SEATTLE PARK DISTRICT CYCLE 2 PLANNING
BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS
PRIORITIZATION OVERVIEW

Seattle Park District Board Meeting | June 24, 2022

Presentation by:
Marlon Herrera and Jessica Farmer, BPRC Co-Chairs
Process Overview | BPRC Prioritization Phase

Aug. 2014: Park District established by voters

2015 - 2020: Cycle 1

2019 - present: SPR strategic planning, community engagement, identification of funding needs

March 24 – May 19: BPRC Recommendation Process

June 1: Superintendent Recommendation to Mayor

Mayor’s Office & City Council Review

Nov 21: Council vote

Cycle 2
### BPRC Cycle 2 Prioritization Process Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meeting Topic</th>
<th>Public Engagement Opportunity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/10/2022</td>
<td>Background and Planning Context</td>
<td>Public comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/24/2022</td>
<td><strong>Cycle 2 Prioritization Kickoff</strong></td>
<td>Public comment</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/14/2022</td>
<td>Community Check-In</td>
<td>Public participation</td>
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<td>4/28/2022</td>
<td>Sub-Committee Reports</td>
<td>Public comment</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/12/2022</td>
<td>Discuss Draft Recommendation</td>
<td>Public hearing</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/19/2022</td>
<td><strong>Final Board Recommendation</strong></td>
<td>Public comment</td>
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**Additional Dates of Note (not BPRC-specific)**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Public Engagement Opportunity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/1/2022</td>
<td>Superintendent transmit budget to Mayor (<em>including Cycle 2 funding recommendation</em>)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/24/2022</td>
<td>Park District Board Meeting (<em>City Council acting as</em>)</td>
<td>Public comment</td>
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**Final Recommendation available at BPRC website:**
BPRC Guiding Principles

In making recommendations, Commissioners considered the following Guiding Principles:

- Alignment with Strategic Plan, Action Plan, and Values
- Responding to parallel crises: public health, economic recovery, racial equity, and climate change
- Other priorities such as community responsiveness and performance
- Mindfulness of affordability challenges and responsibly stewarding public funds
Ongoing Community Engagement

2019: Broad, Future-Oriented Big Ideas

- **Support Seattle's growth and density** (preserve open space, develop multi-use spaces and facilities, build transit connections)
- **Embrace new trends** (pickleball, disc golf, roller derby, bike tracks)
- **Make parks safer** (remove encampments, clean up needles, provide more lighting)
- **Provide more access** (update facility hours, improve restrooms, support disabilities, increase low-cost recreation opportunities)
- **Engage more with community** (improve website, social media, communications, and marketing)
- **Continue maintaining the system we have** (repair pools and community centers, maintain open space)
- **Desire for more** (pools, trails, events, classes & programs, playgrounds, bathrooms, pickleball…)

- **10,000+ people** engaged
- **2 City-wide events**
- **20+ listening sessions**
- **20+ community events attended**
- **50+ social media discussions**
- **8 online surveys**
- Engagement in **12 languages**
Ongoing Community Engagement

2021: Focused & Recovery-Oriented

• **Build meaningful relationship with BIPOC community** *(focus on community engagement, clarify pathways to implement community-identified priorities)*

• **Mitigate climate change** *(invest in urban canopy, add cooling to community centers, steward natural resources sustainably)*

• **Restore access to parks & recreation spaces** *(address impacts of homelessness, add weekend and evening facility hours, expand restroom access)*

• **Bring services to people** *(additional neighborhood events and activation, maximize environmental education and urban agriculture opportunities)*

• **Invest in popular assets** *(maximize pedestrian usability of trails and natural spaces, repair failing amenities, add pickleball access)*

• **Improve park safety** *(add staff presence in outdoor and indoor spaces, re-think approach to security)*

• **Look to the future** *(invest in job development and employment opportunities)*

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**9,000+ people engaged**

**6 Commission listening sessions**

**2 partner meetings (20 organizations)**

**9 Superintendent listening sessions (26 organizations)**

**21 community events & meetings attended**

**Engagement in 9 Languages**

**7,000+ online open house visitors; 3,600+ surveys**

**850+ surveys collected in 6 regional parks**
The BPRC supports the pre-commitment projects as proposed. We prefer preserving historic buildings for sustainability, architectural value, and budget savings.

The BPRC recognizes the importance of Park District baseline funding and our specific recommendations are additive to that base.
## Recommendation Framework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Investment Strategies</th>
<th>Recommended Funding</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Enhancing Access and Services</strong></td>
<td>Improving Park Safety &amp; Activation</td>
<td>$9.0 M</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enhancing Recreation Facilities &amp; Programming</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Restoring Trails &amp; Improving Access To Open Space</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Expanding Youth Employment &amp; Mentorship</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Restoring Clean, Safe &amp; Welcoming Parks &amp; Facilities</strong></td>
<td>Restoring Parks &amp; Facilities</td>
<td>$12.0 M</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Increasing Access to Restrooms</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Enhancing Life Safety &amp; Regulatory Compliance</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Continuing to Fix it First</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Investing for the Future</strong></td>
<td>Responding to Climate Change</td>
<td>$9.0 M</td>
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<td>Building Community Capacity</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Developing &amp; Enhancing Park Assets</td>
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BPRC Recommendation

We strongly urge the adoption of the full $30 million investment.
Throughout the pandemic and well before then, demands on the Parks and Recreation system have only grown. Our recommendation centers the following:

✓ A racial equity lens: targeting investments to benefit historically underserved communities;
✓ Voter-approved vision of the Park District: a mix of capital, operations and maintenance;
✓ Leveraging potential for grants, cost-sharing and other external funding;
✓ Looking for investments that have the greatest impacts at the lowest cost;
✓ Supporting innovative demonstration projects to pave the way for future funding;
✓ Increasing equitable engagement and working directly with diverse communities.
Seattle’s Parks and Recreation System

- **6,400+ acre** system of over **485+ parks**
- **Hundreds** of recreation & enrichment programs for kids, teens, adults, older adults, and people with disabilities
- **Wide range of amenities:** **24** full-service community centers, **2** specialty centers, **8** indoor and **2** outdoor pools, **200+** athletic fields, **120** miles of trails, **32** wading pools & spray parks, **14** off-leash areas, **3** environmental learning centers, **3** teen life centers, **4** golf courses, **131+** public restrooms, **150+** play areas, and much more!
- **Wide array of partnerships:** Seattle Public Schools, Woodland Park Zoo, Seattle Aquarium, Associated Recreation Council, volunteer & friends of groups, non-profit operators, and many more
Final Recommendation available at BPRC website:

Thank you!