopher Gulch Community Park; (b) additional connectivity through the land adjacent to Gopher Gulch Community Park; (c) a new trail along 3 plus miles of the Deschutes River; (d) pedestrian crossings connecting the east and west sides of the River Trail, and (e) improved trails linking the River Trail to downtown Bend and Pioneer Park.
- Create Safe Passage at the Colorado Dam. Alterations to the Colorado Dam would be made to diminish hazards and provide safe passage for people using the river for tubing, paddle boarding, kayaking, and canoeing.
- Preserve fish and wildlife habitat and water quality in and around the Deschutes River. Trails would be developed along an additional 3 miles of river frontage for fishing, walking, biking, and hiking. Riverbank and river protection measures for wildlife and fish habitat would be built as part of the Colorado Dam project.
- Expand Year-round Fitness and Wellness Programs. Fitness and wellness programs would be expanded by (a) building an open-air covered facility that would be used year-round, including as an ice rink during the winter; (b) purchasing land for new community parks in southeast Bend; (c) completing required improvements for the expansion of the sports venues at the Pine Nursery Community Park.
- Furtherance of the OSU-Cascades Campus partnership by completing the city-required street improvements including a round-a-bout at Simpson and Colorado in order to ready the site for further development.

Funds for maintenance of trails, parks and facilities described herein would be paid through existing operation budgets and not by the bonds.

The criteria to develop this project list included citizen input, surveys, public meetings, online comments, analysis of construction costs, and the geographic distribution of projects throughout the community.

The bonds would be paid by an annual levy on real property. If approved, the bonds would be issued in one or more series to try to maintain a level of no more than $.24 per $1000 of assessed valuation. Owners of a home with an assessed value of $200,000 are estimated to pay no more than $48 dollars per year. Each series of bond would mature within 21 years from the date of issuance.

The Bend Park & Recreation District last received a voter approved levy for capital improvements in 1995.

(This information furnished by Don P. Horton, Bend Metropolitan Park & Recreation District.)

Measure 9-86 Arguments

Argument in Favor

VOTE YES ON MEASURE 9-86.
CONNECTING PEOPLE, PARKS AND NATURE!

We live in Bend because it's a special place- built on families, community, nature, natural resources, and our river. We're working to pass Measure 9-86 to ensure that Bend's future stays as special as it is today.

Measure 9-86 will:

Complete a 14.5 mile trail from Tumalo State Park to Sunriver by acquiring land along the Deschutes.

Provide access to the river for people to fish, hike and enjoy nature, while protecting our water so that it's healthy for generations to come.

Provide safe passage through the Colorado Dam for our children and families as they float the river, giving our community a safer river experience.

Create Bend's first Surf Park below the improved Colorado Dam in partnership with Bend Paddle Trail Alliance.

Restore fish passage and habitat as part of the Colorado Dam project, creating wetlands that enhance water quality and provide wildlife habitat.

Acquire land for new parks in underserved areas to give all residents access to healthy lifestyles, improved quality of life and enhanced home values.

Develop new athletic fields for our kids and families to enjoy and to attract tournaments to Bend.

Support the community's vision for 4-year university by providing required improvements to ready former Mt. Bachelor Park and Ride land for co-development by the District and OSU Cascades.

Build a covered, outdoor, 25,000 square foot facility that will expand year-round recreation opportunities including ice skating/hockey in the winter and court sports, special events and markets in the warmer seasons.

Strengthen Bend's economy and improve property values by increasing tourism and enhancing the lifestyle amenities of our community.

Betsy Moore Skovborg / Pepsi-Cola of Bend
Lisa Karnopp Nye / Bendite, runner, teacher and coach
Doug LaPlaca / Visit Bend
Todd Taylor / Taylor NW
Jade Mayer / Brooks Resources Corporation
Michael D. Mudd / Stand on Liquid
Will Blount / Ruffwear
Scott Wallace / Wallace Group, Inc.
Ruth Williamson

(This information furnished by Betsy Skovborg.)

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the County of Deschutes, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.

Argument in Favor

Bend Park and Recreation District has evolved into one of the best in the state as well as the Northwest. The District currently manages over 2500 acres, 87 parks and 65 miles of trails. Not only have we enjoyed these great community assets but so have our children and grandchildren. Parks play an important role in the development of Bend as a unique place to live, work and raise a family. Almost 90 years ago our citizens had the foresight to recognize that the building of Drake Park would shape our future. We are thankful for their efforts which now include such iconic places as Shevlin Park, Pioneer Park and Harmon Park.

And now a new opportunity has come along—Ballot Measure 9-86. This measure matches up low land acquisition costs and low interest rates on the bonds, allowing those in the district to get a great value. This win-win combination will help create new parks and trails for people to walk, ride, hike and enjoy. The measure includes the completion of the Deschutes River trail, a river passage at Colorado Bridge to keep people safe, an OSU-Cascades partnership of recreation-education park, further expansion of Pine Nursery Park and parkland in Southeast Bend where a larger regional park is needed.

All of these projects will further enhance Bend. We have a pristine river that is the lifeblood of our community, natural areas that serve as a sanctuary right in our urban setting, and fish and wildlife that continue to call the Bend area their home. Just as past generations acted on our behalf, we now must act on behalf of future generations to pass down the Drake Park Legacy. Join us in voting yes for Ballot Measure 9-86

Greg Cushman
Jim Lussier
Char Weichman
Chet Weichman
Clella Thomas
Bob Thomas
Judith M. Crowell
James L. Crowell

(This information furnished by Greg Cushman.)

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Measure 9-86 Arguments

Argument in Favor

The members of the Bend Park and Recreation District Board of Directors are pleased to recommend Measure 9-86 to our community for approval. This proposition caps several years of public outreach, input, and planning by District board and staff. While the board remains committed to prudent **stewardship** of public resources to support the current level of service, we believe that Measure 9-86 projects, developed through extensive citizen input, are timely and transformative. Realization of these projects will expand **economic opportunities,** assure **long-term habitat protection** along the Deschutes River, infuse **additional tourism dollars,** enhance **property values,** promote **health and wellness,** and assure that **future generations** have access to the recreational opportunities we enjoy.

Measure 9-86 is about **People, Parks and Nature** and includes a comprehensive project list that **completes the Deschutes River Trail** from Tumalo State Park to National Forest land south of Bend, **provides safe passage for floaters** over the Colorado Avenue Dam, **includes required utility and roadway improvements to support a 4-year, OSU Cascades Campus** in the center of town, **acquires community park spaces and natural areas,** and enables the District to **partner with private user groups to contribute more than $3,000,000 in additional funding** to deliver fully-developed projects that will enhance the quality of life for current and future residents.

The total cost of the Measure 9-86 is $29 million over 20 years, or 24 cents/$1000 of assessed value, or **$4/month** ($48/year) for a home with an assessed value of $200,000. With current land values within reach and interest rates at historic lows, now is the time to investment in our community. Please join us and **Vote Yes for Measure 9-86.**

Scott Asla, Chair, BPRD Board
Ted Schoenborn, Vice-Chair, BPRD Board
Scott Wallace, BPRD Board Member
Ruth Williamson, BPRD Board Member
Dallas Brown, BPRD Board Member

(This information furnished by Scott Wallace, Bend Park & Recreation District Board of Directors.)

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Argument in Favor

Local Businesses Support Measure 9-86

As local business owners who work in Bend, we urge you to join us in voting YES on Measure 9-86.

In today's economic climate, we understand that it's important to leverage every opportunity that will help us thrive and compete. Measure 9-86, which protects our clean water, natural areas and wildlife, completes the Deschutes River Trail, improves the safety of our river, and builds new parks provides us just such an opportunity.

Businesses locate in Bend because of the quality of life- our natural environment and active outdoor lifestyle help employers to attract and retain workers. Measure 9-86 dramatically improves both the environment and the lifestyle, and that's good for those of us living here, as well as those we hope to attract.

Bend has worked hard at building an economy that's based on our natural beauty and amenities. Whether it's activewear or outfitters, or the restaurants, retail stores and hotels that support our recreation economy, these businesses understand that an investment in our river and in our parks and natural areas is an investment in our future. We can't afford not to make this investment.

We believe that Measure 9-86, costing the average homeowner roughly $4.00 a month, will allow us to grow our economy and help to preserve our quality of life.

Please join us in VOTING YES on Measure 9-86.

Will Blount, President, Ruffwear
Peter John Lowes, President, Lowes Group
Todd Asevedo, Founder, HR Technology Partners
Scott Allan, CEO, Hydro Flask
Teague Hatfield, President, FootZone
Charley Miller, President, The Miller Lumber Company
Craig Moore, Chairman, Pepsi Bend, LLC.

(This information furnished by Will Blount.)

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Measure 9-86 Arguments

Argument in Favor

Sportsmen in Support of Measure 9-86

We love living in Bend! This place we call home is an outdoor and recreation paradise, yet there is so much we can do to improve our recreation opportunities.

Voting **YES** will **improve trails**, **river safety** & recreation, **protect natural areas** and secure key lands needed to **complete the Deschutes River Trail** from Sunriver to Tumalo State Park.

We encourage you to vote **YES** on measure **9-86** for the following reasons:

- **Creates Safe Passage at the dangerous Colorado dam and spillway.**

New foot bridge and spillway design at Colorado with 3 open channels allow;

Float Through on the left for tubers and paddlers. No more walking!

Surf Park in the middle channel with 4 wave features for all skill levels.

Natural Area on the right with fish spawning habitat and wildlife viewing.

- **Historic low land prices and interest rates make this the perfect time to purchase key properties to complete the Deschutes River Trail;**

1. Gopher Gulch Natural Area between Bend and Tumalo State Park with Deschutes River Trail extension for walking, biking, hiking, and fishing.
2. Properties in the heart of Bend connecting Drake Park to the lower River Trail.
3. Natural areas in the South of Bend allow a future footbridge connecting the River Trail below Meadow Camp to River Rim park on the East bank of the Deschutes.

Please join us with your **YES** vote on November 6th. For the price of one latte or beer a month we could all be walking, surfing, biking, floating and fishing as never before in a better Bend.

Gerry Lopez- Mr. Pipeline and legendary waterman
Adam Craig- USA National Mountain Bike Champion
John Sterling- Conservationist
Jayson Bowerman- Paddlesports enthusiast
Randall Barna- Pioneering boardsurfer
Damien Nurre- Fishing outfitter and guide
Dennis Oliphant- PPP champion and adventure outfitter

Please join us and VOTE YES on Measure 9-86.

(This information furnished by Jayson Bowerman.)

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Argument in Favor

As healthcare professionals who are raising our children in this community we are urging you to vote yes on measure 9-86. Todays children are spending an ever increasing time in front of a computer or cellular device instead of recreating and exercising. This measure provides permanent resources for both children and adults to foster healthy outdoor exercise.

Physical inactivity and poor diet are responsible for an estimated 400,000 deaths annually from coronary heart disease, colon cancer, stroke and diabetes. A report released in May 2012 by the Oregon Health Authority showed that obesity rates in Oregon have jumped 121% from 1990 to 2009. That same study reported that obesity-related chronic diseases have cost Oregon roughly $1.6 billion each year. Childhood obesity is also increasing at an alarming rate.

Measure 9-86 will help reduce the health risks and costs associated with obesity by promoting active living through completed trail connections, new neighborhood parks and athletic facilities, and better access to the River. Measure 9-86 creates new opportunities for exercise and a healthier lifestyle while improving our community.

For the health of our community please vote YES on Measure 9-86.

Robert Shannon MD
Brett Gingold MD
Andy Fecteau MS, PT
Scott Weber, Alpine Physical Therapy and Spine Care
Nora Takla MD
Mike Stahly NP

(This information furnished by Robert Shannon MD.)

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Measure 9-86 Arguments

Argument in Favor

PROTECT THE DESCHUTES RIVER

We urge your YES vote on Measure 9-86 for healthy fish and wildlife, connection to nature, and clean water

Measure 9-86 is our opportunity to preserve the heart of Bend: the Deschutes River.

Preserving Our Fish and Wildlife Habitat
Bend has grown rapidly, with more growth on the horizon. Measure 9-86 will preserve critical wildlife habitat along the Deschutes River, securing the future for Bend's treasured natural oases tucked into our urban landscape, even as we continue to grow. And because Measure 9-86 will improve fish passage at the Colorado River Dam, fish will have a much easier time swimming over it. Measure 9-86 will preserve our critical habitats for future generations.

Connecting to Nature
Trails that improve access to our most treasured natural resource, the Deschutes River, are part of Measure 9-86. They offer improved opportunities for young and old to connect with nature and to engage in healthy outdoor recreation. These trails, wildlife viewing areas, and river access are essential for unplugging our children from electronic diversions and reconnecting them with the natural world. Measure 9-86 will complete the Deschutes River Trail, providing a seamless 14-mile trail along the River, connecting Tumalo with Sunriver.

Protecting Clean Water
By acquiring land along the Deschutes River for trails and natural areas, Measure 9-86 will improve River water quality by reducing stormwater runoff and treating it before it enters the River. Measure 9-86 will help improve our water quality.

Preserve our habitat. Connect to nature. Protect clean water. We hope you join us and thousands of Bend citizens in VOTING YES ON Measure 9-86!

Ryan Houston, Executive Director, Upper Deschutes Watershed Council
Ted Brownrigg, President Deschutes Chapter, Trout Unlimited
Kristin Kovalik, Central Oregon Program Director, The Trust for Public Land
Brent Fenty, Executive Director, Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA)
Joanne Richter, Watershed Scientist

(This information furnished by Joanne E. Richter.)

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Argument in Favor

A community is defined by its investments. Measure 9-86 invests in Bend's quality of life and economic development.

Over the past several years, the non-profit Bend Ice has worked with public and private interests to plan the construction of a full-sized ice skating rink. That work has set the stage for voters to weigh in on the project as part of Measure 9-86, which funds the construction of an ice facility. This unique opportunity supplements Bend's existing recreational amenities and creates access to an entirely new category of winter sports including ice skating, ice hockey, figure skating and curling.

Recent Park District surveys show support for the overall Bond, with construction of an ice rink one of the top unmet needs. A full-size rink will generate broad interest from residents, as has happened in similar communities throughout the West.

Every opportunity for activity is another chance to get a child on the path to a healthy lifestyle. A rink will provide additional opportunities for children to become involved in active recreation. A rink will also promote Bend's reputation for healthy living and give area families a wonderful new multi-use facility and community gathering spot.

Don't we already have ice skating? Yes and no. There are several small seasonal rinks in Central Oregon but are too small to meet the demand for organized ice sports. A regulation size ice surface will address this unmet need for the community while adding an important venue to attract visitors and revenue to Bend.

BPRD and Bend Ice developed a detailed business plan for a winter seasonal rink which is projected to be revenue neutral to the Park District. A seasonal rink will start a culture of ice sports and be available for other off season activities, making a good investment in Bend's future.

Please vote Yes on Measure 9-86.

Bend Ice Board:

Blaise Cacciola

Matt Davio

Paul Israel

John Laherty

Matt McCoy

(This information furnished by Blaise Cacciola.)

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With any questions or for more information please contact:

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BOARD AGENDA COMMUNICATION

AGENDA DATE: December 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Classification, Compensation, and Pay Equity Study Findings

STAFF RESOURCE: Kathleen Hinman, Human Resources Director

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION: FY 2026-27 Budget approval for project costs.

ACTION PROPOSED: Approve the district's compensation philosophy for implementation of the findings and authorize staff to finalize and implement the recommended benefit changes.

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 engaged Trüpp to complete a review of the district's compensation and classification program. The review evaluated salary structures, market competitiveness, pay equity under the Oregon Equal Pay Act, benefits, and the administrative practices used to set and maintain employee pay. The purpose was to remain competitive in the labor market, preserve internal and external equity, review compliance with pay practices and laws, and maintain a system that is affordable and sustainable into the future.

For the market study, benchmark jobs were selected to represent occupational groups, job families, pay grades, and jobs with reliable external matches. Trüpp used a custom survey of public park and recreation comparators and Economic Research Institute salary data. Data from comparators across different labor markets were calibrated to the district's local labor market using ERI's Geographic Assessor, which accounts for cost of labor differentials including cost of living and other labor factors.

Summary of Findings

- **Overall market position.** District employee pay averages 107% of the market midpoint, and the midpoint of each district's pay grade averages from 102% - 112% of market. Overall, on average the district is slightly leading the market.
- **Salary structure.** Overall, the district's salary ranges are, on average, slightly narrower than those of its comparators with the district averaging 34% range width and comparators averaging 37%, varying by pay grade.

- **Market-position choice.** Trüpp evaluated salary structure alignment under both current compensation philosophy (market median) and at above market (65th percentile) and provided two implementation options for consideration - retain the current compensation philosophy resulting in the salary structure slightly leading the market overall or anchor the salary structure above market at 65th percentile.
- **Classification and equity.** The findings recommend a simplified job description model, standardized minimum qualification language, selected classification and job slotting changes based on market competitiveness and internal equity, and implementation of pay-equity actions. Implementation options and associated costs are driven by the market position selected.
- **Pay Setting and Progression.** The district uses a custom pay calculator to inform pay decisions and has maintained equitable pay practices through consistent application of the calculator in determining employee pay. Application of cost-of-living adjustments informed by CPI-U West and applied annually to the salary structure, then extended to employees, has supported the district's current market position.
- **Benefits.** The district's overall benefit offering is well aligned with those of its comparators, particularly regarding COLA adjustments, state retirement plan contributions, and employee benefit contributions. The district is lagging comparators when it comes to paid time off practices. The district completed an employee benefits value survey, and the feedback aligns with the comparator survey. District employees identified health insurance and paid time off as the top two priorities. The survey indicated that the district should protect the core strengths of the existing benefits package. Respondents consistently identified opportunities to improve paid leave through additional leave, faster accrual, and greater flexibility.

Board Consideration

1. **Compensation Market Position.** The board's first area for consideration is the district's market position. The board will need to give direction to maintain the current market position, keeping the salary structure where it is, slightly above market median (P-50+) or to change the compensation philosophy and align the salary structure above the market median at approximately the 65th percentile (P-65).

   This choice establishes the compensation philosophy used to evaluate market alignment and informs job slotting, pay-equity implementation, future market reviews, and budget planning. The decision is not whether every employee will be paid at market median or the 65th percentile, but where the district's salary structure should be anchored to the market. Individual employee pay will continue to reflect pay range placement, job-related pay factors, internal equity, and approved pay practices.

Consideration	P-50+: Align with Market Median	P-65: Align Above Market Median
Policy position	Targets the midpoint of the relevant labor market and maintains current practice slightly above market median.	Targets above market median, identified in the report as approximately the 65th percentile.
Job slotting	Uses P-50+ thresholds when determining benchmark positions identified for market-based grade adjustment.	Uses the higher P-65 target, resulting in additional positions being identified for market-based grade adjustments.
Modeled implementation costs	P-50+: $48,788 affecting 139 employee records below the expected pay line.	P-65: $342,929 affecting 369 employee records below the expected pay line.
Primary advantage	Maintains current competitive market position, is affordable within current budget, and is sustainable in future financial forecasting.	Establishes an intentional above-market philosophy and may improve recruitment competitiveness.
Primary trade-off	May provide less differentiation in hard-to-recruit markets and less protection for market volatility.	Exceeds the current budget, is not sustainable in future financial forecasting, and creates a higher ongoing compensation commitment.

2. **Paid Leave Policy.** The board's second area for consideration is the district's paid leave policy. The compensation study and employee feedback both support considering a targeted paid leave update rather than redesigning all leave programs or combining vacation, sick, and personal leave into one bank. The board will need to give direction to maintain the current paid leave policy (Current) or to change the paid leave policy moving towards the market median (Proposed).

   The Proposed option retains separate leave banks (vacation, sick, and personal), aligns vacation schedules internally, increases paid leave for all employee groups, and creates an opportunity for benefited employees to cash out accrued vacation leave after 5 years of service.

	CURRENT	PROPOSED
Modeled implementation costs	Current: No additional cost for implementation.	Proposed policy: $208,000 affecting each employee group.
Vacation Leave	Separate vacation schedules with different accrual rates and years of service levels for non-exempt and exempt employees.	Align the non-exempt and exempt accrual schedules, adjusting the accrual rate to earn 3 days at each interval. Increases part-time accrual rates by 3 days per year of service interval.

	Part-time employees have a maximum vacation accrual rate of 4 hours per pay period based on hours worked.	Increase the part-time employees' maximum vacation accrual rate to 5 hours per pay period based on hours worked. (Aligns with new non-exempt accrual table.)
	Annual vacation accruals capped at 240 for full-time and 120 for part-time.	Maintain current vacation accrual caps.
	Option to cash out vacation leave after 20 years of service.	Option to cash out up to 1 week of vacation after 5 years of service. Must have used 1 week in the year prior and have a current bank of 2 weeks at time of cash out.
	Cash out up to 120 hours of vacation if business needs prevent staff from using vacation leave, subject to ED approval.	Eliminate this policy and replace it with the 5 years of service cash out policy.
Personal Leave	One personal day earned per year for full-time employees, pro-rated for part-time benefited employees.	Increase personal leave to 3 days per year for exempt full-time employees to account for increased vacation accrual for non-exempt full-time employees. Maintain 1 personal day earned per year for non-exempt full-time and prorated for part-time benefited employees.
	No personal days earned for non-benefited part-time and seasonal employees.	Add one personal day for full-time seasonal employees after 1 year of service. Add 4 hours personal day for non-benefited part-time employees after 1 year of service (120 hours or 2 years - i.e. when merit eligible)
Sick Leave	4 hours earned per pay period for full-time, prorated for part-time, benefited employees.	Maintain current sick leave accruals for benefited employees.
	1 hour earned per 30 hours worked (5.78 per month maximum) for non-benefited and seasonal employees.	Maintain current sick leave accruals for non-benefited and seasonal employees.

Implementation

Following board direction on the district's market position, staff will finalize the salary structure, job slotting, individual pay equity adjustments, and communicate specific study findings to employees. Approved compensation changes will be effective January 6, 2027.

Following compensation implementation, staff will finalize recommended benefit and related policy changes, communicate approved changes to employees, and establish implementation dates for each policy. Staff is currently targeting January 6, 2027, as the effective date with employee communication finalized by the end of January 2027.

BUDGETARY IMPACT

The approximate total implementation cost of the staff-recommended P-50+ compensation adjustments and paid leave policy updates is $295,550, which can be accommodated within the district's current budget.

Options beyond the staff recommendations would require additional funding because their approximate total implementation cost of $647,450 exceeds the allotted budget.

While these adjustments are implemented at one point in time, they are ongoing costs rather than one-time expenses. The increased wages become part of the district's ongoing compensation base and will compound with future wage increases resulting from merit and cost of living adjustments. They will also increase related employer costs, including PERS, FICA/payroll taxes, and other wage-based benefit costs.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the board direct staff to use the P-50+ compensation philosophy to implement the Compensation, Classification, and Pay Equity study findings.

Staff further recommends the board direct staff to implement the paid leave changes presented in the Proposed option to implement the Compensation, Classification, and Pay Equity study benefits survey findings.

A P-50+ philosophy keeps the district competitive while balancing recruitment and retention, internal equity, and responsible use of district funding. Because the study found the district is already at 107% of market median and generally competitive, maintaining our existing compensation philosophy allows us to focus resources on areas where adjustments are needed rather than moving the entire compensation structure above market.

MOTIONS

1. ***I move to direct staff to use the*** [P-50+ or above market median P-65] ***compensation philosophy to implement the Compensation, Classification, and Pay Equity study findings.***

2. ***I move to direct staff to*** [maintain the current paid leave policy or implement the paid leave changes presented in the Proposed option] ***to implement the Compensation, Classification, and Pay Equity study benefits survey findings.***

ATTACHMENT

None

BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

November 17, 2026

District Office Building | 799 SW Columbia | Bend, Oregon

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Jodie Schiffman, Donna Owens, Nathan Hovekamp, Deb Schoen (Vice Chair) and Cary Schneider (Chair)

The official minutes of the November 17, 2026, Bend Park and Recreation District Board of Directors meeting are captured by video recording and are available for viewing on the Board Meetings webpage: https://www.bendparksandrec.org/about/board_meetings/.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order. Cary Schneider conducted roll call. All directors were present.

VISITOR COMMENTS

Orion Junkins provided comment requesting that the district consider bringing whitewater kayak pool sessions back to Juniper Swim & Fitness Center or Larkspur Community Center. He described the pool sessions as a safe and accessible way for beginners to learn kayaking and asked to meet with District representatives to better understand current barriers and explore whether the sessions could be offered again.

Scott Hand, vice president of the Sunrise Village HOA Board, provided comment regarding the Deschutes River Trail South Refinement Study. Speaking on behalf of the HOA Board and community, he expressed concerns about the feasibility, cost, environmental impacts and private property implications of a trail alignment through the gorge near Sunrise Village. He stated that the HOA is not opposed to trails but does not support an alignment through its private property and encouraged the district to pursue alternatives that would provide trail connections without affecting protected areas or private property.

WORK SESSION

1. Deschutes River Trail South Refinement Study Preliminary Alternatives Update

Principal Planner Henry Stroud and consultant Matt Kittleson provided additional analysis of Section 2 in response to questions raised by the Board during its October 6 discussion. Staff reviewed two potential routes and compared them with the alternatives previously identified in Sections 1 and 3.

The analysis identified significant challenges within Section 2, including steep canyon terrain, complex and costly trail construction, proximity to irrigation facilities, impacts to the state scenic waterway and substantial impacts to private property. One route would rely on an existing private staircase and connections through Sunrise Village, while a more direct riverfront route would affect HOA property and seven additional private properties. Staff noted that neither Section 2 nor Section 3 would fully close the existing Deschutes River Trail gap, while Section 1 provides a more direct opportunity to do so.

Staff recommended continuing analysis of Sections 1 and 3 and not advancing Section 2. Board members expressed support for the recommendation and appreciation for the additional analysis. The project will move into the alternatives analysis phase, including additional review of costs, travel distances and private property impacts and consultation with the stakeholder advisory group. Staff anticipate returning to the Board in spring 2027 with two preferred alternatives for consideration.

2. Optimize Play Update

Administrative Services Director Kristin Toney provided an update on Optimize Play, the District's continuous improvement initiative focused on empowering staff to improve service delivery, reduce waste and make better use of existing resources. The program uses a "Say It, See It, Solve It" framework to help employees identify problems, understand processes and implement improvements.

Since implementation, 199 employees have completed Greenbelt training and staff have identified 49 innovations across seven departments, with 34 completed and 15 in progress. Examples include streamlining pool chemical reporting, improving park patrol tracking, reorganizing workshops and paint stations, standardizing custodial purchasing and improving holiday phone messaging. Standardized custodial purchasing is expected to save approximately $12,000 to $20,000, while revised holiday phone messaging reduced Labor Day calls by approximately 70 percent.

Kristin Toney also highlighted the Playmaker Award, a quarterly recognition program celebrating staff innovations that improve efficiency, service, safety or employee experience. Board members expressed support for the initiative and recognized its contribution to the district’s culture of continuous improvement.

3. Events and Rentals Overview

Recreation Services Director Jase Newton, Events and Athletics Manager David Kiefer and Rental and Events Supervisor Katie Aceto provided an overview of the district’s events and rentals program, including park and facility rentals, athletic fields, tournaments, business uses and shelter reservations. Staff discussed growing demand for reservable spaces and the operational and environmental challenges associated with managing high-use locations such as Drake, Riverbend, Shevlin and Pine Nursery parks.

Staff described impacts associated with concentrated park use, including turf and tree damage, erosion, parking congestion, increased maintenance needs and conflicts between scheduled events and public use. Requests continue to exceed available capacity, with 76 park-use requests denied in 2024 and 127 denied in 2025. Staff have responded by directing events toward other suitable parks, limiting event days at certain locations, coordinating closely with event organizers and expanding automated tools and impact fees.

The Board discussed balancing organized events with spontaneous public use, protecting natural resources, expanding rentals to underused parks and neighborhood shelters, maintaining space for new events and considering the unique character and appropriate uses of individual parks.

Members also discussed cost recovery, potential adjustments to fees for high-demand or high-impact uses and opportunities to place additional responsibility on event organizers for impacts to District facilities.

Board members generally supported staff's current approach and encouraged continued efforts to distribute demand throughout the park system while protecting heavily used facilities and preserving opportunities for unstructured public use.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Upcoming Oregon legislative session topics include potential legislation affecting system development charges (SDCs) for park and recreation facilities. The Board supported preparing correspondence to the district's legislative delegation emphasizing the importance of maintaining SDC funding for parks, trails and recreation. Other issues being monitored include expansion of drug-free school zones to park and recreation facilities, Oregon Health Authority pool rules and water-safety initiatives.

- Implementation of the shared framework with the City of Bend is moving forward. The City is considering whether future transient lodging tax funding could support District capital projects that benefit tourism. Other concepts include financing SDCs for affordable housing projects within urban renewal areas and a potential resolution supporting qualified rental housing. These items are expected to return to the Board for further discussion.

- The Administrative Services team received the Government Finance Officers Association budget award for the 2026-27 budget, including additional recognition for integrating strategic goals into the budget document.

- Approximately 150 people attended the second Art Station open house, demonstrating continued strong community interest. Park Services staff have also moved into their new location on Boyd Acres Road, with work continuing on the fleet shop space.

- The Board and District staff were thanked for their service to the community, with wishes for a happy Thanksgiving.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Director Schiffman wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving and shared that she recently visited Riley Ranch and trails in north Bend, noting that District trails and parks continued to be well used as colder weather arrived.

Director Owens wished the Board, staff and District a happy Thanksgiving.

Director Hovekamp asked for an update on Planning and Development vacancies and wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving. Staff reported that recruitment was underway for one planning position while another position was being evaluated before recruitment.

Vice Chair Schoen wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving and expressed interest in staff's follow-up regarding the visitor request to bring kayak pool sessions back to District facilities, including understanding whether the sessions could be accommodated or the reasons they could not.

Chair Schneider wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving and noted his appreciation for the holiday and time with family.

MEETING CONCLUSION

The meeting adjourned following Good of the Order.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
PROJECT UPDATES
December 2026

COMMUNITY PARK PROJECTS

Pine Nursery Park Phase 5: *This project constructs the final features identified in the approved development plan for this highly used community park. Project work includes athletic field lighting, artificial turf infields, more pickleball courts, pickleball court lighting, full court basketball, new trail connectivity, ADA access improvements, off-leash dog area improvements, pedestrian trail lighting, maintenance area improvements, landscaping, and irrigation.*
https://www.bendparksandrec.org/project/pine-nursery-park-phase-5/

Phase: Construction

☐ **No updates**

☒ **Update**

- Pine Nursery Phase 5 is substantially complete. There are punch list items and incidentals to wrap up, and landscaping items that will be addressed in the spring 2027.

Sawyer Park Upgrades: *Decades of use and increased visitors to the park created the need for an improved entrance and parking lot. The plans include relocating the parking area closer to O.B. Riley Road, adding accessible parking, habitat restoration, improving trail accessibility, and the addition of a permanent restroom, picnic shelter, and river overlook. This project is funded in part by grants from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Local Government Grant Program.*
https://www.bendparksandrec.org/project/sawyerparkupgrades/

Phase: Construction

☒ **No updates**

- Work began on October 26th and the parking lot from O.B. Riley Road closed to users. The park remains open for pedestrian and bike users along the DRT, and along the O.B. Riley Road sidewalk access point at the south edge of the park; project areas are marked with fencing and signage. Work will continue through late spring of 2027 with final completion estimated to be complete by summer of 2027.

☐ **Update**

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK PROJECTS

Coulter Grove Park: *The district purchased this property in 2023 to fulfill Search Area 18. The preferred concept for this neighborhood park includes a picnic shelter, open lawn, play areas, exercise stations, half-court basketball, pathways, and natural areas.* *https://www.bendparksandrec.org/project/reed-lane-neighborhood-park-site/*

Phase: Outreach/Design

☒ **No updates**

- The preferred concept design was approved at the July 21 board meeting. Design development has been put on a temporary hold due to staffing. Work will continue work towards design development with the architect this coming winter.

☐ **Update**

TRAIL PROJECTS

Deschutes River Trail South – Refinement Study: *This project will investigate and refine alternatives for completing the Deschutes River Trail South project. It does not include scope for final design or construction at this time.* *https://www.bendparksandrec.org/project/deschutes-river-trail-south-study/*

Phase: Planning

☐ **No updates**

☒ **Update**

- The project team gave an update to the Board of Directors on October 6, 2026, to present their findings of the study area section 2 reanalysis. Section 2 had previously been determined to be unsuitable for trail development and the reanalysis confirmed this finding. The project team is currently working on completing the evaluation of each potentially promising alternative in study area sections 1 & 3.

North Unit Canal Trail – Phase 1: *This trail in northeast Bend is planned to be a 10-foot-wide multi-use trail with primarily compacted gravel surface, with some portions having asphalt surface. Phase 1 includes the development between Canal Row Park and the future extension of Yeoman Road, which will also provide access to Pine Nursery Park. The segment of the trail that passes through the new Pahlisch Homes Petrosa subdivision will be transferred to BPRD for management upon completion and will offer connections to interior trails for Fieldstone Park.* https://www.bendparksandrec.org/project/northunitcanaltrail/

Phase: Permitting

☒ **No updates**

- The district has completed property acquisition and has submitted a permit application to the Bureau of Reclamation. Currently, staff do not have a set timeline for the permit review and approval process.

☐ **Update**

Riverfront Street Deschutes River Trail Improvements: *Riverfront Street, between Galveston Avenue and Miller's Landing Park, is a local street with narrow sidewalk that has functioned as the DRT for many years. It is one of the last remaining "gaps" of through downtown Bend. In 2023, BPRD and the city signed an intergovernmental agreement as a joint effort led by the City of Bend and supported by BPRD. The renewed project will seek to improve conditions for trail users as well as replace the street and other public infrastructure as needed.* https://www.bendparksandrec.org/project/deschutes-river-trail-riverfront/

Phase: Design

☒ **No updates**

- The City of Bend has provided the district with 90% design documents for the "one-way street" design approach that includes a 10-foot-wide concrete trail in lieu of sidewalk throughout the entire street corridor. District staff have reviewed and approved the designs. 100% designs are expected to be delivered in the coming weeks.

☐ **Update**

North Shevlin Trail Construction: *The district recently completed a detailed trail plan for North Shevlin Park which recommended multiple projects including new trail connections, trail closures, and trail renovations designed to create managed formal access in the are of Shevlin Park east of Tumalo Creek and north of Shevlin Park Road. This multi-year project will be completed in phases as funding becomes available.*

Phase: Planning

☒ **No updates**

- The district has begun construction of phase 1 of the proposed changes to North Shevlin which includes new trail construction, decommissioning certain trails, and installing trail wayfinding signage. Phase 1, construction is expected to continue through Spring of 2027. The district is currently preparing a scope of work for design and construction of the planned trail bridge near Aspen Hall to provide enhanced access across Tumalo Creek to the northeast portion of Shevlin Park.

☐ **Update**

REGIONAL/ COMMUNITY WIDE PROJECTS

Art Station and Larkspur Parking Considerations: *The new facility was built adjacent to the basketball court at Larkspur Park. It has an entry space, three classrooms, office space, and restrooms. Additional research was done to evaluate the Larkspur complex parking. Staff hired a transportation engineer to review and evaluate the current parking constraints seen frequently onsite. It was determined that 50+ parking stalls are required for the overall Larkspur Site.* https://www.bendparksandrec.org/project/art-station/

Phase: Permitting

☒ **No updates**

- The Art Station is open and operational! There are still a few punch list items remaining for completion, and some landscaping items will need to be addressed in the spring. The parking lot consultant is finishing design and permitting, with work expected to begin late winter/early spring 2027.

☐ **Update**

Bend White Water Park Maintenance and McKay Park River Access Project: *After completion in 2016, the Whitewater Park is due for review and maintenance. The first phase of this project used survey and engineering analysis to compare the current functions of the park with the original design intent. The district will work with the consultant to determine the scope of work for a project to update and improve the whitewater park features. The project also includes improving river access for all users at McKay Park. The preferred concept design was completed and approved in 2023 under the McKay, Miller's, and Columbia Park River Access and Restoration project.* https://www.bendparksandrec.org/project/bend-whitewater-park-maintenance-and-mckay-park-access/

Phase: Design

☒ **No updates**

- Conceptual designs continue to progress. BPRD staff, the public and the board will have the opportunity to review and provide comments on these designs before progressing designs past the conceptual stage**.**

☐ **Update**

Columbia Park River Access and Gilchrist Bridge Replacement Project: *The preferred concept design includes bank improvements to enhance the natural area within this reach of river frontage, as well as a small, hardened access point for river users. This project was prioritized from the 2018 Deschutes River Access and Habitat Restoration Plan, and the preferred concept design was completed under the 2023 McKay, Miller's, and Columbia Park River Access project. Additionally, the BPRD Board of Directors and Bend City Council met and agreed in March 2026 to add replacement of the Gilchrist Bridge into the scope of the Columbia Park project.* https://www.bendparksandrec.org/project/columbia-park-river-access-project/

Phase: Construction

☐ **No updates**

☒ **Update**

- Construction has begun, starting with driving the micro-piles which will support the abutments for the new bridge. After providing notice to the community via multiple outlets, the park and bridge were closed on October 19th and will remain closed for the duration of the project.

ASSET MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

Sylvan Park Playground Renovation: *The small wood-based playground was built in 1993, no longer serving the needs of the neighborhood. The district will replace the playground and surfacing and create an accessible route to the playground from the parking area.* https://www.bendparksandrec.org/project/sylvan-park-playground-renovation/

Phase: Construction

☒ **No updates**

- Due to delays during construction, the window for playground surfacing installation was missed. While the playground will remain closed until next spring, the remainder of the park will be opened.

☐ **Update**

JSFC Outdoor Pool Roof Cover Replacement and Renovation Project: *This design build contract project combines five projects needed for the facility which are replacement of the existing 50-meter pool cover, replacement of the main chiller unit, replacement of the roofing material covering the south wing, and re-lining of the Myrtha walls in the 50-meter pool. Work is scheduled to begin Fall 2027.* https://www.bendparksandrec.org/project/juniper-renovations/

Phase: Planning

☒ **No updates**

- The Pence Construction team has been finalizing design issues with the City of Bend's permitting staff; the design of the new structure will require some building code modifications which have been submitted to the City for review and opinion. Once those modifications have been addressed, the design will move forward for permit submittal.

☐ **Update**

Boyd Acres Park Services Complex (Park Operations and Development): *The district executed a purchase and sale agreement (PSA) with the City of Bend for the purchase of their existing utility shop on Boyd Acres Road to become the new Park Services site. This PSA allowed the city to occupy the facility until their new facility was complete. The complex has been going through tenant improvements, which are anticipated for completion by the end of 2026.*

Phase: Construction

☐ **No updates:**

☒ **Update**

- Final occupancies for all buildings were completed the week of October 26th, and the final completion notice was sent to the contractor on November 18th. Park Services staff have been moving into both buildings C and D throughout November, with a goal to be moved and operating out of the new facility by December 1st.

Hollinshead Park ADA and Preferred Concept Design: *Knowing the importance of this historic property, community members and BPRD staff worked together in 2010 to develop a preferred concept plan for the future of the property. Improvements for the park include a new permanent restroom, ADA-compliant pathways, renovation of the parking area, enclosing the off-leash area, a "history walk" with interpretive signs in collaboration with the Deschutes Historical Society, and a maintenance report to preserve the park's structures.* https://www.bendparksandrec.org/project/hollinshead-park/

Phase: Permitting

☐ **No updates**

☒ **Update**

- The city is currently reviewing the Minimum Development Standards (MDS) application submitted for this project. Once the Land Use process is complete, final design and construction permit applications will be completed.

Old Bend Gym Wall Renovation: *The Old Bend Gym is a historic building on the National Register of Historic Places. The building is owned by BPRD, operated by the Boys & Girls Club on property owned by the Bend-La Pine School District. The entry to the building from NW Wall Street utilizes an exterior staircase for access to the second floor. The structural wall supporting the staircase is failing and needs to be replaced.*

Phase: Construction

☐ **No updates**

☒ **Update**

- The sculptor who was creating molds of the decorative elements on the Old Bend Gym completed his work and gave the molds to BPRD at the end of October. BPRD has submitted the final report the to granting agency, the Kinsman Foundation, and the project is now complete.

Larkspur Park Playground Renovation: *After years of use at this highly popular playground, renovations and replacements of the existing playground surfacing is needed. The major priority for this replacement is to ensure property ADA access is maintained throughout the playground area, including proper grade transitions from hardscape to playground surfacing.*

Phase: Planning

☐ **No updates**

☒ **Update**

- Staff has received and is analyzing, an Existing Conditions Assessment report from our design consultant. This report's findings will help guide next steps for this project.

Harmon Park Boat Replacement: *After reaching the end of its life, the boat at Harmon Park was removed. Due to the importance the boat held for so many members of the community, the district will carry forward Harmon Park's tradition of boat-themed play by installing a new boat-themed play structure in its place. Community outreach will occur once design submissions are complete, and planned installation for the new play structure is planned for summer 2027.*
https://www.bendparksandrec.org/project/harmon-park/

Phase: Design

☐ **No updates**

☒ **Update**

- This project officially kicked off on November 16th, with a press release, and email to stakeholders and project posters installed on site, and the project web page going live. Additionally, flyers about the project in English and Spanish were handed out to students participating in Kids, Inc in order to engage more households throughout the community. Play equipment concepts are anticipated to be presented to the public by the end of the year, with installation of the play structure likely happening in summer 2027.

OTHER PROJECTS AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

Park Search Area Planning: *District planners regularly work with local developers or private property owners to acquire property for new parks and trails in district Park Search Areas as defined by the Comprehensive Plan: 2024 Midterm Update*.

☐ **No updates**

☒ **Update**

- Staff are working with several property owners in search areas 15, 21 and 26, all located in the south section of town. These are very difficult areas of the community to locate park properties within. As staff receive more details on PSA's 15, 21, and 26, these properties will be brought to the board for consideration to move forward with purchase and sale agreements. Staff also anticipates closing on the "Bear Creek Road" property in PSA 38 in early December.

SDC Waivers for Affordable Housing:

☒ **No updates**

- Park SDC waivers for 787 single- and multi-family units have been approved through coordination with the City of Bend at a cost to the district of about $5.37 million in waived SDC fees. BPRD has also approved SDC waivers for three temporary shelter projects, totaling 32 units, and at a cost of $200,737 to the district. The board approved an additional 150 waivers for 2025 and 2026, all 150 of which have been used. Staff and legal counsel have completed the necessary deed restriction documents for 728 units since May 2020.

☐ **Update**

Deschutes River Access and Habitat Restoration Plan (River Plan) Update: *The Deschutes River Access and Habitat Restoration Plan (River Plan) was adopted in November 2021 and includes 28 projects. Over the past four years, the district has completed 12 of the 28 projects, or approximately 43%. Planning staff are working on a minor update to the plan to reflect changing conditions within the river corridor and to incorporate new sources of data regarding environmental conditions and river park usage.*

☒ **No updates**

- Staff provided the board with an update on plan implementation and the scope of the update and are currently working on background data collection and review, including a review of the habitat inventory work completed by BPRD's 2025 summer intern.

☐ **Update**

Climate Adaptation Plan Update: *The district has begun to develop a Climate Adaptation Plan that will include specific strategies to reduce impacts to district assets and manage the risks associated with climate change.*

☒ **No updates**

☐ **Update**

- The Executive Team has finished reviewing the list of potential adaptation strategies and actions. Staff will incorporate their comments and work with the team to address any outstanding questions or comments.

Tax Exemptions and Tax Increment Financing (TIF): *The City of Bend uses a number of tax exemptions and TIF programs to incentivize both residential and commercial development. These tax exemptions and TIF programs have a near term impact on district property tax revenues, with the goal of increasing property tax revenues in the long term. TIF and tax exemption durations range from 5 to 32 years from approval date.*

☒ **No updates**

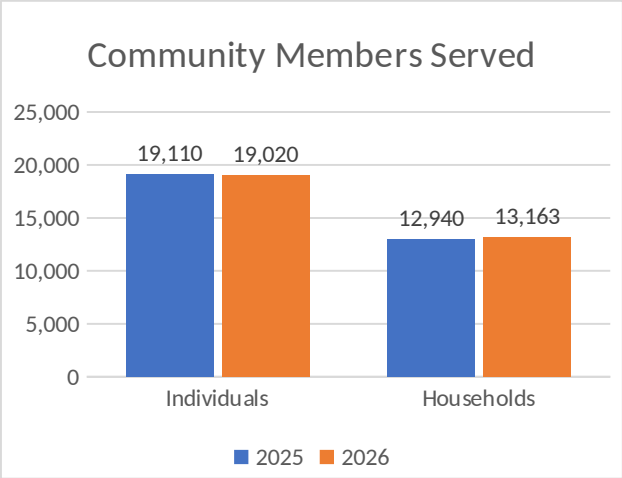
- At the City of Bend City Council work session on August 12, Council reviewed recommendations from the Housing Options Made for Everyone (HOME) committee on how to stimulate and facilitate housing development in Bend. Here is the staff memo and here is the staff presentation. Both tax exemptions and additional tax increment finance areas were options considered by the committee. The next step is for staff to develop a workplan based upon the HOME committee's recommendations and Council feedback, which is expected to be completed in early 2027.

☐ **Update**

Recreation Seasonal Report – Summer 2026

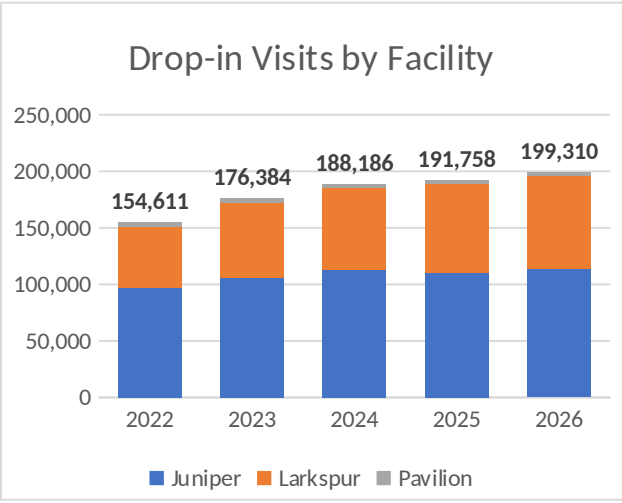
Recreation Seasonal Reports summarize the Recreation Department's performance each season, tracking registered program and facility drop-in participation and financial trends. The Summer 2026 report covers June, July and August and includes comparative data from prior years to highlight patterns and progress. Each chart features a brief interpretation of key findings, followed by an explanation of the underlying criteria (in italics).

Summer 2026 brought the highest facility drop-in use in five years and steady community reach. Recreation recorded 283,610 total visits across drop-in use and registered programs, and served 19,020 individuals from 13,163 households. Facility drop-in visits grew 4% over last summer and 29% since 2022, led by Larkspur Community Center. Scholarship support increased slightly to $273,752 even as fewer individuals used it, and participant evaluations averaged above 3.5 out of 4 in every category.



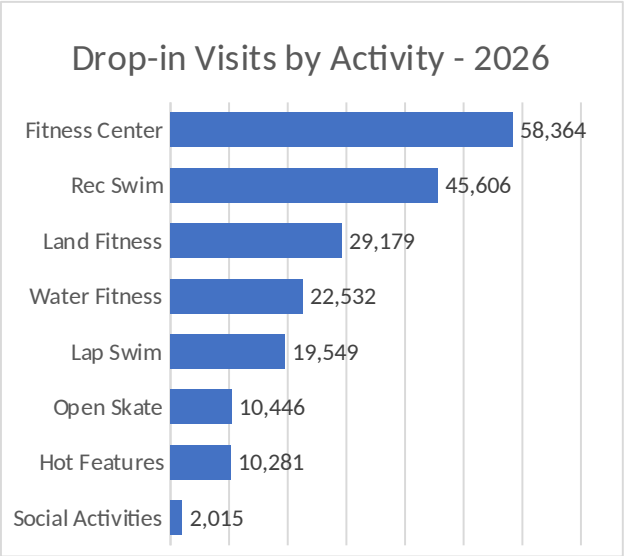
Recreation served 19,020 individuals from 13,163 households this summer — about 18% of Bend's population and 44% of Bend households. Individuals served held steady compared with last summer (down less than 1%), while households served grew 2%. Youth remain the core of summer participation: about half of all Bend kids ages 5 to 14 took part, along with 28% of adults ages 75 to 84.

Community members served counts unique individuals and households who registered for a program or visited a facility with a pass. It does not include drop-in use by people without a pass, which is mostly recreational swim.



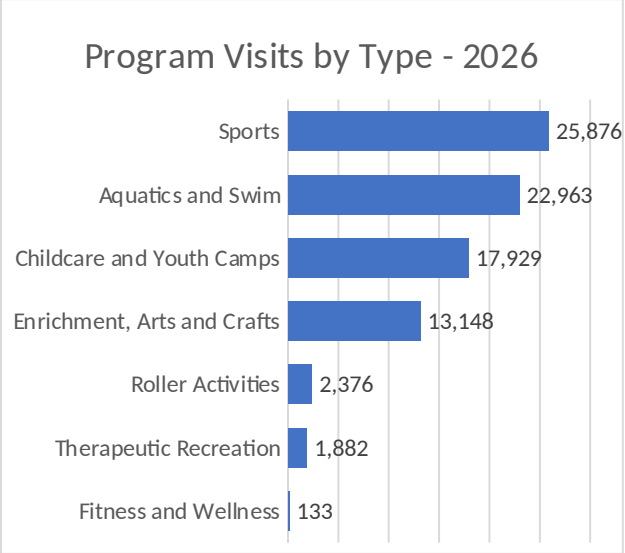
Total drop-in visits to facilities reached 199,310, an increase of 4% over last summer and 29% since 2022. Larkspur continued its strong growth with a 6% increase over last summer (up 55% since 2022), and Juniper increased 2% (up 17% since 2022).

Drop-in visits include passholder and single-visit users at recreation facilities. It does not show visits for registered programs (such as swim and skate lessons), facility rentals and competitive user groups.



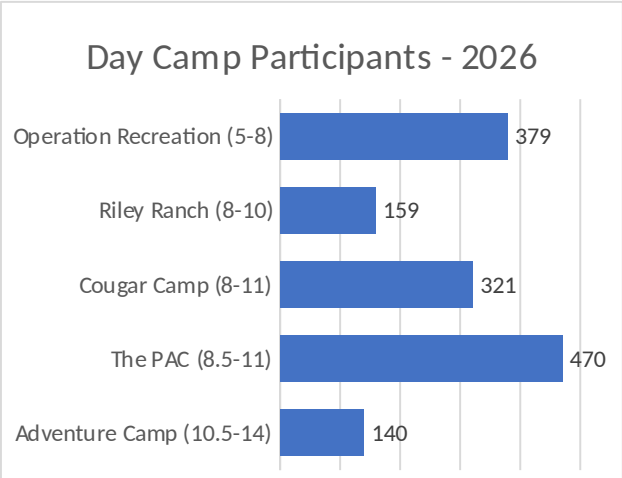
The fitness center was the most common reason for a drop-in visit with 58,364 visits, followed by recreational swim with 45,606. Fitness overall — the fitness center plus land and water fitness classes — accounted for more than half of all drop-in visits this summer.

The primary purpose for a visit is selected by the user at time of entry. While some people participate in more than one activity in a single visit, they are only counted under their primary purpose. Water exercise classes are shown under Water Fitness. Pool visits do not include swim lessons and competitive team use.



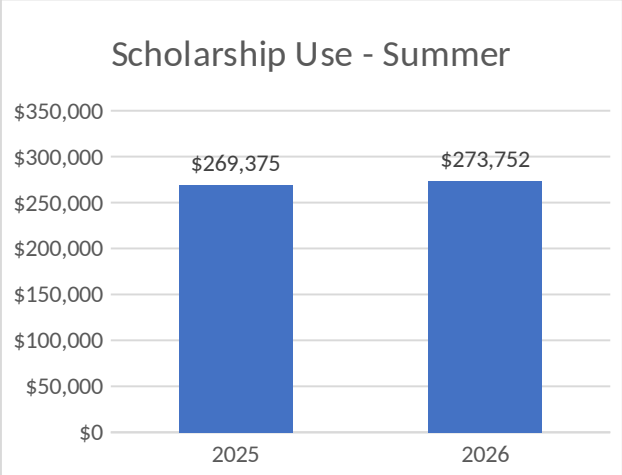
Registered programs recorded 15,774 enrollments from 5,903 individuals and 4,261 households, generating more than 84,000 program visits. Recreation ran 85% of the activities offered. Sports led in visits (25,876), while childcare and youth camps had the most enrollments (4,050). Aquatics and swim programs averaged 9.3 visits per enrollment, the highest of any program type.

Program visits show the number of participant visits to registered programs considering both the number of people registered and the number of times a program meets.



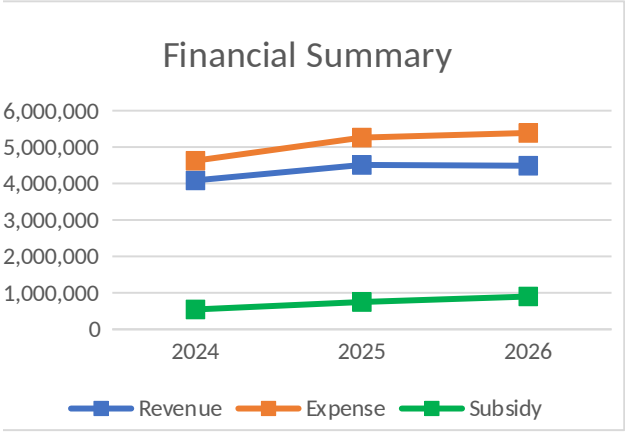
Full-day camps served 1,469 unique participants this summer. The PAC had the most participants (470), followed by Operation Recreation (379) and Cougar Camp (321). Together, the camps serve kids from age 5 through 14.

Unique participants counts each child once per camp, regardless of how many weeks they attended. Camps are listed from youngest to oldest age range served.



Scholarship use increased 2% to $273,752 this summer, while the number of scholarship recipients declined to 864 individuals (down 11%) from 619 households (down 10%). As a result, average scholarship support per individual rose from about $277 to $317. Fee increases on programs contributed to this increase.

Scholarship use shows the amount of scholarship support provided for discounted programming during the summer season.



Revenue held nearly flat at $4,488,356, down less than 1% from last summer, while expenses grew 2% to $5,386,628. As a result, the tax subsidy increased 20% to $898,273, and cost recovery declined from 86% last summer to 83% (down from 88% in 2024).

Revenue and expenses for the Recreation Department with the resulting tax subsidy.

Inclusion and Outreach

Inclusion staff provided 7,400 hours of support for 168 individuals with disabilities in summer programs across every area of recreation. Spanish-language inclusion facilitators supported 15 programs with 50 hours of inclusion support. Outreach initiatives included Discover the Outdoors, a low-cost weeklong camp for ages 10 to 15 that provided transportation for youth from mobile home parks and apartment communities, in partnership with Vámonos Outside; Fun on the Fly, a free Friday program with bilingual staff at five neighborhood sites from June through August; Movies in the Park, which drew more than 400 people to Alpenglow Park for a showing of Luca; bike workshops; and adaptive cycling for Latino families.

Activity Evaluation Feedback

Participant evaluations were strong across the board, with every category averaging above 3.5 on a 4-point scale (1 = poor, 4 = excellent). Instructor/coach received the highest rating at 3.63, followed by facility/equipment (3.60), content/curriculum (3.59), overall experience (3.55) and value for price (3.51). Words that appeared most often in participant comments included “great,” “fun,” “love,” “instructor” and “experience,” and many comments singled out patient, kind and encouraging staff. Standout comments from this summer include:

> *“It was the first time my child played a chess game with a human… playing with a real human now has gotten him over the hump of nervousness with live games. He is now teaching me how to play chess on his board at home. We love Mr. Jay!”* — Chess camp

> *“We really saw our toddler come a long way from screaming during the first class to then loving his practice with full submersions by the final week! I really felt like Ollie went the extra mile to make sure our family felt successful and comfortable with the class!”* — Swim lessons

> *“Lola was absolutely AMAZING… One thing that I was really impressed by, was the way Lola ended each class… with positive reminders such as, ‘I am brave, I am kind, I am strong.’… She was such a joy to watch interact with the kids, and I hope she knows the impact she had on a 3 year old little girl!”* — Swim lessons

> *“We are so grateful for you guys. The wonderful support people we have experienced are on another level. Incredibly patient and kind. Where do you find these people?! Every time we participate we are encouraged that strides are being made and there truly is a village for us. Thank you for always supporting our boy.”* — Therapeutic Recreation

> *“My son was only able to attend two days due to an injury but he had so much fun and wants to attend again next year. The counselors did a wonderful job including him and making him feel welcome even after missing most days.”* — Youth camp

> *“It was my very first time trying roller hockey… I came into the class feeling nervous because everyone else already had gear and knew what to do, and I was brand new. Nicole walked me through the entire process of trying on gear, learning skate basics, and holding the hockey stick. She even set aside all my gear for next time in a bag.”* — Adult roller hockey

> *“The restorative and gentle yoga classes are so phenomenal here… I am healthier and stronger and more filled with love thanks to her classes.”* — Restorative yoga, on instructor Brandi

Board Calendar
2026-2027
This working calendar of goals/projects is intended as a guide for the board and subject to change.

December 15
EXECUTIVE SESSION
WORK SESSION
- Trails (Counter and projects)- Overview of Program – *Andy Sommerville (20 min)*

BUSINESS SESSION
- Accept Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and Audit – *Eric Baird and Audit Firm (30 min)*
- Budget Committee Appointment — *Kristin Toney (10 min)*
- Hold public hearing and approve Resolution #2026-13 for alternative contracting method for Shevlin Park North Bridge Project – *Henry Stroud (15 min)*
- Adopt Resolution 2026-14 Supplemental Budget and Appropriation Transfer for Facility Reserve Fund – Kristin Toney (5 min)
- Award an early work amendment for JSFC pool enclosure – Brian Hudspeth (10 min)

January 5
EXECUTIVE SESSION
WORK SESSION
- Community Parks-Program Overview
- District Safety Overview - TBD
- Park Steward Program—*Julie Brown and Joel Lee (30 min) tentative*

BUSINESS SESSION

REPORTS

January 19
EXECUTIVE SESSION
WORK SESSION
- Level of Service Review – *Henry Stroud (20 min)*
- BURA Proposal - BPRD Line of Credit Program- *Kristin Toney and Jonathan Taylor- City of Bend (25min)*
- Annual Concurrence in the City of Bend Qualified Rental Housing Property Tax Exemption Policy for Affordable Housing- *Kristin Toney (20 min)*

BUSINESS SESSION
- Approve Resolution # 2026-15 for the purchase of property in Search Area 21– *Sara Anselment (15 min) Tentative*
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REPORTS

January 29 Board Workshop

Future Topics

IGA with NUID for canal trail – *Henry Stroud*
Park Search Area 5 PSA – Quinn Keever
Park Search Area 26 – Sara Anselment
Park Search Area 21 – Sara Anselment
Therapeutic Recreation Update
Fleet Leasing Update
Natural Resources-Projects
Park usage report from Placer
Whitewater Park updates
Approve DRT South recommended alignments
Park and Trail LOS
Shevlin Park North – bridge contract
Trail System Planning Overview- Henry (30min)
SDC Index
Budget/CIP
Park Usage Report – Quinn/Henry (20 min)
Girls in Sports – Jase and David (20 Min)