

Refinement Overview

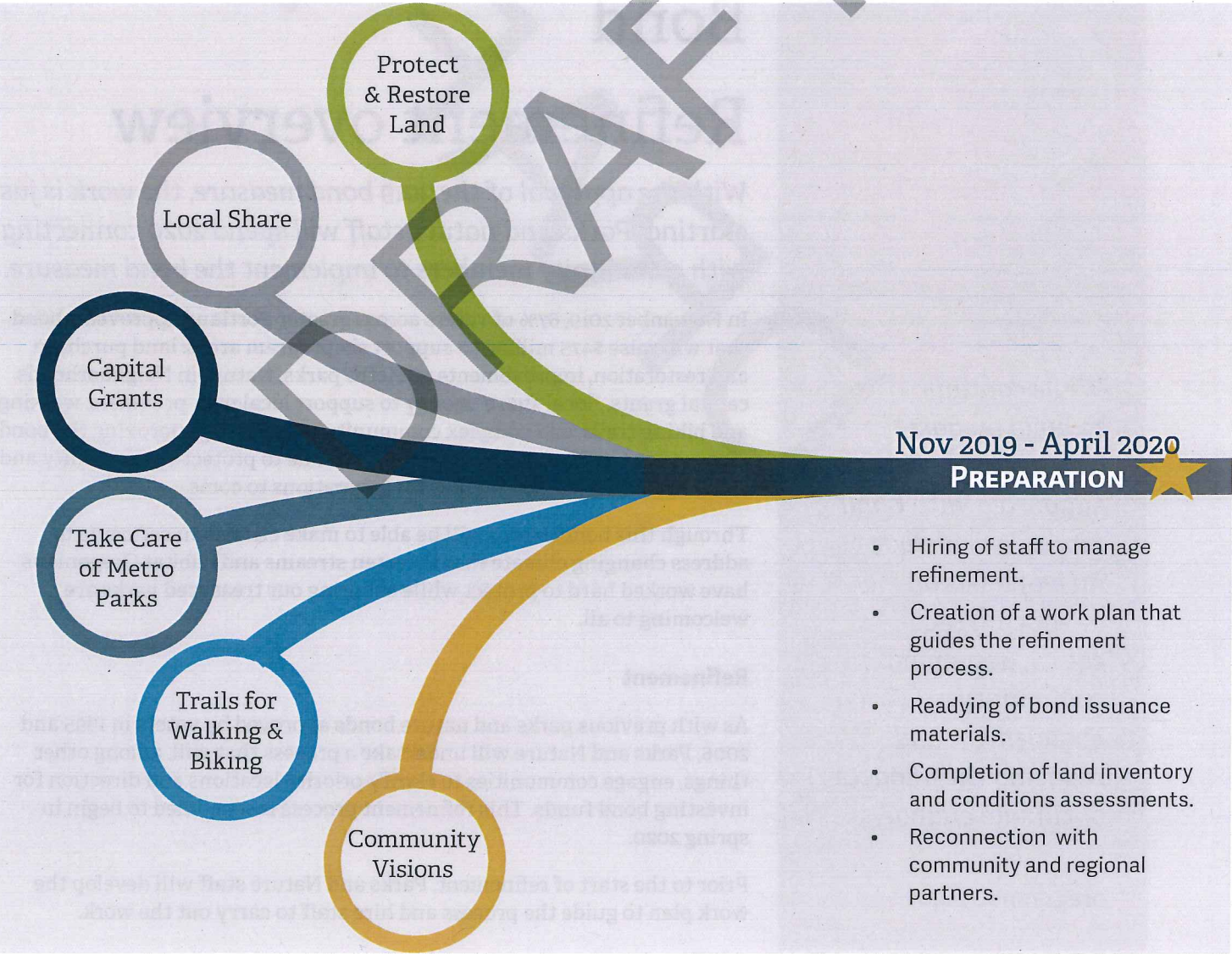
Beginning in spring 2020, Metro's Parks and Nature will engage in an extensive, community focused process to define the program areas and direction of investments outlined in the bond. After an initial preparation period, this refinement process will comprise three stages over 12 to 18 months: Alignment, Launch, and Innovate.

Preparation

In the lead up to refinement, Parks and Nature staff will undertake preparations to ensure a coordinated and effective process. These will include hiring of staff, creation of a refinement work plan, readying of the initial issuance of bonds, completion of necessary baseline ecological assessments, and reconnection with community members.

Alignment

Scheduled to begin in April 2020, the first stage of the refinement process will focus on preexisting programs within Parks and Nature. These include the purchase and restoration of land, improvements at Metro parks, Nature in Neighborhoods capital grants, "local share" money to support local park providers, and the development of walking and biking trails. The purpose of this stage is to align existing programs with the bond's new racial equity and climate resiliency criteria, as well as with the guiding principles outlined in the bond language. Informed by partner and community involvement, this alignment may ultimately result in the changing of priorities, processes and direction for the aforementioned program areas.



Launch

After the direction is identified during the alignment stage, Parks and Nature staff will launch the program areas. This launch will include the establishment of intergovernmental agreements with local jurisdictions, acquisitions investment in newly prioritized target areas, and the start of building the infrastructure for the Capital Grants program.

Innovate

The third stage of refinement will focus on the development of the various innovative pilot projects and programs outlined in the bond. These areas include a community-led, racial-justice focused land acquisition project, a participatory grantmaking pilot program, and the advancement of complex community visioning projects. Due to the uniqueness of these efforts, staff anticipate that this development process will involve deep collaboration with community, regional partners, and Metro staff and Council.

Refinement Process Timeline

| May - October 2020 ALIGNMENT | November 2020 - March 2021 LAUNCH | April 2021 onward INNOVATE |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prioritize the alignment of preexisting programs.• Coordination of community and regional partner engagement.• Alignment of priorities, processes, and direction of programs with new bond criteria and principles.• Approval of newly determined direction.• Review and prioritization of Capital Projects. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Start of building infrastructure for Capital Grants program.• Establishment of IGAs for Local Share.• Initiation of land acquisitions under newly aligned direction. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engagement of community, regional partners, and Metro staff and Council.• Development of the community-led, racial-justice focused land acquisition project.• Development of the participatory grantmaking pilot program.• Development of the program to advance complex community projects. |

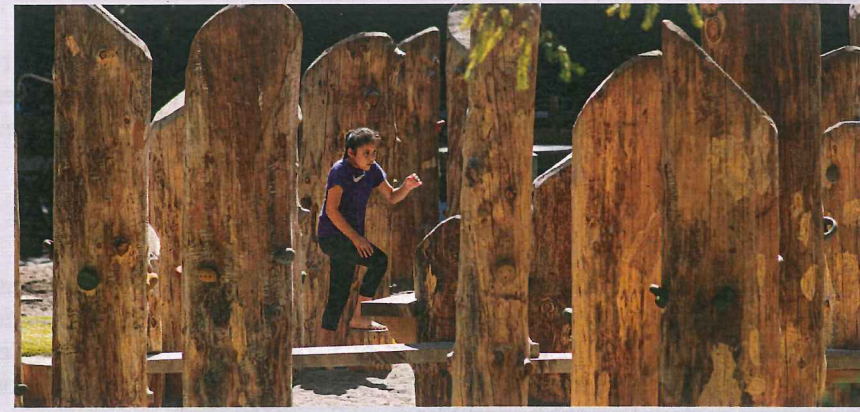
If you picnic at Blue Lake or take your kids to the Oregon Zoo, enjoy symphonies at the Schnitz or auto shows at the convention center, put out your trash or drive your car – we’ve already crossed paths.

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Metro Council Engagement Opportunities

Preparation

During the preparation phase, Councilors will receive a status update at the February 4 Council Work Session. During this update, Councilors will have the opportunity to convey their preferences regarding how informed they would like to be during the preparation phase.

At the conclusion of the preparation phase (April 2020), Parks and Nature staff will return to Council to present the resulting refinement work plan, which will guide Metro through the implementation of the bond.

Alignment

During the alignment phase, Councilors will have the opportunity to engage in conversations to assist in the alignment of preexisting Parks and Nature program areas that are outlined in the bond. Councilors may instead choose to play an informational role during this phase, which will allow them to stay apprised of developments without requiring full, in-person participation.

At the conclusion of the alignment phase, Parks and Nature staff will return to Council to present the newly refined program areas that will result from the alignment process.

Launch

During the launch phase, staff will be concentrated on initiating the newly refined program areas. Councilors will have the opportunity to convey their preferences regarding how informed they would like to be throughout this initial implementation.

Innovate

During the innovate phase, it is anticipated that there will be several avenues for Council engagement, particularly during the development of the Large-scale Community Visions program. As this phase approaches, Parks and Nature staff will have more concrete detail regarding available engagement opportunities for Councilors.



While continuing to build on past investments, projects supported with bond money will include an emphasis on advancing racial equity, deepening community engagement and reducing the impacts of climate change.

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2019 Parks and Nature Bond Refinement overview

With the approval of the 2019 bond measure, the work is just starting. Parks and nature staff will spend 2020 connecting with community members to implement the bond measure.

In November 2019, 67% of voters across greater Portland approved a bond that will raise \$475 million to support six program areas: land purchase and restoration, improvements at Metro parks, Nature in Neighborhoods capital grants, “local share” money to support local park providers, walking and biking trails, and complex community projects. By approving the bond measure, voters have asked Metro to continue to protect water quality and restore fish and wildlife habitat for generations to come.

Through this bond, Metro will be able to make critical investments to address changing climate that threaten streams and habitat Oregonians have worked hard to protect while ensuring our treasured parks are welcoming to all.

Refinement

As with previous parks and nature bonds approved by voters in 1995 and 2006, Parks and Nature will undertake a process that will, among other things, engage communities to clarify priority locations and direction for investing bond funds. This refinement process is scheduled to begin in spring 2020.

Prior to the start of refinement, Parks and Nature staff will develop the work plan to guide the process and hire staff to carry out the work.