City Council
101 W 10th Ave., Suite 203
Eugene, OR 97401
541-682-5010 • 541-682-5414 Fax
www.eugene-or.gov

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

April 13, 2022

12:00 p.m. CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

As the state and community recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, City Council meetings will continue to be held remotely using virtual meeting technology. Information about online or other options for access and participation will be available at https://www.eugene-or.gov/3360/Webcasts-and-Meeting-Materials

---

Meeting of April 13, 2022;
Her Honor Mayor Lucy Vinis Presiding

Councilors

Claire Syrett, President	Matt Keating, Vice President
Mike Clark	Greg Evans
Randy Groves	Emily Semple
Jennifer Yeh	Alan Zelenka

12:00 p.m. CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

1. **WORK SESSION: Building Electrification**

2. **WORK SESSION: Parks and Recreation Annual Bond and Levy Update**

For the hearing impaired, an interpreter can be provided with 48 hours' notice prior to the meeting. Spanish-language interpretation will also be provided with 48 hours' notice. To arrange for these services, contact the receptionist at 541-682-5010. City Council meetings are telecast live on Metro Television, Comcast channel 21, and rebroadcast later in the week.

El consejo de la Ciudad de Eugene agradece su interés en estos asuntos de la agenda. El lugar de la reunión tiene acceso para sillas de ruedas. Se puede proveer a un intérprete para las personas con discapacidad auditiva si avisa con 48 horas de anticipación. También se puede proveer interpretación para español si avisa con 48 horas de anticipación. Para reservar estos servicios llame al 541-682-5010. Las reuniones del consejo de la ciudad se transmiten en vivo por Metro Television, Canal 21 de Comcast y son retransmitidas durante la semana.

For more information, contact the Council Coordinator at 541-682-5010
or visit us online at www.eugene-or.gov.

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Work Session: Potential Code Changes to Require that all New Construction be Electric Only Beginning January 1, 2023.

Meeting Date: April 13, 2022
Department: Planning and Development
www.eugene-or.gov

Agenda Item Number: 1
Staff Contact: Lydia Bishop
Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-5482

ISSUE STATEMENT
This work session is in response to City Council's November 17, 2021, motion requesting a discussion about changes to City code that would require all newly constructed residential, commercial, and industrial buildings be electric only beginning January 1, 2023.

BACKGROUND
For the purposes of this work session, staff have presumed that Council's request is for a path to prohibit natural gas in newly constructed buildings, not a path for prohibiting all energy sources except electricity (hydrogen, etc.) in newly constructed buildings.

Based on consultation with the City Attorney's office and conversations with the State Building Codes Division (BCD), staff believe that the City Council could prohibit natural gas in new construction by adopting an ordinance amending the City Code that adds a new section to Chapter 6 (Environment and Health). The code amendment could simply state that "natural gas infrastructure is prohibited in newly constructed buildings." The amendment would also add definitions for "natural gas infrastructure" and "newly constructed buildings" in Chapter 6's definitions section.

Examples of code provisions adopted by other cities that limit the use of natural gas in new construction are attached to this Agenda Item Summary as Attachment A. Attachment B provides a link to California cities that have prohibitions on fossil fuels. As shown in Attachment A, there is a range of options for limiting the use of natural gas in new construction. As Council discusses these options, if desired, staff can provide additional information regarding a more limited prohibition on natural gas use, such as applying a natural gas prohibition to one or two building types. Since City staff's discussions with the State Building Codes Division were limited to whether a complete ban on natural gas infrastructure in new construction conflicts with the State Building Code (it does not, but, if it did, would trigger a process requiring the State's approval), City staff will continue to stay in contact with the State as the Council's discussions of this topic progresses.

An amendment to Chapter 6 to prohibit or limit the use of natural gas in new construction would follow the City Charter-mandated ordinance adoption process for non-land use ordinances. These standard procedures require newspaper notice and at least one public hearing prior to adoption. The City Council could direct the City Manager to arrange for additional opportunities for the Council to gather public input in the event a more robust public process is desired. Additional opportunities for

public comment could impact the Council's currently stated deadline of having a prohibition in place by January 1, 2023.

Staff notes that the second motion made by Council at the November 17, 2021, work session requested staff provide a roadmap by June 2022 for how the City can achieve decarbonization of the existing commercial and residential building stock by 2045. A consultant is currently preparing this information which will include:

- Gathering building inventory data for the City's existing building stock;
- Characterizing existing building stock by opportunities and needs;
- Researching best technical practices to determine opportunities and needs for energy efficiency and building envelope upgrades;
- Best practice research for:
    - integration of distributed renewable energy generation and energy storage;
    - equitable process and outcomes;
    - financial assistance for low-income residents and businesses;
    - working with regulatory obstacles;
    - phasing of implementation;
- Recommendations of how this will unfold and where the City can play a role;
- A final draft report with policy roadmap including a path from existing local context and gap fillers explained and mapped to get to best practice.

Some of the information from this decarbonization study will likely be helpful in identifying barriers and opportunities for what's immediately implementable for construction of new buildings and information regarding costs to do so.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION

At the Council's work session on the Climate Action Plan CAP 2.0 on November 17, 2021, the City Council made the following relevant motions:

> 1) Direct City Manager to schedule a work session to discuss changes to City code that would require all newly constructed commercial and residential and industrial buildings be electric only beginning January 1, 2023.
>
> 2) Direct City Manager to provide council with a roadmap for how the city can achieve decarbonization of the existing commercial and residential building stock by 2045, with particular consideration for how low income and historically marginalized households will be impacted and included in this process. This roadmap must include strategies for decarbonization of rental housing stock. A draft of this roadmap shall be provided to council before June 30, 2022.

The video of these motions and the ensuing discussion can be found at the following link: *https://eugene.ompnetwork.org/sessions/232796?embedInPoint=4081&embedOutPoint=7820&shareMethod=link*

COUNCIL OPTIONS

This work session is an opportunity for City Council to consider possible options and next steps. No formal options or recommendations are included at this time.

ATTACHMENTS

A. Natural Gas and Other Fossil Fuel Prohibitions in Other Cities
B. Link to List of California Cities with Fossil Fuel Prohibitions

FOR MORE INFORMATION

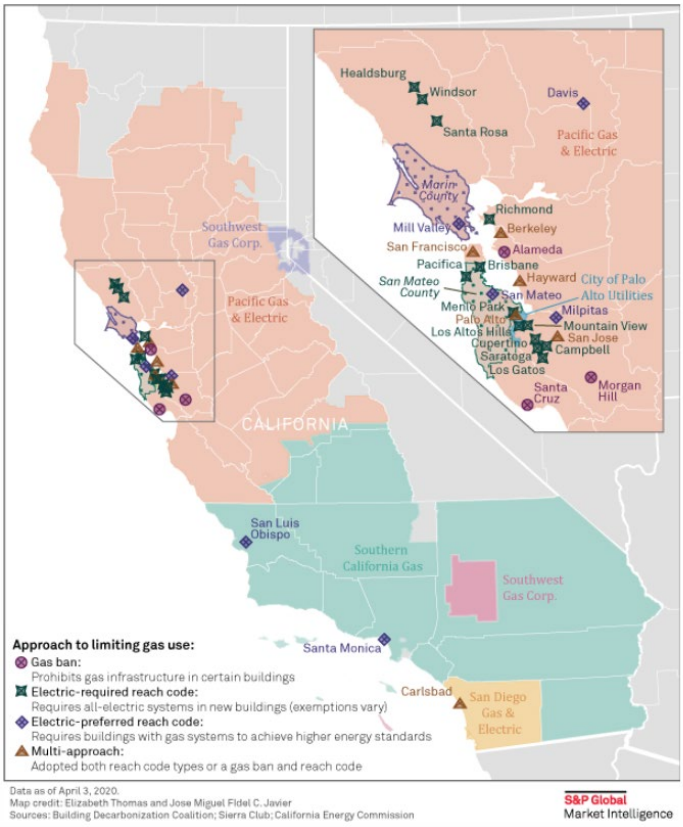
Staff Contact: Lydia Bishop
Telephone: 541-682-4852
Staff E-Mail: LBishop@Eugene-or.gov

Examples of Natural Gas and Other Fossil Fuel Prohibitions in other Cities

This is a representative sample, not an all-inclusive list.

City	Ordinance/Code	Summary	Exceptions										Applicability		
			Building Additions	Backup Generators	Crematorium	Commercial Cooking	Essential Facilities	Factories; Industrial Processes	Infeasible, or no electric option available	Laboratories and research	If in the Public Interest	Residential cooking and/or fireplaces	If an exception is used, electrical capacity & pre-wiring for future electrical installation req'd	Low-rise Residential only	Comm only	Res. + Comm. bldgs.
Brookline, MA	Article 21 (Note: Not in effect. Mass. AG has determined that this Article is preempted by state law)	No permits shall be issued by the Town for the construction of new buildings or significant rehabilitations that include the installation of new on-site fossil fuel infrastructure.		X		X			X	X						X
Berkeley, CA	Ord. No. 7.672-N.S.	Natural Gas Infrastructure shall be prohibited in Newly Constructed Buildings							X		X		X			X
Cupertino, CA	Cupertino Municipal Code 16.54	All newly constructed buildings shall be an all-electric building. (No natural gas or propane plumbing installed; uses electricity for space heating, water heating, cooking appliances, outdoor kitchens, outdoor fireplaces, and clothes drying appliances)	X			X	X	X	X	X			X			X
Menlo Park, CA	Menlo Park Municipal Code 12.16	All newly constructed buildings shall be an all-electric building. (No natural gas or propane plumbing installed; uses electricity for space heating, water heating, cooking appliances, outdoor kitchens, outdoor fireplaces, and clothes drying appliances)				X	X	X		X		X	X			X
New York, NY	Local Law No. 154	Buildings shall be subject to emission limits: no combustion of any substance that emits 25 kilograms or more of carbon dioxide per million BTUs		X	X	X	X	X		X						X
Santa Barbara, CA	Santa Barbara Municipal Code 22.100.040	Natural Gas Infrastructure is prohibited in Newly Constructed Buildings							X				X			
Santa Rosa, CA	Santa Rosa City Code 18-33	Low-Rise Residential New Construction shall meet the definition of an all-electric building. (no natural gas or propane plumbing installed; uses electricity for space heating, water heating, cooking appliances, and clothes drying)												X		
Seattle, Wa	Seattle Energy Code	Prohibits fossil fuels for space heating and water heating in new commercial buildings, large multifamily buildings above three stories, and hotels.													X	
Windsor, CA	Has been Rescinded	New buildings shall use "a permanent supply of electricity as the source of energy for all space heating, water heating (including pools and spas), cooking appliances, and clothes drying appliances, and has no natural gas or propane plumbing installed in the building"												X		

Link to List of California Cities with Fossil Fuel Prohibitions



Solana Beach- requires new construction in residential and commercial buildings to use electric appliances for space heating, water heating, dryers, pools and spas. It sets standards for major renovations to ensure that significant remodels beyond a certain point require these electric upgrades as well. The ordinance also requires all-electric readiness, and has provisions for electric car charging, commercial solar, and prewiring for home battery storage.

Santa Clara- this all-electric reach code applies to both new residential and commercial buildings, and contains minimal exemptions.

Encinitas- in accordance with their most recent Climate Action Plan update-- will now require all new residential and commercial buildings to be all-electric, making it the 50th municipality and the first city in San Diego County to require all-electric buildings, with situational exemptions for restaurants, essential service buildings, and special projects.

Fairfax- requires all newly constructed residential and commercial buildings to be all-electric, starting March 1, 2022, with an exemption for commercial kitchens.

Emeryville- requires all newly constructed residential buildings to be all-electric, with exemptions for newly constructed nonresidential buildings. However, these buildings must be furnished with conduit or pre-wiring for future electric appliance installation.

Santa Barbara- requires all new buildings to be all-electric starting January 1, 2022, though it does offer an exemption for restaurants.

Sacramento- requires all new buildings under 3 stories to be all-electric by 2023 and extends the mandate to all new construction by 2026. Approved 6/1/2021.

South San Francisco- requires all new residential buildings to be all-electric. Approved 5/26/2021.

Petaluma- Requires all buildings to be all-electric and bans all new gas stations. Approved 5/3/2021.

Daly City- Required all-electric new residential and non-residential buildings with blanket exemptions for 100% affordable housing buildings, commercial kitchens, and laboratories. Approved 4/27/2021.

San Carlos- Requires newly constructed buildings and remodel projects that update more than 50% of the building to be all-electric with some exceptions. Approved 1/25/2021.

Albany- Encourages newly constructed residential and commercial buildings to be electric preferred and requires mixed fuel buildings to exceed the California Energy Code. Approved 12/9/2020.

Oakland- Requires all newly constructed buildings to be all-electric. Approved 12/1/2020.

Ojai- Requires all-electric new construction for buildings with some exceptions. Approved 10/27/2020.

Sunnyvale- Requires newly constructed residential and commercial buildings to be all-electric with an exemption for gas fuel cells. Restaurants may apply for an exemption. Approved 10/27/2020.

Millbrae- Requires all-electric residential and commercial buildings with exemptions for laboratories, restaurants and gas cooking/fireplaces. Approved 10/27/2020.

Los Altos- Requires all newly constructed buildings to be all-electric with exemptions for gas cooking/fireplaces in residential buildings with 9 units or less, laboratories and restaurants. Approved 10/27/2020.

East Palo Alto- Requires that new residential and commercial buildings be all-electric, with exceptions for affordable housing, and commercial kitchens. Approved 10/6/2020.

Redwood City- Adopted a reach code requiring all-electric new construction for commercial and residential buildings, with exceptions for multiple specific building types such as laboratories. Approved 8/24/2020.

Piedmont- Promotes all-electric new construction for low-rise residential buildings and incentives electrification for renovations of low-rise residences. Approved 7/20/2020.

San Anselmo- Promotes all electric housing by requiring higher energy efficiency requirements for mixed fuel projects and prewiring for al electric kitchens. Approved 4/14/2020.

Burlingame- Requires all electric new construction for projects with exemptions for single-family and commercial projects for gas cooking and fireplaces. Approved 7/6/2020.

Santa Cruz- Requires all electric new construction with exemptions for projects that are deemed to be in the public interest and for restaurant cooking. Approved 3/24/2020.

Hayward- All new residential buildings are required to be all-electric and nonresidential and high-rise residential buildings are electric preferred. Mixed-fuel buildings must install solar panels, and the energy budget must be 10 percent better than code. Approved 3/3/2020.

Richmond- Requires new residential buildings over three stories to have prewiring for electric readiness and to support all-electric clothes dryers and space and water heating. Allows gas to power stoves and fireplaces. Requires all buildings under three stories to build all-electric and install a minimum amount of on-site solar based on square footage. Approved 2/18/2020.

San Mateo County- Requires that no gas or propane plumbing is installed in new buildings, and that electricity be used as the energy source for water and space heating and cooking and clothes drying appliances. Approved 2/11/2020.

Campbell- Requires all-electric space and water heating in new residential buildings, accessory dwelling units, and major remodels. Approved 2/4/2020.

Los Altos Hills- Requires electric space and water heating in new low-rise residential buildings. Approved 1/16/2020.

San Francisco recently expanded on their building electrification ordinance, now requiring that all new construction be all electric starting June 1st 2021. Approved 12/17/2019.

Cupertino- Requires all buildings, including accessory dwelling units, to be all-electric. Also requires outdoor pools, spas, and barbeques to be included within the definition of an all-electric building. Approved 12/17/2019.

Los Gatos- Requires all newly constructed single-family and low-rise multifamily buildings to be all-electric. Approved 12/3/2019.

Healdsburg- Requires electrification for most appliances but grants an exemption for gas cooking and fireplaces. Approved 12/2/2019.

Brisbane- Requires all newly constructed single-family homes and low-rise multifamily buildings to be all-electric. Allows exemptions for cooking appliances but requires pre-wiring for electric readiness. Approved 11/21.2019.

Saratoga- Requires all newly constructed buildings to be all-electric. Approved 11/20/2019.

Mill Valley- Requires all newly constructed residential buildings to be all electric. Approved 11/18/2019.

Pacifica- Requires electrification for most appliances but grants an exemption for gas cooking and fireplaces in new residential buildings. Requires water and space heaters, cooking appliances, fireplaces, and clothes dryers to be all-electric for new nonresidential buildings. Public agencies providing emergency services and nonresidential kitchens are exempted. Approved 11/12/2019.

Santa Rosa- Requires all newly constructed low-rise residential buildings to be all-electric. Approved 11/12/2019.

Milpitas- Limits gas infrastructure for newly constructed buildings on city-owned property. Approved 11/5/2019.

Alameda- Limits gas infrastructure for new residential construction on city-owned property and as of May 18, they've expanded the code to require newly constructed buildings to be all electric with some exceptions. Approved 11/5/2019.

Palo Alto- Requires all newly constructed low-rise residential buildings to be all-electric, plus higher energy-efficiency standards and electrification readiness in mixed-fuel non-residential buildings. Will revisit all-electric requirement for non-residential new construction in 2021. Approved 11/4/2019.

Morgan Hill- Phases out gas hookups in all newly constructed residential buildings and most nonresidential buildings. Approved 10/23/2019.

Mountain View- Requires electrification for new residential and nonresidential buildings. Does not exempt gas stoves, fireplaces, or firepits in residential buildings. Approved 10/22/2019.

Marin County- Offered three compliance pathways for newly constructed buildings in unincorporated buildings: one for all-electric construction, one for limited mixed-fuel construction that has fewer efficiency requirements because it uses less gas but allows gas stoves, and one for mixed-fuel construction that requires the most strict compliance with Cal Green Tier 1 and electrification-readiness requirements. Approved 9/24/2019.

Davis- Requires higher energy-efficiency standards and electrification readiness in mixed-fuel buildings. Approved 9/24/2019.

San Jose- San Jose passed a natural gas prohibition for all new building types, with limited temporary exemptions, becoming the largest city in the nation to do so. Approved 9/17/2019.

Menlo Park- Requires all-electric new construction for residential buildings as well as new nonresidential buildings but allows an exemption for cooking appliances in low-rise residential buildings. Approved 9/10/2019.

Santa Monica- Requires additional energy-efficiency measures for new residential and nonresidential buildings that use gas. Approved 9/10/2019.

San Mateo- Requires new residential buildings and buildings with office-use to be all-electric. Adds additional requirements for rooftop solar and electric vehicle charging. Approved 8/27/2019.

San Luis Obispo- Requires additional energy efficiency and electrification readiness for all newly constructed buildings and adds a small fee for new mixed-fuel buildings based on expected gas consumption. Approval of updated code 6/16/2020.

Windsor- Mandates all-electric new construction for low-rise residential buildings, including single-family homes, multifamily homes with fewer than four stories, and detached accessory dwelling units (but attached ones are exempt). Approved 8/27/2019.

Berkeley- Phases out gas hookups in all newly constructed residential buildings and most nonresidential buildings. Approved 7/15/2019.

Carlsbad- Requires heat pump water heaters or solar thermal water heating in new residential buildings that have fewer than four stories. Approved 2/26/2019.

Source: https://www.sierraclub.org/articles/2021/07/californias-cities-lead-way-gas-free-future

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Work Session: Parks and Recreation Bond and Levy Update

Meeting Date: April 13, 2022 | Agenda Item Number: 2
Departments: Public Works and Library, Recreation, Cultural Services | Staff Contact: Craig Carnagey
www.eugene-or.gov | Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-4930

ISSUE STATEMENT
This work session will provide an update on the work accomplished thus far to implement the parks and recreation bond and levy measures, which voters approved in May 2018. The combined measures work to renovate parks and recreation facilities, build new parks in underserved areas, improve public safety in parks, and restore park maintenance activities.

BACKGROUND
Five divisions in three departments work closely to coordinate and implement bond measure projects. The Parks and Open Space, Recreation, and Finance Divisions collaborate on planning, community engagement, and bond administration, while the Engineering and Facility Divisions provide technical design, construction administration, and project management services.

This past year, Campbell Community Center, Echo Hollow Pool and Fitness Center, and Berkeley Park renovations were completed, as were lighting projects in Alton Baker Park, the South Bank Trail and Monroe Park. Substantial completion has been achieved at the Downtown Riverfront Park and Sheldon Pool and Fitness Center. We are on the cusp of a new construction season with Striker Field, Churchill Tennis Courts, Monroe Park Restroom rehabilitation, and the Amazon Creek re-wilding project all getting underway.

The operating levy has also positively impacted the community in many ways over the last year. An annual public survey illustrates just how important Eugene parks are to resident's quality of life and confirms most community members have noticed significant improvements in parks since the passing of the 2018 operations and maintenance levy. Survey respondents noticed significant improvements in parks since the passing of the levy, including increased care of trees and vegetation, reopened restrooms and more portable toilets, decreased camping, and increased trail maintenance and trash services. Additionally, many miles of trail refurbishment and renewed turf health reflect positively on the asset management strategies that Parks Operations has adopted.

Feelings of safety also improved in parks according to the survey. Over a third of participants indicate they felt safer in 2021, than in 2020. The increased public safety and maintenance

staffing levels already in place due to the levy allowed Park staff to support the unhoused and the spaces the City dedicated to temporary camping. A total of five park ambassadors and two full-time dedicated Eugene Police park resource officers worked together to monitor two temporary sanctioned camp sites while providing a welcoming presence and park rule enforcement across the park system. The sanctioned camp sites generally resulted in less camping throughout the park system in 2021.

Accountability

As required by both the bond and levy ballot measures, a Citizen Advisory Board ensures accountability in the use of bond and levy funds. The Citizen Advisory Board is responsible for reviewing end-of-year reporting to ensure that spending complies with the intent of the ballot measures. The Board submits the annual report along with any comments to the City Manager, who then presents the publicly available document to the City Council, see Attachment A. Reports are available on the 2018 Bond and Levy website, https://www.eugene-or.gov/4165/2018-Bond-and-Levy.

The Board meets a couple of times each year and members of the public are welcome to attend. Meetings are generally focused in the fall/winter and are advertised in the public meetings calendar, https://www.eugene-or.gov/1972/Public-Meetings-Calendar.

The Parks and Recreation Bond Ballot Measure requires oversight of the Bond by an outside auditor. The auditor is asked to provide an annual written report on the use of the bond funds and provide the report to the Eugene City Council. Moss Adams, the City's independent auditor, has completed an audit of Bond-related expenditures for the fiscal year period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, see Attachment B.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION

July 16, 2018, Public Hearing

Approved the Parks and Recreation System Plan which included a 30-year vision for capital improvements to both parks and recreation facilities

February 12, 2018, Meeting

Referred both a $39.35 million general obligation bond measure (Measure 20-289) and a $3.15 million annual five-year Operations and Maintenance Local Option Levy (Measure 20-288) to the May 15, 2018, ballot. As part of this referral, staff was directed to provide annual progress reports.

COUNCIL OPTIONS

Informational only.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Informational only.

SUGGESTED MOTION
Informational only.

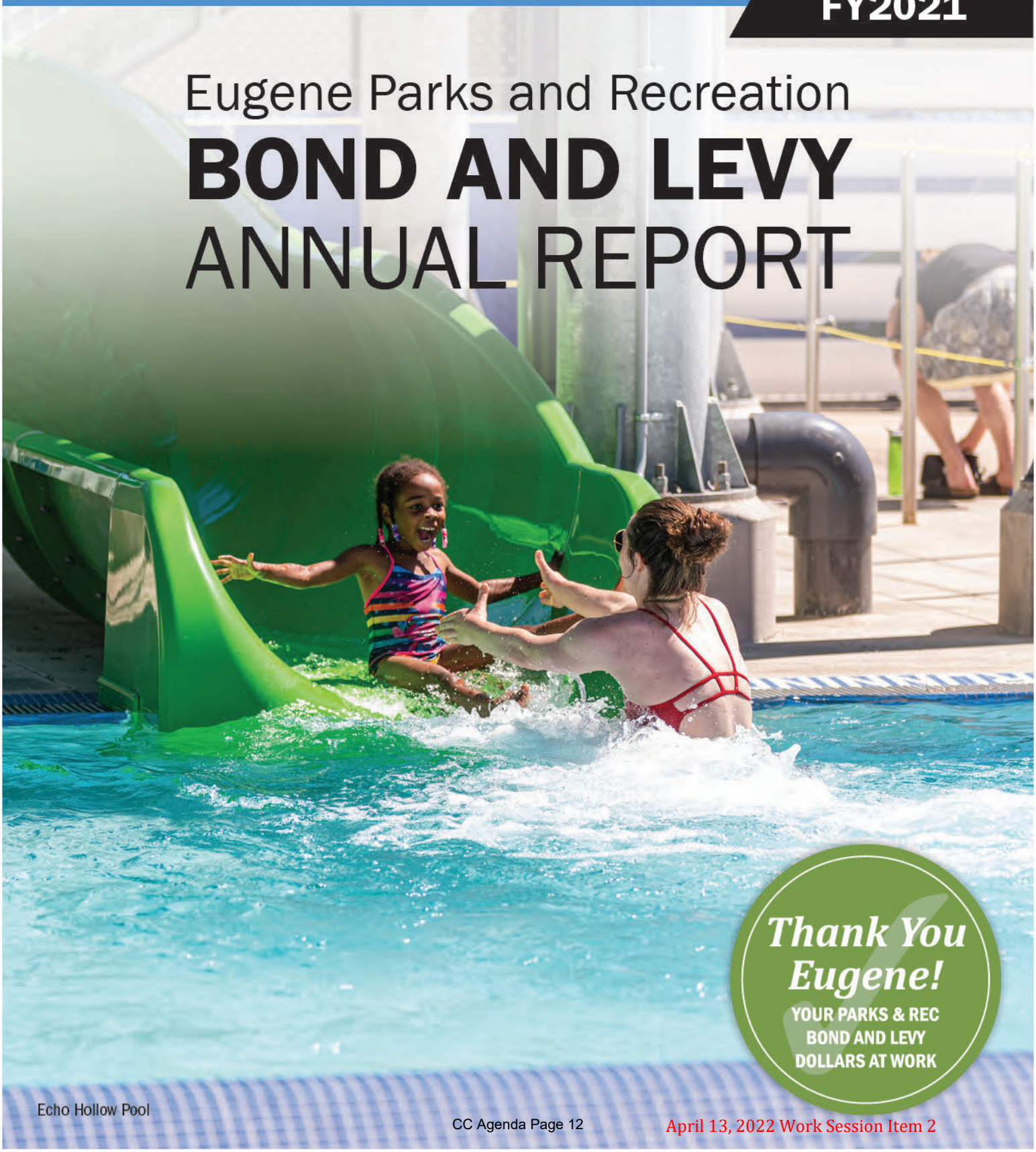
ATTACHMENTS
A. FY 2021 Bond and Levy Annual Report
B. FY 2021 Bond Audit
C. FY 2021 Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Letter
D. 2021 Parks and Open Space Community Survey

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Staff Contact: Craig Carnagey
Telephone: 541-682-4930
Staff E-Mail: CCarnagey@eugene-or.gov

Eugene

FY2021

Eugene Parks and Recreation
BOND AND LEVY ANNUAL REPORT



Echo Hollow Pool

DEAR EUGENE,

Mangan Park

The passing of the 2018 Parks and Recreation Bond and Levy was a continuation of Eugene's legacy of strong support for its parks and recreation system. It's a legacy that spans the past 100 years.

As we work through the third year of the five-year levy and the capital improvement bond, we are excited to report on the latest achievements in meeting the parks and recreational goals of the community. Through formal surveys, written letters and informal testimonials we continue to get feedback we are on the right track in how we have approached and prioritized the management of our park and recreation system, making Eugene a wonderful place to live and work.

Despite the challenges that have arisen during the COVID-19 pandemic, we have continued to work to support the unhoused and the spaces the city dedicated to temporary camping, which alleviates the strain of camping on the whole system.

This past year saw the completion of significant renovations at Echo Hollow Pool & Fitness Center and Campbell Community Center. The new wing at Campbell has created a wonderful connection to the park and river, and if you haven't taken a ride down the new slide at Echo Hollow you should jump in line next June. Both facilities are creating a renewed sense of excitement for returning patrons and attracting new patrons with increased programming and improved spaces.

We continued to utilize levy funding to upgrade, reopen, restore, build and light up our extraordinary system of open spaces, natural areas, playgrounds, sports fields and trails. These outdoor gems are more heavily used and appreciated now than at any other time in our history!

As year four begins, we continue to stay focused on the ongoing levy work and additional bond projects that our community supported and voted confidently for us to pursue.

Thanks Eugene!

Respectfully,

Craig Carnagey
Parks and Open Space Division Manager

Craig Smith
Recreation Division Manager

Table of Contents

4 Summary

5 Citizen Advisory Board

---

6 Bond Report

8 Project Map and Progress Chart

10 Bond Status

15 Leveraging Bond Funds

16 Bond Expense Categories

17 Bond Project Expenditures

---

18 Levy Report

19 Levy Status

20 COVID-19 Impacts

20 Projects Completed and Ongoing

22 Levy Expense Categories

23 Levy Actual Expenditures

24 Parks Survey

Summary

In May of 2018, Eugene voters overwhelmingly approved a capital bond and operating levy for Parks and Recreation. As required by City Council resolution, this report summarizes spending activities related to these funding measures for the 2021 fiscal year. This report also provides updates on bond projects and levy funded services. For last year's report and additional information, visit eugene-or.gov/4165/2018-Bond-and-Levy.

Implementation of the 2018 bond measure continued moving forward in FY21 with many projects completed, reaching important milestones or just getting started. Many of the largest projects have been completed or are nearing completion. This includes:

- Echo Hollow Pool & Fitness Center renovation and expansion, completed in 2021.
- Campbell Community Center renovation and expansion, completed in 2021.
- Sheldon Pool & Fitness Center renovation and expansion, expected completion in 2022.
- Downtown Riverfront Park Development, expected completion in 2022.

Some project delays have been experienced because of pandemic-related complications such as material and supply shortages, labor availability and an extremely busy construction environment statewide that reduced the pool of available contractors. While the pandemic has made for a challenging environment, there are many successes to report:

- Bond-related construction projects have supported local contractors and ensured that many individuals were employed through the pandemic.
- Precautions were enacted on all job sites to keep workers safe.
- Planning and design work for future construction proceeded on schedule.

Implementation of the operating levy to support park maintenance activities has also kept pace and adapted to ever-changing conditions:

- Increasing public safety presence.
- Improving trails and natural areas.
- Providing a higher level of general maintenance throughout the system.

Maurie Jacobs Park

Citizen Advisory Board

The Citizen Advisory Board is made up of seven community members appointed to two-year terms, who are responsible for reviewing fiscal reporting to ensure spending complies with the intent of the ballot measures. Parks and Recreation staff have a deep appreciation for these individuals who volunteer their time to promote transparency and accountability of bond and levy spending.

- Jill Fetherstonhaugh
- Rayna Jackson
- Richard Maher
- Molly Rogers
- Scott Sanders
- Whitney Wagoner

All Advisory Board meetings are advertised and open to the public. Recordings of all 2021 Citizen Advisory Board meetings can be viewed at eugene-or.gov/4165.

Eugene Parks and Recreation

BOND REPORT

Campbell Community Center

Measure 20-289

Bonds to Fund Parks and Recreation Facility Projects

Shall City of Eugene fund park and recreation projects using $39.35 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.

If this measure is approved, the City will use bond proceeds for capital costs related to park renovation projects, trail and habitat projects, safety/lighting improvements, infrastructure projects, school district partnerships, recreation and pool facility renovation and improvement projects, and new park development. The measure would authorize the City to issue a maximum of $39,350,000 of General Obligation bonds.

The bond proceeds would only be used to fund the parks and recreation facility projects listed in **Finding G of Eugene City Council Resolution 5221** and to pay bond issuance costs. Until all listed projects have been completed, bond proceeds could not be used to fund other projects.

An outside auditor would review the City's use of the bond proceeds, determine whether proceeds were used as required by this measure, and prepare a report that would be made public.

The estimated property tax rate is $0.26 per $1,000 of assessed value and the estimated cost to the average Eugene homeowner would be approximately $58 per year (about $4.80 per month).

City Council Resolution 5221, Finding G

Park Renovation Projects
- Alton Baker Park, University Park, Tugman Park, MLK Jr. Park, Berkeley Park, Trainsong Park

Trails and Habitat Projects
- Amazon Running Trail, Delta Ponds Loop Trail, Susanne Arlie Park Ridgeline Trail and Access, West Eugene Wetlands, Skinner Butte Park, Ridgeline Park System, Whilamut Natural Area, Amazon Creek

Safety/Lighting Improvements
- Neighborhood parks, Alton Baker Park, Maurie Jacobs Park, Washington Jefferson Park, West Bank Path, Amazon Park, Fern Ridge Path, South Bank Path

Infrastructure Projects
- Repairing and improving irrigation systems
- Repairing and improving restrooms

School District Partnerships
- Artificial turf replacements at Meadow View, Willamette High School, Spencer Butte Middle School, and Arts and Technology Academy
- Churchill tennis court renovation, Churchill community center and park planning (including possible site acquisition)

Community Center, Pool and Sportsfield Renovations and Improvements
- Echo Hollow Pool, Campbell Community Center, Sports Complex (Phase 1), Sheldon Pool

New Park Development in Underserved Neighborhoods
- Striker Field, Mattie Reynolds Park, Santa Clara Community Park (Phase 1), Ferndale Park, West Bank Park, Riverfront Park

Bond Project Progress Chart

New Park Development

1. Striker Field Park
2. Mattie Reynolds Park
3. Santa Clara Community Park (Phase 1)
4. Ferndale Park
5. West Bank Park
6. Downtown Riverfront Park

Park Renovation Projects

1. Alton Baker Park
2. University Park
3. Tugman Park
4. Martin Luther King Jr. Park
5. Berkeley Park
6. Trainsong Park

Recreation Facilities

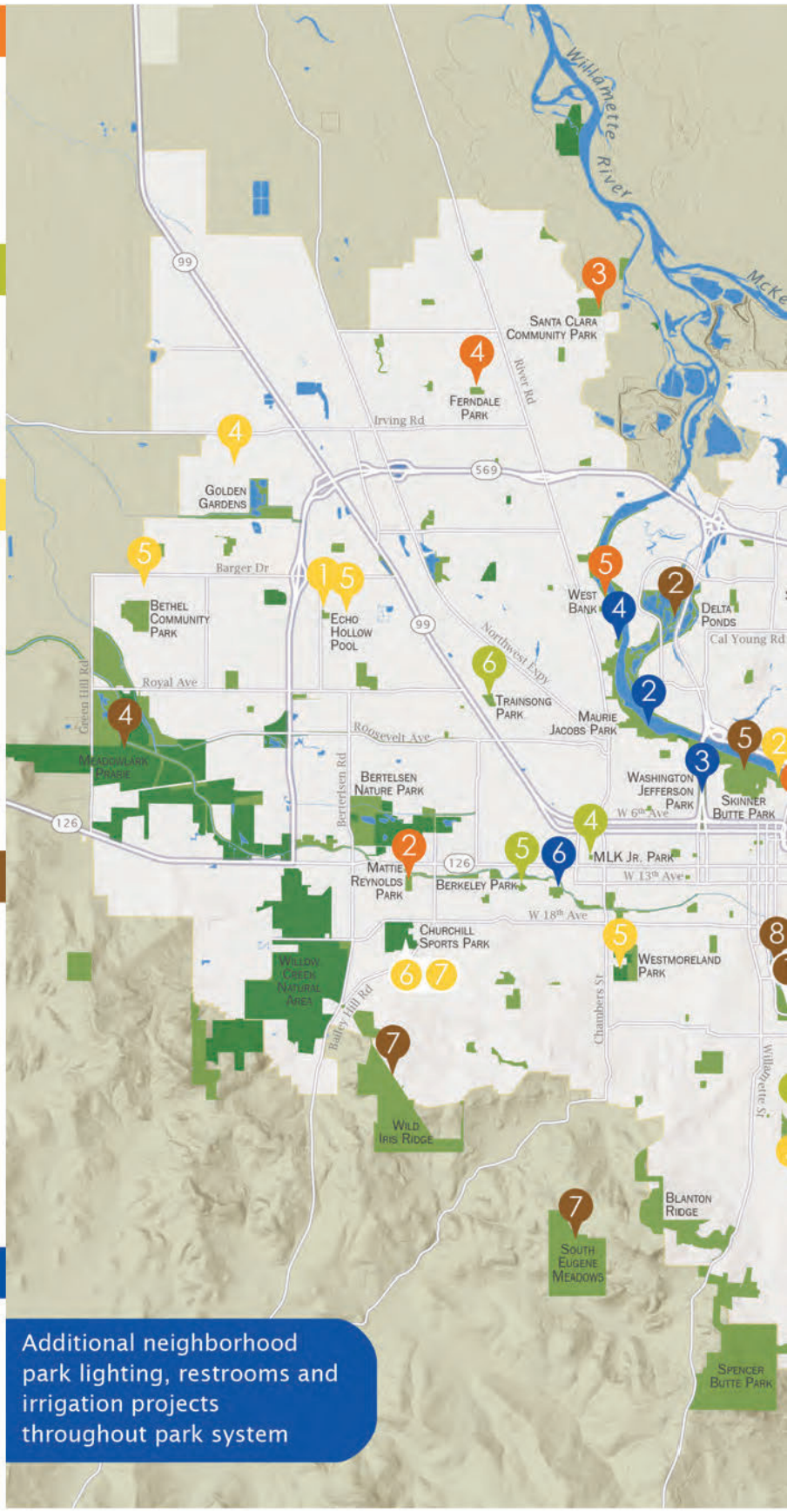
1. Echo Hollow Pool renovation
2. Campbell Community Center renovation
3. Sheldon Pool renovation
4. Sports Complex (Phase 1)
5. Artificial Turf Replacement (Meadow View School, Willamette High School, Spencer Butte Middle School, Arts and Technology Academy)
6. Churchill Tennis Court renovation
7. Churchill Youth Sports Park/Community Center planning

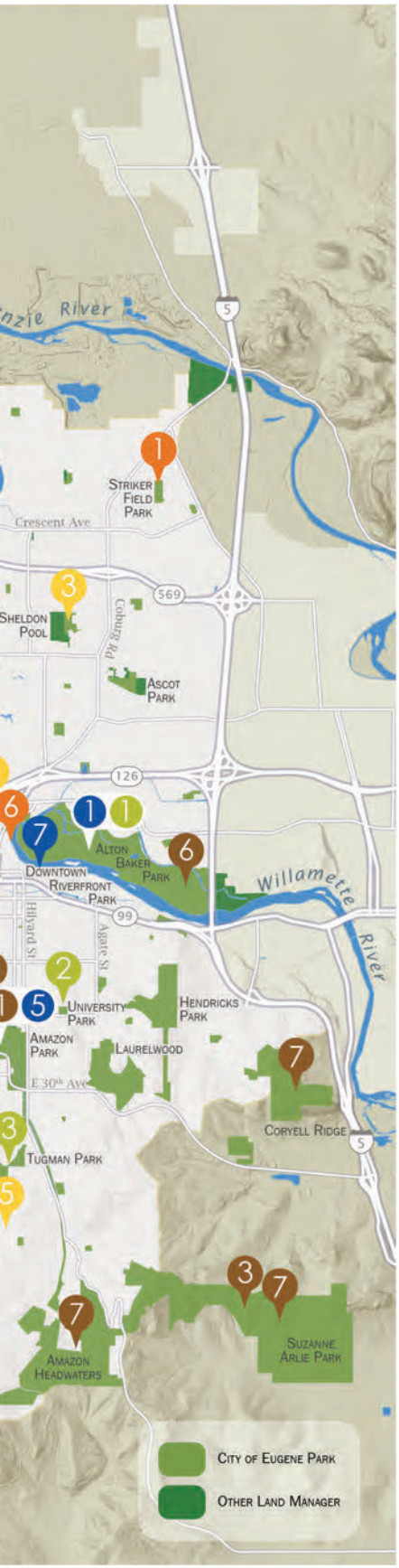
Trail and Habitat Projects

1. Amazon Park Running Trail renovation
2. Delta Ponds Loop Trail completion (bridge)
3. Suzanne Arlie Park Ridgeline Trail and Access
4. West Eugene Wetlands habitat restoration
5. Skinner Butte Park habitat restoration
6. Whilamut Natural Area habitat restoration
7. Ridgeline habitat restoration
8. Amazon Creek restoration

Restrooms, Lighting and Irrigation

1. Alton Baker Park lighting
2. Maurie Jacobs Park lighting
3. Washington Jefferson Park lighting
4. West Bank Path lighting
5. Amazon Park Path lighting
6. Fern Ridge Path lighting
7. South Bank Path lighting





		Planning	Design	Construction	Complete	Expected Completion
New Park Development	Striker Field					2022
	Mattie Reynolds Park					2025
	Santa Clara Community Park (Phase 1)					2023
	Ferndale Park					2026
	West Bank Park					2026
	Downtown Riverfront Park					2022
Park Renovation Projects	Alton Baker Park					2027
	University Park					2025
	Tugman Park Phase 1				✓	2019
	Tugman Park Phase 2					2026
	MLK JR Park					2024
	Berkeley Park					2022
	Trainsong Park					2027
Recreation Facilities	Echo Hollow Pool renovation				✓	2021
	Campbell Community Center renovation				✓	2021
	Sheldon Pool renovation					2022
	Sports Complex Phase 1					2026
School Districts Partnerships	Artificial Turf replacement				✓	2020
	Churchill Tennis Court					2022
	Churchill YSP /Community Center planning					2026
Trail and Habitat Projects	Amazon Park Running Trail renovation				✓	2020
	Delta Ponds Loop Trail completion (bridge)					2023
	Suzanne Arlie Park Ridgeline Trail & Access					2024
	West Eugene Wetlands Habitat restoration					2025
	Skinner Butte Park Habitat restoration					2023
	Whilamut Natural Area					2027
	Ridgeline Habitat restoration					2024
	Amazon Creek restoration					2023
Safety/Lighting Improvements	Neighborhood Park lighting					2026
	Alton Baker Park lighting				✓	2021
	Maurie Jacobs Park lighting					2025
	Washington Jefferson lighting					2023
	West Bank Path lighting				✓	2021
	Amazon Park Path lighting					2024
	Fern Ridge Path lighting					2024
	South Bank Path lighting				✓	2021
Infrastructure	Repair and Improve Restrooms					2026
	Repair and Improve Irrigation					2026

*Project status as of December 2021

Sheldon Pool & Fitness Center

Bond Status

Three years into bond implementation, there are projects in all phases of completion throughout the community. Of the 37 bond-funded projects, 28 (75 percent) are complete or underway.

Complete

The following projects are complete as of Dec. 31, 2021.

Alton Baker Park Lighting

An upgrade of existing lighting in Alton Baker Park focused on the western loop of Pre's Trail. The lighting system utilizes energy efficient LED technology and minimizes adverse impacts to habitat and wildlife by using warmer temperature lighting. This work was completed in November 2021.

Amazon Park Running Trail

This complete trail reconstruction project was completed in November 2020, adding a thicker rock base for long-term stability and a more level path without changing the footprint of the trail. Additional improvements based on community feedback included replacement of current lighting, a shelter and distance markers.

Campbell Community Center

Campbell Community Center

The City celebrated Campbell's official opening July 29, 2021 after a renovation and expansion that went on for more than a year. Pivot Architecture, a local firm, was contracted to lead the public engagement and design of the center, and McKenzie Commercial oversaw construction. This renovation expanded the original footprint by 50 percent, adding space for a variety of fitness activities, more socializing with improved circulation and connectivity. A public art installment was finished in mid-October, officially closing the book on this project.

Echo Hollow Pool & Fitness Center

Echo Hollow Pool & Fitness Center

The expanded and renovated Echo Hollow opened to the community June 20, 2021, just in time for summer. After more than a year of construction, the facility now meets increased demand for pool space for recreation and competitive swimmers. Robertson Sherwood Architects, a local firm, was contracted to design the renovation and expansion, and construction added more locker room space, a large lawn and a brand-new activity pool. Renovations included a new roof with a solar array, an upgraded interior tank and energy efficient lighting and water heating.

Four Artificial Turf Fields

Every eight to 10 years the turf carpet needs to be replaced at the widely used artificial turf fields the City of Eugene jointly manages and maintains with school district partners. The turf was replaced in 2020 at Meadow View School, Willamette High School, Spencer Butte Middle School and Arts and Technology Academy. Many thanks to the partners at Bethel and 4J school districts for jointly funding and managing these community sports fields.

South Bank Path

The South Bank Path lighting project was constructed in conjunction with new path construction through University of Oregon property from the Downtown Riverfront Park to the Frohnmayer Bridge. This work was completed, and the path was reopened in November 2021.

Tugman Park Playground Renovation

Completed in August 2019, this project was fast-tracked because of safety concerns and is now a fun, safe and inclusive play space for all. Additional improvements to Tugman Park are scheduled for construction in 2025.

West Bank Path Lighting

This lighting project was constructed in conjunction with a pavement renovation of the adjacent bike path. The project replaced approximately 1 mile of the Ruth Bascom Path between Stephens Drive and Copping Street (funded by pavement bonds) with new lighting extending to Maurie Jacobs Park (funded by Parks and Recreation bonds). The lighting system utilizes energy efficient LED technology designed to provide lighted alternative transportation routes between the River Road neighborhood and downtown. The lighting design also worked to minimize adverse impacts to habitat and wildlife by using warmer temperature lighting.

Construction Underway

The following projects are under construction as of Dec. 31, 2021 and expected to be completed in 2022.

Berkeley Park Renovation

This park renovation includes an expansion of the playground and installation of all new equipment, small sand play area and informal nature play area. The renovation also expands the lawn and includes burial of overhead utility lines, new tree planting and an accessible looped path. A picnic plaza and all new site furniture will also be added. This project is scheduled for completion in early 2022.

Downtown Riverfront Park

Site preparation began in 2019 on this brownfield restoration of the former EWEB property with the demolition of buildings, mass grading, removal of soil to make the riverbank less steep and re-vegetation of the rocky bank with more than 24,000 plants. In 2020 and 2021, construction of the new park features, including paths, furniture, new landscapes, seating areas, art installations and overlooks was substantially completed. The park is scheduled to be completed in early 2022.

Monroe Park Lighting

Lighting in this high-use, urban neighborhood park was fast-tracked for replacement following system failure in early 2021. This project will be completed by the spring of 2022.

Sheldon Pool & Fitness Center

Robertson Sherwood Architects was selected to design improvements to Sheldon Pool. Based on feedback from facility patrons, designs include a new natatorium with a warm-water pool and a hot tub has been added to the original pool deck. Both locker rooms will be fully renovated and expanded to include family changing areas. Upgrades to the HVAC system and lighting replacements will be more energy efficient. Construction began in winter 2021 and is on schedule to finish in winter 2022.

Downtown Riverfront Park

Construction Coming Soon

The following projects are expected to begin construction in 2022.

Amazon Creek Habitat Restoration

This project will remove the concrete channel between 20th and 24th avenues and restore a natural streambed with sloped banks, native plantings and low flow channels. There is no planned impact to the nearby bike paths or roadway.

Churchill Tennis Court Renovation

The Churchill High School tennis courts are a shared community resource between 4J School District and the City. The courts have exceeded their useful life and need a full replacement. This project was scheduled for construction in 2021 but was delayed and is now scheduled for construction in summer of 2022.

Monroe Park Restroom Improvements

Renovations to the Monroe Park restroom will upgrade this seasonal facility to make it accessible and open to the public year-round.

Santa Clara Community Park, Phase 1

Community engagement occurred throughout 2020 and resulted in an exciting master plan for future development. Phase 1 development includes a large playground, restroom, parking lot, community gathering space, dog park, open lawn and tree planting as well as paved and soft-surface walking paths. Phase 1 construction is anticipated to begin in 2022 and be complete in 2023.

Striker Field

This 8-acre park site will serve the recreational needs of northeast Eugene with a large playground, restrooms, picnic shelter, spray play, walking paths, open lawn, parking lot and space for community gatherings. This project was originally scheduled for construction in 2021 but delayed a year because of pandemic complications. The project is scheduled to be complete by fall/winter of 2022.

More shared-use and mountain bike trails to be built at Suzanne Arlie.

In the Wings

The following projects are currently in the planning stages.

Mattie Reynolds Park

This 5.25-acre park located in the Churchill neighborhood will be the first newly developed park in the southwest region in over 15 years. It is named for the matriarch of one of the first Black families to settle in southwest Eugene after being displaced from the Across the Bridge community for construction of the Ferry Street Bridge. Public engagement is slated to begin in 2022 with construction commencing as early as 2024.

MLK Jr. Park Renovation

This small, less than 1-acre urban park is tucked into the Far West neighborhood. It was constructed in 1982 with Community Development Block Grant Funds. Goals of this project include park renovation, activation and community art opportunities that will be refined through a public engagement process slated to begin in 2022.

Suzanne Arlie Ridgeline Trail and Access

Suzanne Arlie Park is the largest park in Eugene's system, consisting of 515 acres in southeast Eugene. The master plan has been completed and includes a network of interconnected trails for nature-based recreation, disc golf, programmed group-camping, a mountain bike skills park and habitat conservation and restoration efforts -- which are already underway. The first phase of park development is bond funded and will include a 2-mile extension of the main Ridgeline shared-use trail and as well as mountain bike optimized trails along with a new trailhead easily accessible from Lane Community College. Construction is expected in 2023.

Sports Complex at Golden Gardens

Golden Gardens is a large, 223-acre park on the northern edge of the Bethel neighborhood. The long-range vision for that park includes plans for multiple sports fields. A master-planning effort will kick off in 2022 to plan the full build-out of this park, including preservation of the existing natural resources on the site.

Ongoing Habitat Restoration

These projects are spread out over several years. By coming back to a site over two to three consecutive years, invasive species are more effectively managed.

Ridgeline Habitat Restoration

Habitat enhancement work expanded in the Ridgeline bringing funding to two additional natural area parks, Wild Iris Ridge and Mount Baldy, and continued at Suzanne Arlie Park and Amazon Headwaters. These projects focus on removal of invasive species and reduction of heavy vegetation to reduce wildfire hazards. At Suzanne Arlie Park, Mount Baldy and Wild Iris Ridge, invasive species colonize the shrub layer, creating a wildfire hazard known as a "ladder fuel" that could transport flames from the ground layer into the tree canopy, causing a more serious fire. At Wild Iris Ridge and Suzanne Arlie Park, the removal of this unwanted vegetation also helped maintain high quality habitat conditions in oak savannas and oak woodlands, rare habitat types in the Willamette Valley. Blackberry removal at Amazon Headwaters improved conditions for forest wildflowers to emerge next spring and completed a pilot effort to test large-scale removal of blackberry in our Douglas fir forests.

Skinner Butte Park Habitat Restoration

Skinner Butte habitat enhancement work began in 2021 and will continue with restoration focusing on establishing a more diverse native understory in the south forest and re-establishing upland prairie habitats in the east, south and west open slopes of the butte through the removal of invasive trees and shrubs.

Leveraging Bond Funds

By leveraging bond dollars with other funding sources, the number and scope of projects that can be undertaken is greatly increased. It is estimated the $39 million in Parks and Recreation bond funds will be matched with an additional $40 million from other sources. These sources include Parks and Recreation System Development Charges, Facilities Capital, Stormwater Capital, Urban Renewal Funds and Transportation funds. The ability to tap into a diversity of funding streams indicates a high level of collaboration and projects that address multiple benefits.

Outside funding sources include grants, partnerships and donations:

- A $350,000 grant from Oregon State Parks was awarded to the City of Eugene for the Delta Ponds Loop Trail.
- Approximately $1 million in partner funding comes from the Bethel and 4J School Districts, matching Parks and Recreation contribution.
- Donations are being or will be sought for projects such as the Amazon Trail stretching station, Suzanne Arlie Park and the Golden Gardens Sports Complex. Learn more about donations at eugene-or.gov/4582.

Replanting natives at Skinner Butte following fuels reduction work

Expenditure Categories

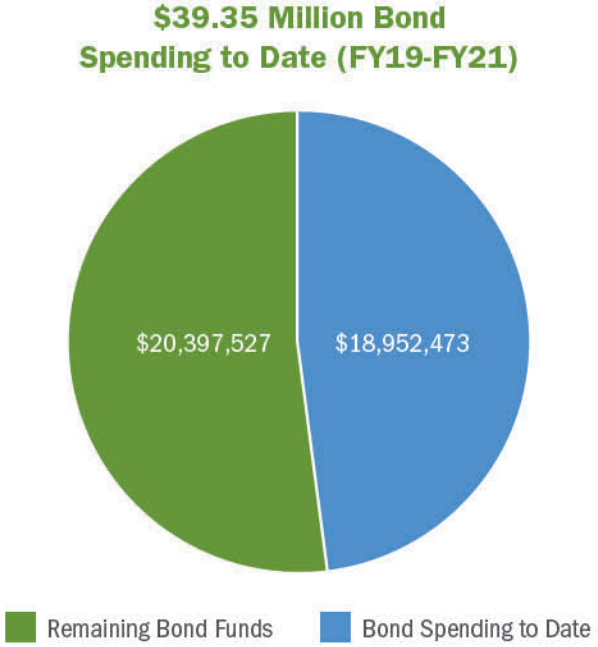
The following table shows all bond project related expenditures organized by category.

- **Materials and Supplies** covers a wide range of expenses from postage to playground equipment.
- **Contractual Services** expenditures include larger payments to architectural and engineering firms for large scale facility or park projects to smaller payments to contractors performing invasive vegetation management.
- **Personnel Expenses** are attributed to staff who are funded through capital project budgets. This includes staff in the Parks and Open Space Division that generally are responsible for community engagement and conceptual project design and staff in Facilities Management and Public Works Engineering that are responsible for detailed construction documents, project management and construction inspection.
- **Construction Expenses** refers to contracted work related to project construction.
- **Utility Expenses** refers to capital expenditures for electrical work related to park lighting projects.
- **Bond Issuance Costs** fees associated with the issuance of bonds by an issuer to investors.

Bond Expense Categories

	FY19	FY20	FY21			Total Spending to Date
	Total Spending		Bond Spending	Other Spending	Total Spending	
Materials and Supplies	$174,630	$49,377	$80,182	$164,773	$244,955	$468,962
Contractual Services	$2,493,307	$6,050,106	$4,303,257	$3,927,493	$8,230,750	$16,774,163
Personnel Expenses	$388,119	$1,172,992	$950,696	$960,280	$1,910,976	$3,472,087
Construction Expenses	$48,831	$3,709,756	$4,966,910	$9,430,843	$14,397,753	$18,156,340
Utilities	$-	$22,927	$27,448	$1,607	$29,056	$51,983
Bond Issuance Costs	$255,779	$51,155	$-	$-	$-	$306,934
Total	**$3,360,666**	**$11,056,314**	**$10,328,493**	**$14,484,996**	**$24,813,489**	**$39,230,469**

*A discrepency was found in the FY19 and FY20 reported expenditures. Some personnel costs had been double counted but are corrected in this table.



Bond Project Expenditures

The following table shows all bond project related expenditures.

Bond Project Expenditures

Projects	Total Project Budget	Bond Project Budget	FY19*** Total Project Expenses	FY20*** Total Project Expenses	FY21 Bond Fund Expenses	FY21 Total Other Fund Expenses	FY21 Total Project Expenses	Total Project Expenses To Date
Park Renovation Projects								
Tugman Park	$1,000,000	$750,000	$239,197	$239,058	$-	$-	$-	$478,255
Berkeley Park	$1,208,000	$1,108,000	$56,862	$48,429	$298,557	$4,000	$302,557	$407,848
Alton Baker Park	$1,000,000	$1,000,000	$-	$-	$17,074	$-	$17,074	$17,074
Trails and Habitat Projects								
Amazon Park Running Trail renovation	$1,585,000	$750,000	$47,846	$304,805	$591,663	$656,416	$1,248,079	$1,600,729
Delta Ponds Loop Trail completion	$1,600,000	$480,000	$99,799	$228,744	$97,003	$76,012	$173,015	$501,558
Suzanne Arlie Park Ridgeline Trail	$750,000	$240,000	$-	$-	$6,055	$2,239	$8,294	$8,294
Ridgeline Habitat restoration	$150,000	$150,000	$4,079	$16,775	$20,060	$-	$20,060	$40,914
Amazon Creek Habitat restoration	$2,850,000	$400,000	$6,793	$24,872	$15,438	$202,705	$218,143	$249,808
Safety/Lighting Improvements								
West Bank Path lighting*	$1,000,000	$1,000,000	$30,725	$83,843	$887,809	$-	$887,809	$1,002,376
Alton Baker Park (Pre's Trail) lighting	$850,000	$850,000	$-	$29,056	$98,475	$-	$98,475	$127,531
South Bank Path lighting*	$400,000	$400,000	$-	$-	$39,648	$-	$39,648	$39,648
Neighborhood Park lighting	$542,000	$542,000	$-	$-	$37,030	$-	$37,030	$37,030
School District Partnerships								
Artificial Turf replacement	$1,000,000	$1,000,000	$-	$-	$876,194	$-	$876,194	$876,194
Churchill Tennis Court replacement	$651,500	$651,500	$-	$-	$13,543	$-	$13,543	$13,543
Churchill/ YSP Community Center Planning	$1,200,000	$1,200,000	$-	$19,037	$-	$-	$-	$19,037
Repairing and Improving Infrastructure								
Restroom Improvements	$1,000,000	$1,000	$-	$2,968	$34,823	$-	$34,823	$37,791
Community Centers, Pools & Fields								
Echo Hollow Pool renovation	$12,248,667	$7,963,667	$451,081	$3,761,931	$2,359,503	$4,025,884	$6,385,387	$10,598,400
Campbell Community Center renovation	$5,700,000	$3,850,000	$508,457	$2,085,863	$1,603,295	$1,289,569	$2,892,864	$5,487,184
Sheldon Pool renovation	$10,145,000	$7,445,000	$40,398	$179,345	$3,042,859	$966,854	$4,009,713	$4,229,456
Sports Complex Phase 1**	$3,000,000	$775,000		$19,978	$(19,978)	$25,555	$5,578	$25,555
New Park Development								
Striker Field	$3,500,000	$267,000	$61,644	$79,651	$41,459	$253,378	$294,837	$436,133
Riverfront Park	$14,000,000	$500,000	$1,558,004	$3,880,600	$161,690	$6,865,797	$7,027,487	$12,466,091
Santa Clara Community Park, Phase 1	$4,000,000	$1,300,000	$-	$-	$106,295	$116,587	$222,882	$222,882
Bond Issuance Costs								
	$933,500	$933,500	$255,779	$51,360	$-	$-	$-	$307,139
TOTALS			**$3,360,666**	**$11,056,314**	**$10,328,493**	**$14,484,996**	**$24,813,489**	**$39,230,469**

*West Bank Path lighting and South Bank Path lighting budgets reflect Parks and Rec bond funded lighting portion of a larger project that included pavement preservation work.
**Sports Complex Phase 1 displays negative $19,978 to reflect transfer of expenditure in FY20 from Bond funds to SDC funds.
***A discrepency was found in the FY19 and FY20 reported expenditures.Some personnel costs had been double counted but are corrected in this table.

Eugene Parks and Recreation

LEVY REPORT

Maurie Jacobs Park

Measure 20-288

Five-Year Parks and Recreation Operations and Maintenance Local Option Levy

Shall Eugene levy $3,150,000 per year for five years beginning July 2018, for parks and recreation facilities operation and maintenance? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

The funds from this levy will be used to improve the cleanliness, safety and general conditions of the City of Eugene's parks, recreation facilities and natural areas. Funding will be directed to the following activities: park safety and security (two police officers, two park ambassadors), illicit activity response (illegal camp clean-up, graffiti removal, vandalism response), general park maintenance (restrooms, litter/trash pick-up, turf mowing, landscape/trees, infrastructure and weekend/after-hours maintenance), habitat and natural area maintenance (invasive weeds, wildfire risk abatement, trails, infrastructure, native plantings), and future park, community center, pool, and field maintenance (phased in over time).

Staff will prepare an annual report on spending that will be reviewed by the Citizen Advisory Board and made available to the City Council and the public. The levy will raise $3,150,000 each year for five years for a total of $15,750,000. The typical Eugene taxpayer is estimated to pay an average of $41 per year over the levy's five-year period. The estimated tax rate for this levy is $.019/$1000 of assessed value. 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 the estimate and may reflect the impact of early payment discounts, compression and the collection rate.

Levy Status

Thousands of community members told us what mattered most to them when they participated in the creation of the Parks & Recreation System Plan. Not only did their voices inform the bond projects that were selected, but they helped create the road map for the increased care of park assets and new amenities made possible by the levy.

Since the passing of the levy, our aim has been to create a better park experience. In FY21, we continued to offer increased daily servicing of parks, kept restrooms open, serviced and maintained the new garbage cans, portable restrooms and picnic tables throughout the system, revitalized trails and trailheads, increased park safety and more.

As that work continued, we also began preparing for the passing of the baton that will take place in FY22. As new bond projects are completed, projects will move from the planning and building phase to the levy-funded maintenance of our new system assets.

COVID-19 Impacts

Ridgeline Trail System

The investments in new amenities and increased service levels were leaned on heavily as parks and natural areas continued to see large numbers of people utilizing the system for their physical, social and mental health.

The increased public safety and maintenance staffing levels already in place due to the levy also supported broader City of Eugene efforts around homelessness during the pandemic.

In FY21, two large, temporarily sanctioned camping sites were developed in Washington/Jefferson Park and along 13th Avenue. While this led to less camping throughout the park system, it created a new logistical challenge of managing these locations for the health and safety of individuals camping there as well as the surrounding neighborhood.

This work included removing a high volume of garbage daily, reminding people of stay-in-place criteria, helping to keep tent sites clean and addressing health and safety issues as they arose. These spaces also offered a chance for social service providers and healthcare workers to provide focused outreach. While there were many areas for improvement, as FY21 ended we started to see the creation of the newly sanctioned safe sleep sites that the City is working with local service providers on. These sites will ultimately provide a safer and secure place people from Washington/Jefferson Park and 13th to relocate to.

Projects Completed and Ongoing

Park Safety

- Two dedicated full-time Eugene Police park resource officers remain focused on increasing park safety and presence.
- In addition to two full-time park ambassadors and two seasonal park ambassadors, Parks hired a third two-year limited duration park ambassador position. They provide a welcoming presence thought the park system as well as help monitor the two temporary sanctioned camping sites at Washington/Jefferson Park and along 13th Avenue until campers can move into new safe sleep sites.
- Late night security services in parks expanded in FY21 to keep up with evolving hot spots for illicit activity.
- The Cleanup Response Team formed in 2018 remains active and focused on the cleanup of abandoned camp sites and graffiti removal in parks. In FY21 this team removed 1,403 cubic yards of garbage from the park system and abated 1,309 graffiti instances. Levy funding supports 1.5 FTE for this effort.


Graffiti cleanup


Installation of new park rules signage.

Park Maintenance

- Six restrooms remain open that were previously closed because of budget reductions or because of vandalism pre-levy: Sladden Park, Monroe Park, Hendricks Park and the Sheldon playground. In addition, the Cal Young Sports Park restrooms are now open on Saturdays and Sundays. These openings represent a 22 percent increase in available restrooms for public use.
- Increased daily maintenance services such as litter and trash pickup and restroom cleaning continue throughout the developed park system. This represents a 55 percent increase of service compared to pre-levy activities.
- The implementation of a levy-funded seasonal late afternoon and evening maintenance team provided vital services to the community throughout the summer and fall months.
- Turf health throughout the park system continues to improve with additional irrigation repair and support, over seeding, renovation and fertilizer applications. Due to these efforts, staff continues to mow at a 10 percent increase over pre-levy years.
- Staff continue to use the developed parks tree inventory created in the first year of the levy to prioritize pruning and hazards in high use areas. During FY21, staff and contractors pruned or removed 192 trees in parks.

Trail and Natural Area Maintenance

- In FY21, contractors and staff resurfaced almost 5 miles of walking and running trails. In addition, staff removed overgrown vegetation along just under 6 miles.
- Levy-funded preventive maintenance continues in natural areas and future developed park sites. This includes road, fence and sign maintenance as well as additional trash pickup.
- Increased custodial services continue at five locations including trailheads at Spencer Butte and other high-use sites. In addition, portable toilets continue to be offered at six trail heads.

Looking Forward

- The spending of levy funds is weighted more heavily in later years to pay for the increased maintenance and operations of bond funded new parks, community centers, pools, turf fields and natural areas.
- Park Operations will begin caring for the turf and amenities and providing daily servicing at Santa Clara Community, Striker Field Park, Mattie Reynolds Park and the new Downtown Riverfront Park. The Downtown Riverfront Park alone features art, special seating, overlooks, beautiful landscape beds and areas designed to filter stormwater.
- Parks will be adding a fourth, limited-duration park ambassador position and increased nighttime security services focused on the riverfront park system.
- Funding for work to mitigate hazardous trees will reduce recovery time during storm events.
- Additional trash receptacles, picnic tables, benches, portable restrooms and pet waste bag dispensers will continue to be added throughout the park system.

Ridgeline Trail System

Levy Expense Categories

The passing of the $3.15 million operating levy provided funding for increased service levels throughout the parks and open space system. Levy-funded efforts are also supplemented with additional ongoing park operations dollars from the City of Eugene general fund and stormwater fund. By leveraging levy dollars with other funding sources, it has been possible to increase services to an even higher level.

- **Materials and Supplies** covers a wide range of expenses including, but not limited to, administrative and office supplies, paint and sealers, garbage liners, personnel protective supplies, parts and repair services. These materials and supplies provide support for staff that are providing the additional services that are funded by the levy.
- **Contractual Services** includes tree maintenance, custodial and ecological services, as well as facility and infrastructure repairs. These services are contracted with subject matter experts to ensure efficiency, compliance and safety.
- **Personnel Expenses** is the biggest category of expenditure. These expenses include salary and fringe benefits for regular staff, labor costs for seasonal staff and additional temporary help to support the increase in services being provided.
- **Utilities** is another large expense. Increases in park services result in increases in utilities for additional lighting hours, restroom services and increased watering of turf throughout the entire park system.
- **Infrastructure Maintenance**. These expenditures relate to contractual work that renovates, repairs or maintains existing assets such as trails and paths.

FY21 Budget Plan

Expense Category	FY21 Adopted Budget – levy funds	FY21 Adopted Budget – non levy funds*	Totals
Materials and Supplies	$687,927	$1,982,681	$2,670,608
Contractual Services	$423,078	$623,819	$1,046,897
Personnel Expenses	$1,409,556	$8,775,712	$10,185,268
Utilities	$26,449	$	$26,449
TOTAL	**$2,547,010**	**$11,382,212**	**$13,929,222**

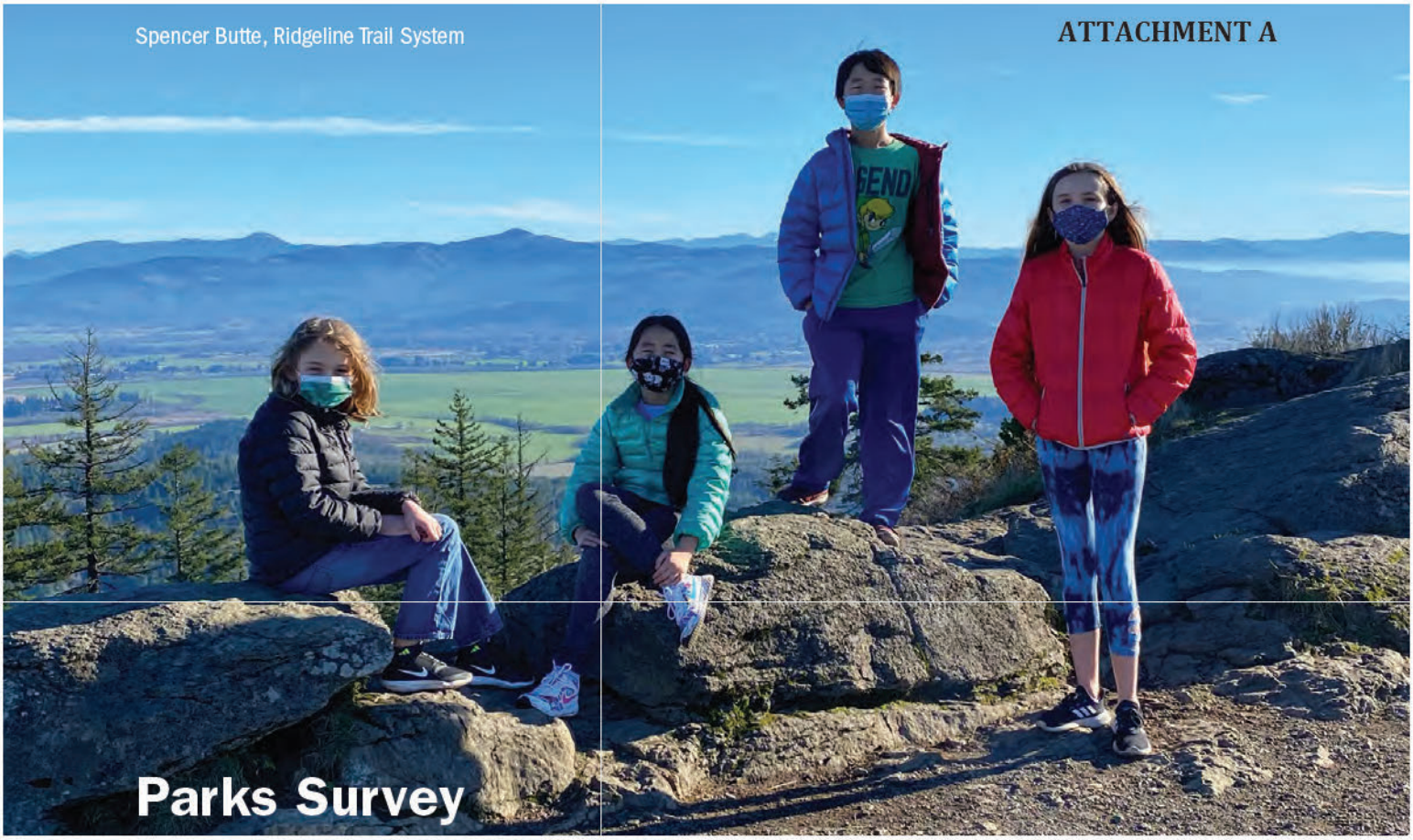
* FY21 adopted budget for general park maintenance, trails, natural areas and public safety.

Levy Actual Expenditures

Fiscal year 2020 remained focused on maintaining the increased service levels throughout Eugene's parks and natural areas. This work involved reducing illicit activities, increasing safety, expanded park maintenance services such as increased garbage pickup and graffiti abatement and improving trails and natural areas.

	General Park Maintenance	Trails and Natural Areas	Public Safety Presence	Recreation Maintenance	Totals
Materials and Supplies	$329,186	$127,244	$88,804	$9,220	$554,454
Contractual Services	$160,244	$131,421	$100,534	$30,880	$423,079
Personnel Expenses	$445,217	$281,818	$682,522	$-	$1,409,557
Utilities	$20,779	$5,670	$-	$-	$26,449
Infrastructure Maintenance	$11,464	$122,009	$-	$-	$133,473
Total	**$966,890**	**$668,162**	**$871,860**	**$40,100**	**$2,547,012**

Trail resurfacing



Spencer Butte, Ridgeline Trail System

Parks Survey

During the summer of 2021, the Turell Group, on behalf of the Parks and Open Space Division, completed the second annual survey of area residents to better understand how they view their parks and recent maintenance improvements made possible through the 2018 Levy funding. 2,096 people completed the survey including 123 in a Spanish language version.

People Love Parks

Eugene parks are important to the quality of life of survey respondents.

- 75 percent of respondents indicated parks are "extremely" or "very important" to their quality of life and 70 percent are at parks daily or weekly.
- For Spanish speaking respondents, 97 percent indicated parks are extremely or very important.
- The highest satisfaction levels came from our most frequent users with a nearly two-thirds majority of those who visit parks daily or weekly indicating they find parks "extremely" or "very well-maintained."
- Responses from residents of Bethel-Danebo differed significantly from 2020. Residents were overwhelmingly more positive about every aspect this year including importance of parks, cleanliness, safety and worth of the levy expenses.

Levy Changes Noticed

Residents have noticed significant improvements in parks since the passing of the 2018 operations and maintenance levy.

- They noticed increased care of trees and vegetation, reopened restrooms and more portable toilets, decreased camping, increased trail maintenance and added trash services.
- Those who use the parks the most are most supportive of the costs. The responses for combined completely or mostly worth the expense by use are as follows:
  - Daily (74%)
  - Weekly (65%)
  - Monthly (43%)
  - 5-10 times a year (40%)
  - Rarely (32%)
- The top three priorities for funding are ongoing maintenance, cleaning up homeless encampments in parks, and improving park safety and security.

Feelings of Safety Vary

Understanding and improving safety has been a key focus of Parks and Open Space in recent years. The survey showed park usage and illegal camping were key factors in respondents' feelings about safety.

- The percent of respondents who indicated they feel extremely safe increased from 8% in 2020 to 22% in 2021, an increase of 14%.
- Over a third of participants (36%) indicate they feel safer in 2021 than in 2020, and a similar amount (38%) indicate they feel the same sense of safety.
- The greatest barriers to the enjoyment of parks were a concern for personal safety and people camping. Concerns about unhoused community members primarily include the garbage that is accumulated (58%), followed by the space no longer feeling accessible to the public (52%).

With the large concentration of camping taking place at Washington/Jefferson Park and along 13th Avenue overall camping throughout the parks system declined in FY21.

To read the full report please visit bit.ly/eugparksurvey21.

Ruth Bascom Riverbank Path

Alton Baker Park

Eugene Rec

Eugene Parks & Open Space

eugparksandrec.org

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

CITY OF EUGNE, OREGON

For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

MOSSADAMS

MOSSADAMS

Report of Independent Accountants

To City of Eugene, Oregon

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the 2018 General Obligation Bond funded expenditures of the City of Eugene, Oregon (the "City") for the year ended June 30, 2021 (the "Reporting Period"). The City is responsible for the 2018 General Obligation Bond funded expenditures (the "expenditures").

The City has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of evaluating the City's 2018 General Obligation Bond funded expenditures for the year ended June 30, 2021, in order to meet the requirements of voter approved Ballot Measure 20-289 and City Council Resolution No. 5221. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures we performed and our findings are as follows:

1) We obtained from the City a listing of the expenditures for the Reporting Period. The total amount of expenditures was $10,328,493.

2) We sorted the expenditures by dollar amount, and in descending order by dollar amount, we selected the largest expenditure amounts until 33.3% or more of the total expenditures were selected. This resulted in selecting 4 expenditures totaling $3,483,833, or 33.7% of total expenditures. We agreed each selected expenditure's reported account and fund number, and reported accounting period date to a vendor invoice, certification of payment, payroll record, or signed contract provided by the City. We noted no variances between expenditures and supporting documentation.

3) For expenditures selected in the previous step, we noted each expenditure was for an eligible cost as described in voter approved Ballot Measure 20-289 and City Council Resolution No. 5221.

4) We obtained from the City a listing of new construction projects awarded during the Reporting Period, which were funded by 2018 General Obligation Bond proceeds. We haphazardly selected one new construction project awarded and obtained the procurement file from the City. We compared the procurement file to the procurement requirements contained in the City's Public Contracting Rules and noted no differences.

5) We obtained from the City an accounting of the $20,365,702 in unspent 2018 General Obligation Bond proceeds as of June 30, 2021.

2018 General Obligation Bond	$	39,350,000
Fiscal year 2019 expenditures		(1,631,910)
Unspent Bond Proceeds as of June 30, 2019		37,718,090
Fiscal year 2020 expenditures		(7,023,894)
Unspent Bond Proceeds as of June 30, 2020		30,694,196
Fiscal year 2021 expenditures		(10,328,493)
Unspent Bond Proceeds as of June 30, 2021	$	20,365,703

We compared that amount to the unspent bond proceeds as of June 30, 2020, as reported in the prior year independent accountant's report on applying agreed upon procedures dated January 26, 2021, less the $10,328,493 of expenditures for the year ended June 30, 2021 provided by the City.

2018 General Obligation Bond	$	39,350,000
Fiscal year 2019 expenditures (1)		(1,631,910)
Unspent Bond Proceeds as of June 30, 2019		37,718,090
Fiscal year 2020 expenditures (2)		(7,013,078)
Unspent Bond Proceeds as of June 30, 2020		30,705,012
Fiscal year 2021 expenditures		(10,328,493)
Unspent Bond Proceeds as of June 30, 2021	$	20,376,519

(1) From independent accountant's report on applying agreed upon procedures dated May 12, 2020
(2) From independent accountant's report on applying agreed upon procedures dated January 26, 2021

We found the City's accounting of unspent 2018 General Obligation Bond proceeds as of June 30, 2021 differed from the calculated amount above by $10,816.

City's accounting of unspent bond proceeds as of June 30, 2021	$	20,365,703
Calculation of unspent bond proceeds as of June 30, 2021		20,376,519
Difference	$	(10,816)

We were informed by the City that the prior year independent accountant's report on applying agreed upon procedures omitted $10,816 of expenses for bond issuance costs and labor costs.

We were engaged by the City to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. An agreed-upon procedures engagement involves performing specific procedures that the engaging party has agreed to and acknowledged to be appropriate for the intended purpose of the engagement and reporting on findings based on the procedures performed. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the expenditures of the City for the Reporting Period. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the City and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the City, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than this specified party.

Moss Adams LLP

Eugene, Oregon
March 28, 2022

MOSSADAMS

Eugene Public Works
Parks & Open Space

Memorandum

Date: February 2, 2022

To: Sarah Medary, City Manager

From: Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Subject: FY21 Eugene Parks and Recreation Bond and Levy Annual Report

It is our pleasure to introduce the FY21 Parks and Recreation Bond and Levy Report. This is our second report issued during the pandemic and while we had hoped we would not have to address the complexities and challenges of a 2nd year of a world-wide pandemic, here we are. We are pleased to report that despite these challenges, innovations and efficiencies have emerged that offer creative solutions to a variety of challenges facing both construction and operations.

Bond Measure Implementation-

Work to implement the Parks and Recreation bond measure has continued and seen numerous successes.

- Two of the bond measures largest projects were completed in 2021- Campbell Community Center and Echo Hollow Pool and Fitness Center renovations.
- Two other large projects have made significant progress and will be completed in the first part of 2022- Sheldon Pool and Fitness Center renovations and Riverfront Park.
- 75% of all bond-funded projects are either complete or underway.
- Three years into implementation, almost 50% of bond funding has been spent.

While pandemic related challenges did slow down progress on a couple of bond projects, including Striker Field, staff remains confident that those projects will see completion in 2022. Staff have taken the strategy of putting projects out to bid earlier than normal, and providing contractors a longer, more flexible, window for construction. This approach is being taken to attract a larger number of contractors to bid on projects resulting in a more competitive economic bidding environment.

Meanwhile, staff were able to accommodate urgent needs with bond funding when existing lighting systems failed at Monroe and Alton Baker Parks. Fast-tracking these lighting replacement projects at both sites was essential for ongoing park safety.

Operations Levy Implementation-

The Parks and Recreation operating levy proved vital to keeping Eugene's parks safe, clean, and green in 2021 while park usage was on the rise.

- Survey respondents noticed significant improvements in parks since the passing of the levy, including increased care of trees and vegetation, reopened restrooms and more portable toilets, decreased camping, and increased trail maintenance and trash services.
- Almost 5 miles of trails were resurfaced, and another 6 miles of vegetation pruned along trails in natural areas.
- Turf health throughout the park system continues to improve with irrigation repair, over seeding, renovation, and fertilizer applications. Mowing has increased 10% over pre-levy levels.
- Increased daily maintenance services such as restroom cleaning and trash pickup have increased by 55% and now includes evening and weekend services in the heavy use summer months.

These successes all occurred with the backdrop of a homelessness crisis that relied heavily on Park staff to support the unhoused and the spaces the City dedicated to temporary camping. The increased public safety and maintenance staffing levels already in place due to the levy made this possible. A total of five park ambassadors worked alongside two dedicated full-time Eugene Police park resource officers to keep parks safe and provide a welcoming presence, enforce park rules, and help monitor two temporary sanctioned camp sites. The sanctioned camp sites resulted in less camping throughout the park system in 2021.

The levy also supported late night security services to keep up with evolving hot spots for illicit activity and cleanup response teams that removed hundreds of cubic yards of garbage and cleaned up graffiti across the system. With survey data showing that 36% or residents felt safer in parks in 2021 than in 2020, it appears these strategies have paid off.

Promises Made/Promises Kept-

It is the responsibility of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to annually review the Parks and Recreation levy and bond expenditures to ensure accountability and transparency. Based on the Board's review of materials presented, we unanimously conclude that the bond and levy funds have been used for the authorized purposes and in compliance with the Ballot Measures 20-288 and 20-289 and Council Resolutions 5220 and 5221.

Furthermore, we commend the Parks and Recreation Division for showing resiliency in the face of a prolonged pandemic and for exhibiting creative and adaptive management techniques in an increasingly complex and dynamic work environment. This dedication, when combined with the financial resources of the Parks and Recreation Bond and Levy, has well served the residents of Eugene.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members
Richard Maher, Chair
Jill Fetherstonhaugh
Rayna Jackson
Molly Rodgers
Scott Sanders
Whitney Wagoner

TURELL GROUP
MARKETING · DIGITAL · COMMUNICATIONS

CITY OF EUGENE
Parks and Open Space Division

Survey Results
August 2021

INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

Between June 14 and July 19, 2021, the Turell Group surveyed residents of the City of Eugene on behalf of the Parks and Open Space Division. The survey was designed to understand Eugene residents' enjoyment of parks, and how park maintenance funded by the 2018 levy is affecting perceptions, use of, and attitudes about parks and open spaces.

Research Methodology

The Turell Group conducted an online survey, available in both English and Spanish, of users of Eugene parks and natural areas. The survey was promoted in City of Eugene printed and emailed newsletters and in City of Eugene social media. The survey took an average of 7 minutes to complete.

Participants could elect to participate in a drawing for a VISA gift card. The drawing was completed by the Turell Group and the gift card was awarded by the Parks and Open Space Division.

All survey questions were analyzed for correlation with frequency of park usage, age, gender, area of residence, language chosen to complete the survey, and if children reside in the home.

Responses that provided identical, duplicate information and those that were believed to be generated by a computer ("bot") were disqualified: a total of 2,762 surveys were submitted, and 2,096 were included in the analysis.

Limitations

Any sampling of opinions or attitudes is subject to a margin of error. The margin of sampling error represents the difference between the sample and the entire population. For this study, the sampling error is +/- 2% at a 95% confidence interval. This means there is a 95% probability that the sample taken for this study falls within this margin of error if all users of Eugene parks were able to be surveyed. Due to rounding, some percentages do not add up to 100% and, in the annotated questionnaire provided in the Appendix, results may add up to 99% or 101%.

Participants were self-selected and may not be a representative sample of Eugene residents or Eugene voters. Generalizing these results to the Eugene public without adjustments may yield inaccurate results.

Turell Group

Turell Group is a full-service marketing and communications agency in Eugene, Oregon, that offers independent research as a service. The agency staff have been providing unbiased services for over two decades. The agency is non-partisan, independent, and specializes in supporting organizations located within Oregon.

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY 2

SUMMARY 4

KEY FINDINGS 7

Use of Parks **7**
- Frequency 7
- COVID-19 8
- Use of Parks by Location 9
- Activities at Parks 10
- Barriers to Use 12

Importance of Parks **14**

Perceptions of Parks **16**
- Park Cleanliness 16
- Park Safety 18
- What Affects the Sense of Safety 19
- Changes in Sense of Safety 20
- Reporting Safety Concerns 21
- Park Maintenance 22
- Concerns About the Unhoused 23
- Desired Improvements 23

Funding & Approval **24**
- Levy Changes 24
- Operating Priorities 25
- Importance of Funding 26
- Approval of Parks Management 27
- Desired Improvements 28
- Feedback for Parks and Open Spaces Division 28

Demographic Differences **29**
- Frequency of Park Use 29
- Area of Residence 29
- Gender 29
- Age 30
- Race/Ethnicity 30

APPENDIX 31

Survey questions and responses **31**

SUMMARY

In 2018, voters in Eugene, Oregon, passed a levy that directed funds to the Parks and Open Space Division to improve maintenance and operations. To understand how park users are responding to these improvements and to understand how residents of Eugene feel about their parks, the Division hired Turell Group, a Eugene-based agency, to evaluate people's perceptions of Eugene parks and natural areas.

Through an online survey, 2,762 responses were submitted between June 14 and July 19, 2021, and 2,096 were qualified to be included in the analysis. For the English version of the survey, 2,639 responses were submitted, and 1,974 responses were qualified. A total of 123 Spanish surveys were submitted, and all were qualified. Responses were disqualified that appeared to be generated by a computer ("bot"), and those that were duplicate submissions.

Importance of Parks

Eugene parks are important to nearly all respondents for their quality of life. Seventy-five percent of survey respondents expressed that the parks are extremely (44%) or very (31%) important. For Spanish speaking respondents, 97% indicated parks are extremely or very important. In the 2020 survey, 90% of respondents indicated parks are extremely or very important to their quality of life.

75%
of respondents indicate parks are extremely or very important to their quality of life

Frequency and Use

Nearly all (90%) of respondents indicate that they visit parks at least monthly, and most respondents (70%) visit parks at least weekly. The weekly use is down from 2020 (from 53% in 2020 to 44% in 2021), with those using parks monthly increasing from 13% in 2020 to 21% in 2021. However, the percent claiming they use parks daily has held constant (25% in 2020 and 26% in 2021).

70%
of respondents are at parks daily or weekly

The top three activities conducted in parks for utilizing parks and natural areas are *enjoying nature*, *utilizing paved paths*, and *exercising*. This is the same three and in the same order as in the 2020 survey.

Most respondents (47%) indicated that their use of parks has decreased during the pandemic. This is evident as this survey shows a decrease in reported weekly visits from 2020 and an increase in monthly visits.

The frequency with which people use parks is directly correlated with their sense of how clean, well-maintained, and safe parks are, and in how much they value parks and support paying for the associated costs. In other words, the more often people visit the parks, the more they value them.

Most respondents indicate that they visit parks near where they live. The parks in the City Central and Southeast Eugene areas are visited most by people of all areas.

Safety

The percent of respondents who indicated they feel *extremely safe* increased from 8% in 2020 to 22% in 2021, an increase of 14%. Most reported feeling *very safe* (34%) or *moderately safe* (34%).

Over a third of participants (36%) indicate they feel safer in 2021 than in 2020, and a similar amount (38%) indicate they feel the same sense of safety. This is significantly different for those who responded via the Spanish survey, of whom 50% have not experienced a change, and 44% feel less safe.

Perceptions and Satisfaction

Most respondents have a high satisfaction with Eugene parks: nearly two thirds (61%) feel the parks are *extremely* or *very well maintained*, and over half (54%) report they are *extremely* or *very clean*. Although these are nearly identical to responses in 2020, those who reported parks are *extremely well-maintained* rose from 8% in 2020 to 19% in 2021, and those who feel parks are *extremely clean* rose from 9% in 2020 to 17% in 2021.

Compared to the 2020 survey

14% more
feel extremely safe

11% more
feel parks are extremely well-maintained

8% more
feel parks are extremely clean

The greatest barriers to the enjoyment of parks were a concern for *personal safety* and *people camping*.

People would like less camping in Eugene parks, improvements with restrooms, and garbage removal. Concerns about unhoused community members primarily include the garbage that is accumulated (58%), followed by the space no longer feeling accessible to the public (52%).

The top three priorities for funding are ongoing maintenance, cleaning up homeless encampments in parks, and improving park safety and security.

Two-thirds (67%) of respondents strongly or somewhat approve of how parks and open spaces are currently maintained; this is down from 73% in 2020.

Parks Funding and Levy Changes

Funding parks is extremely or very important to three-quarters (78%) of respondents, a decrease from 90% in 2020. Sixty percent (60%) of participants indicate that the changes provided by the 2018 levy are worth the additional expense; this is a decrease from 73% from 2020.

The most frequently observed improvements made possible by the levy are the *increased care of trees and vegetation, removing invasive plants, and planting native plants where appropriate*, the *reopening of restrooms and more portable toilets*, and *decreased camping*.

60%
indicate changes funded by the 2018 levy are worth the additional expense

67%
strongly or somewhat approve of maintenance of parks and open spaces

Changes from 2020 Survey

Although the number of people using parks daily remained the same from 2020, fewer people report going to parks weekly in 2021. Additionally, 49% of respondents indicated the use of parks and natural areas decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic. This was echoed throughout the survey: people identified fewer areas in which they visit parks, and fewer activities in which they participate.

Responses from residents of Bethel-Danebo differ significantly from 2020. Whereas in 2020 residents of this area rated Parks and Open Space the lower than any other area of Eugene in nearly every category, residents were overwhelmingly more positive about every aspect this year.

Bethel-Danebo residents were more positive than the aggregate in selecting the two highest responses in these areas:

- Increased use during pandemic: 34% in Bethel-Danebo compared to the 29% aggregate,
- Importance of parks: 83% compared to 72%,
- Cleanliness of Eugene parks and natural areas: 73% compared to 54%,
- Safety of Eugene Parks and natural areas: 66% compared to 56%,
- Indicated that they felt safer in 2021: 52% compared to 36%,
- Well-maintained level of Eugene parks and natural areas: 69% compared to 61%,
- Approval of park management: 79% compared to 57%,
- Changes made possible by the levy were worth the expense: 75% compared to 61%.

Feedback

People's most common messages shared as feedback about Eugene Parks and Open Space expressed appreciation for the work done by the department and how much parks are valued and enjoyed.

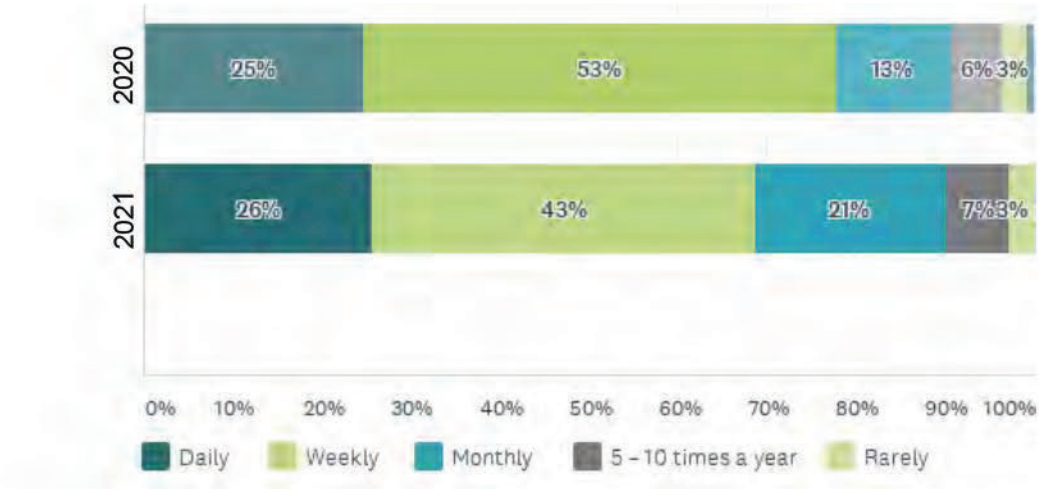
KEY FINDINGS

USE OF PARKS

FREQUENCY

Survey participants visit parks frequently, with 69% of respondents visiting at least weekly. Compared to the 2020 survey, those using parks daily has remained consistent, while nearly 10% of the weekly users have decreased their use to monthly or less frequent visits.

Typically, how frequently do you visit a park in Eugene?

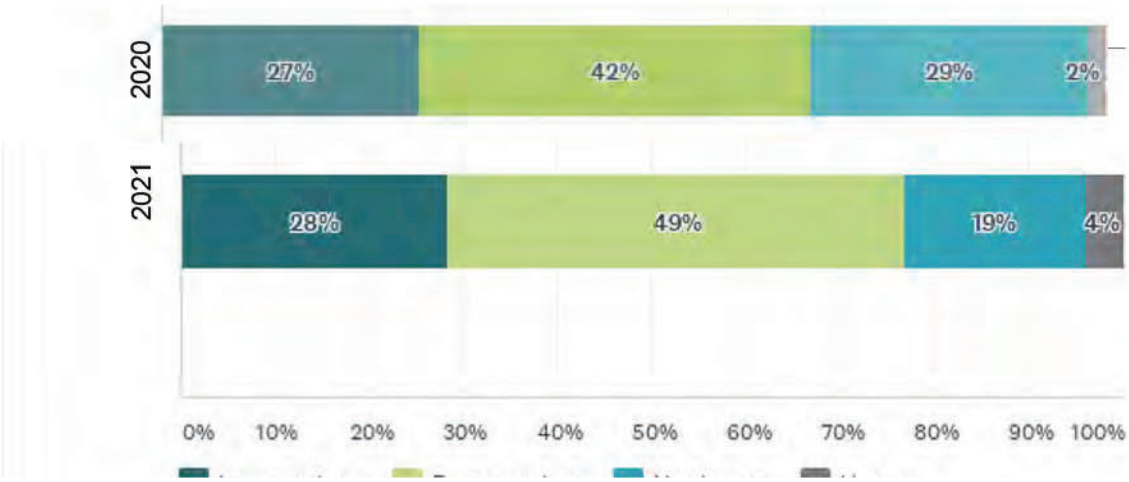


- Location of residence: People living in Bethel-Danebo and City Central report visiting parks at least weekly at a higher rate than the rest of Eugene. Those visit parks at least weekly (either daily or weekly) by area of residence are:
    - Bethel-Danebo (79%)
    - City Central (78%)
    - River Road/Santa Clara (62%)
    - Southeast Eugene (67%)
    - Southwest Eugene (68%)
    - Willakenzie/Northeast Eugene (66%)
- Age: Those who visit parks least frequently fall into the 26 to 55 age range.
- Children in the home: People without children in the household visit parks daily at a higher rate (29%) than those with children (23%). However, households with children ages 0-11 visit parks daily at a higher rate (27%) than households with older children (21%).

COVID-19

Participants in both the 2020 survey and the 2021 survey were asked if their use of parks decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic. Both years' participants believed they were using parks less than pre-pandemic. However, more people reported a decrease in the 2021 survey than in the 2020 survey.

How has your use of Eugene parks and natural areas changed during the COVID-19 epidemic?



- Frequency:
  - Those who use the park daily reported this frequency is an increase (43%) or not a change (21%) to their usage, while less frequent users reported a decreased use.
  - Respondents visiting parks monthly reported this as a decrease at a higher rate (63%).
  - Those who rarely visit parks experienced the least change (43%), or in other words, they continued to not use parks.

- Importance: Change in park usage correlates with the importance of parks. Those who reported increased park usage also indicated that parks are *extremely* or *very important* (90%). Respondents who reported no change also feel parks are important, but to a lesser extent (74%). Those who decreased their use feel importance least strongly (65%).

- Age: Those aged 66+ increased their visits during the past year the most (45%), and those aged 18 through 45 reported the greatest decrease in visits. (56%).

- Children in the home: More respondents with children in the home reported a decreased use of parks in the last year (55%) than those without children in the home (42%).

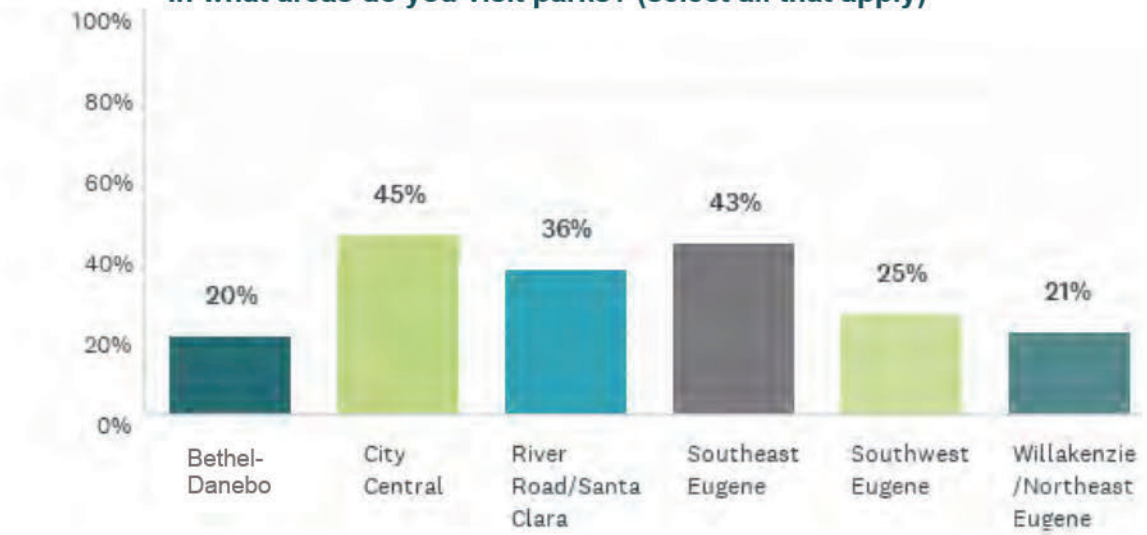
- Language: Respondents to the Spanish version of the survey reported a greater than average decrease in parks usage (63%).

- Location of residence: Residents of Bethel-Danebo had the highest rates of increased park use (34%). Those with the most decrease are residents of City Central (57%) and River Road/Santa Clara (56%).

USE OF PARKS BY LOCATION

People are most frequently visiting parks in the Southeast Eugene area (43%) and the City Central area (45%). These areas were selected in the same proportions as the 2020 survey, but at much lower rates, which may be due to a decrease in travel and activity due to COVID-19 precautions.

In what areas do you visit parks? (select all that apply)



- Respondents to the Spanish survey are primarily visiting parks in the River Road/Santa Clara area (54%).
- The following shows where people visit parks based on where they live. Respondents primarily visit parks close to where they live. Visits to parks in areas outside of respondents' area of residence decreased in 2021.

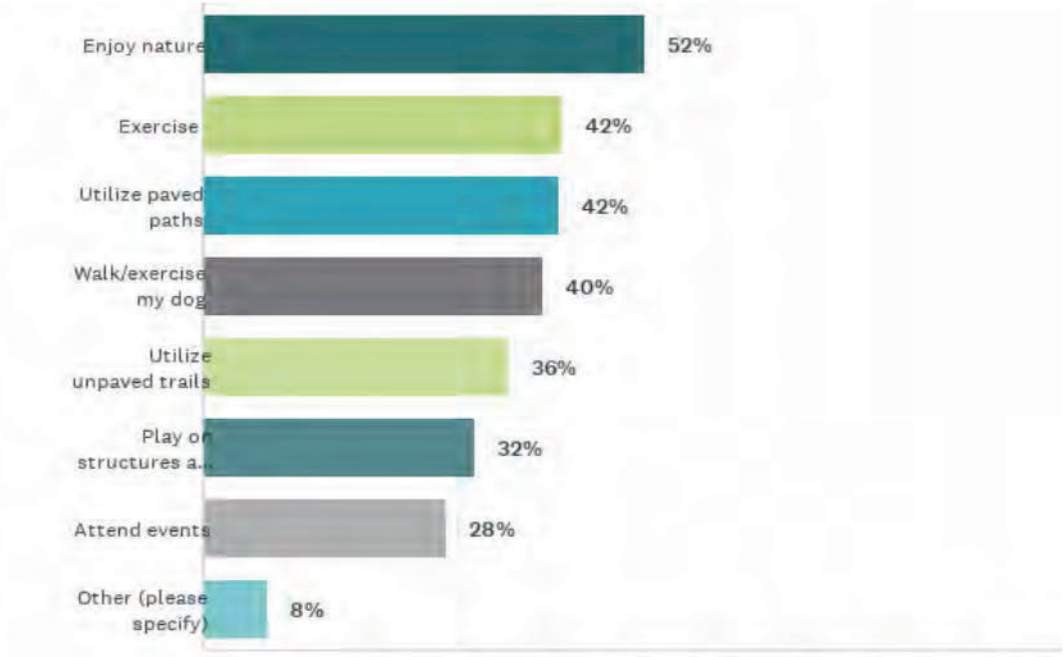
In what areas do you visit parks?

In what area do you live?	Bethel-Danebo	City Central	River Road/ Santa Clara	Southeast Eugene	Southwest Eugene	Willakenzie / Northeast
Bethel-Danebo	**91%**	22%	27%	16%	16%	13%
City Central	11%	**81%**	25%	21%	12%	10%
River Road/ Santa Clara	12%	30%	**74%**	25%	12%	11%
Southeast Eugene	8%	40%	24%	**78%**	25%	20%
Southwest Eugene	14%	35%	21%	45%	**68%**	18%
Willakenzie/ Northeast Eugene	16%	52%	34%	49%	26%	**73%**
I don't live in these areas	28%	50%	50%	**70%**	48%	53%

ACTIVITIES AT PARKS

Eugene parks and open spaces are used primarily to *enjoy nature* (52%), *exercise* (42%) and to *utilize paved paths* (42%). For the 2021 survey, we added a question about exercising dogs, and separated *utilize trails* to become *utilize paved paths* and *utilize unpaved trails*. Typical *other* write-in responses included pickleball, mountain biking, cycling, disc golf, picnics, meeting friends, volunteering, taking photos, and bird-watching.

In what activities do you participate at Eugene parks? (Select all that apply.)



- Language: Respondents to the Spanish survey selected *enjoy nature* at a significantly higher rate (87%).

- Gender: Selection of *playing on structures and open areas* is significantly different between those who identify as female (36%) and male (27%). Interest in play structures and open areas are higher for all gender identities in the 2021 survey.

- Location of residence: People living in the Bethel-Danebo area report use of *structures and open areas* at a higher rate than other areas (43%), followed by those in River Road/Santa Clara (36%). Respondents in Willakenzie/Northeast Eugene are the highest users of *paved paths* (77%).

- Frequency: People who are in parks to *attend events* are more likely to visit parks just 5 -10 times per year (38%). A breakdown of activities by frequency is exhibited on the following page, along with a comparison with these responses in the 2020 survey.

- 2020 comparison: The percent of respondents who chose multiple activities is substantially less than in the 2020 survey.

2020

In what activities do you participate at Eugene parks? (Select all that apply.)

Typically, how frequently do you visit a park in Eugene?

	Exercise	Enjoy Nature	Play on structures and in open areas	Utilize Trails	Attend Events	Other (Please specify)
Daily	77%	86%	24%	86%	23%	22%
Weekly	69%	89%	28%	87%	26%	15%
Monthly	59%	89%	25%	77%	30%	8%
5 – 10 times a year	47%	85%	20%	68%	38%	15%
Rarely	27%	61%	11%	50%	30%	11%
Never	21%	43%	21%	7%	21%	43%

2021

In what activities do you participate at Eugene parks? (Select all that apply.)

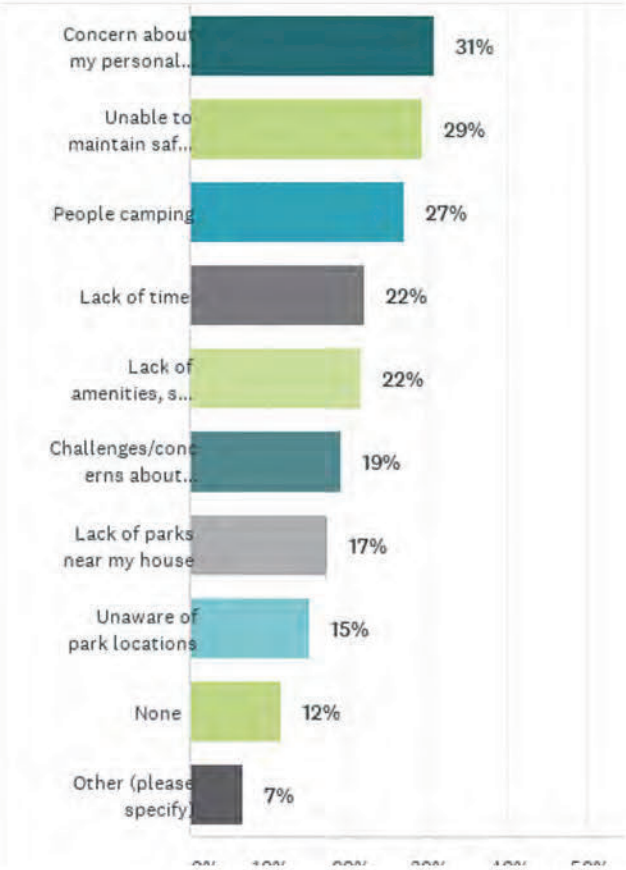
Typically, how frequently do you visit a park in Eugene?

	Exercise	Enjoy Nature	Play on structures and in open areas	Utilize paved paths	Utilize unpaved trails	Attend Events	Walk/ Exercise my dog	Other (Please specify)
Daily	55%	57%	34%	49%	44%	23%	47%	22%
Weekly	45%	54%	30%	44%	38%	26%	39%	15%
Monthly	29%	44%	31%	3%	28%	30%	34%	8%
5 – 10 times a year	25%	33%	38%	29%	23%	38%	32%	15%
Rarely	25%	32%	25%	32%	25%	30%	36%	11%
Never	0%	100%	0%	50%	0%	21%	50%	43%

BARRIERS TO USE

When asked what, if anything, prevents the respondent from visiting Eugene parks, the most frequently selected answers were *concern about personal safety* (31%), *unable to maintain safe distance from others* (29%), and *people camping* (27%). Write-in responses included a lack of restrooms in some areas, insufficient parking and vandalism of cars, safety concerns created by anti-social behavior, and requesting more pickleball courts.

What, if anything, prevents you from visiting Eugene parks? (Select all that apply.)



- Frequency: For those who indicated they only visit parks monthly or 5-10 times a year, *unable to maintain safe distance from others for COVID-19 safety* was selected as a greater barrier (36%) than the aggregate.

- Children in the home: Respondents with children were more concerned with COVID-19 safety (34%) than those without children (25%), as well as a lack of amenities, such as playground equipment. The playground equipment concern was stronger for respondents with children under the age of 11.

- Age: Similar to the 2020 survey, *lack of time* was selected most by the youngest respondents, aged 18-25 (23%). Many in this age group also noted they are *unaware of park locations* (24%) and cited a *lack of parks near my house* (23%).

- Gender: Respondents' COVID-19 safety concerns were stronger for those identifying as male (34%), while females were more concerned with personal safety (34%). Both distinctions were less prevalent for non-binary and individuals with another gender identity.

- Area of residence: Concerns for personal safety are strongest in the Bethel-Danebo area (41%) and weakest in Southeast Eugene (24%). The following is a breakdown of challenges by areas of residence, with the most-selected challenge for each area bolded.

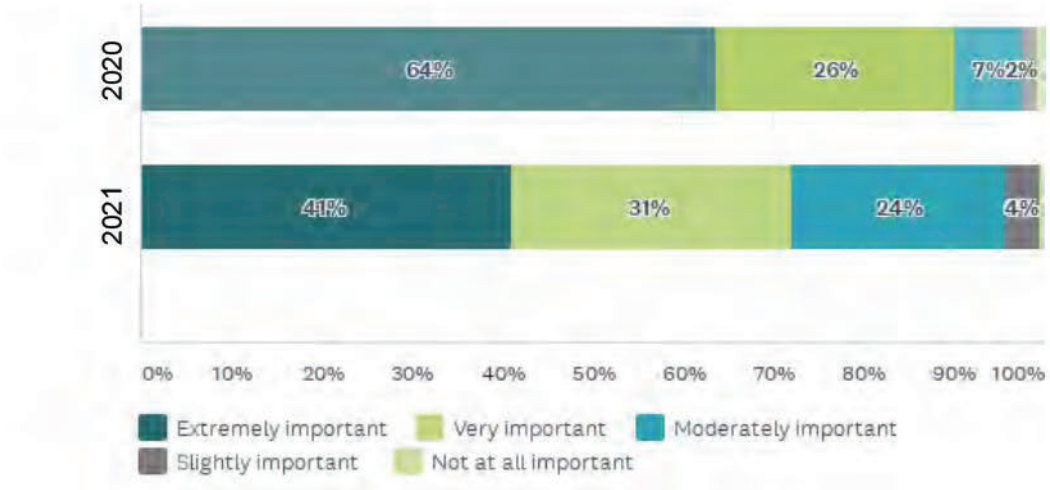
What, if anything, prevents you from visiting Eugene parks? (Select all that apply.)

	In which area do you live?					
	Bethel-Danebo	City Central	River Road/ Santa Clara	Southeast Eugene	Southwest Eugene	Willakenzie /Northeast
Unaware of park locations	22%	18%	16%	12%	14%	11%
Lack of parks near my house	21%	23%	22%	11%	16%	12%
Lack of amenities, such as playground equipment	26%	26%	25%	18%	23%	14%
Lack of time	26%	26%	17%	19%	26%	14%
Challenges/concerns about traveling to/from parks	25%	23%	20%	16%	17%	18%
Concern about my personal safety at parks	**41%**	34%	28%	24%	**37%**	**30%**
Unable to maintain safe distance from others	26%	**36%**	**33%**	**30%**	26%	15%
People camping	32%	26%	25%	22%	30%	29%
None	7%	6%	8%	18%	11%	17%
Other (please specify)	6%	4%	2%	8%	10%	13%

IMPORTANCE OF PARKS

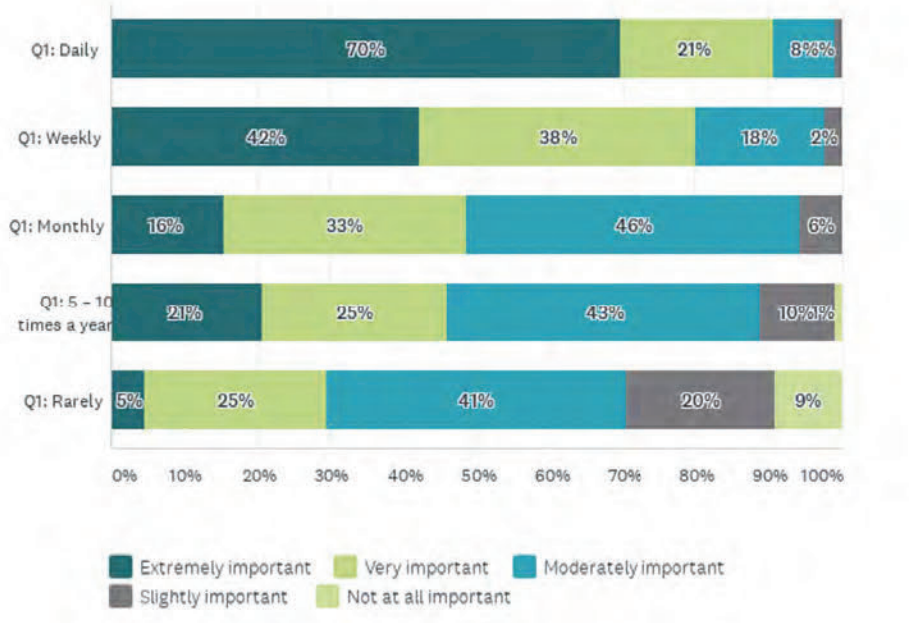
Fewer people indicated parks are of high importance in 2021 compared to 2020. Those who indicated parks are *extremely* or *very important* was 90% in 2020, and 72% in 2021.

How important or unimportant are Eugene parks to your quality of life?



- Frequency: A significant correlation exists between how frequently a respondent visits a park and the importance of parks. This ranges from those who visit daily (91% selected *extremely* or *very important*), to those who visit rarely (30%).

How important or unimportant are Eugene parks to your quality of life?



- Age: Older respondents report parks are extremely or very important at higher rates than younger respondents.

- Gender: Parks are more important to those identifying as female when compared to any other gender identity.

- Use: Parks were indicated as *extremely* or *very important* for those who *utilize paved paths* (58%), *utilize unpaved trails* (58%), *exercise* (54%), and *enjoy nature* (53%).

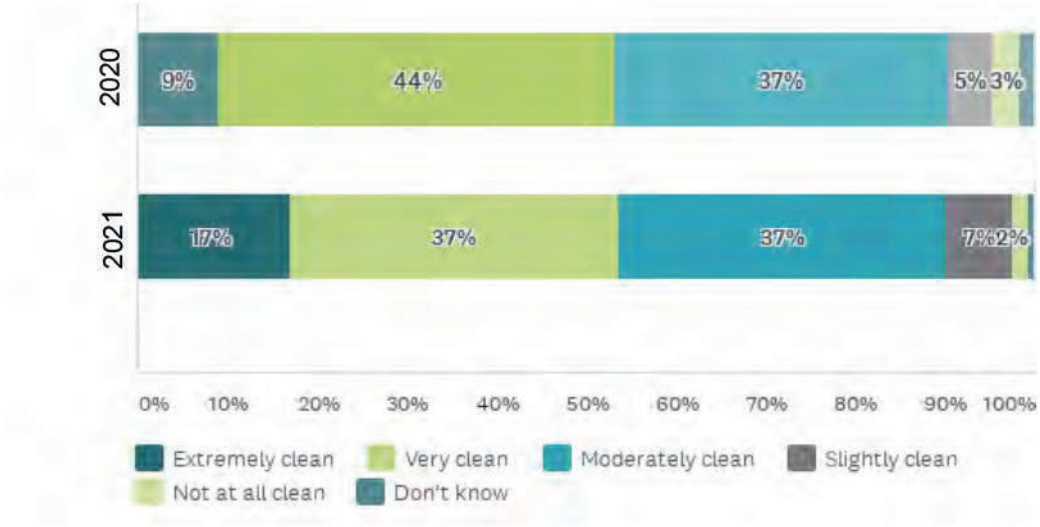
- Area of residence: Those in Bethel-Danebo area had the highest selection of *extremely* or *very important* of the geographic areas.
  - Bethel-Danebo (83%)
  - City Central (76%)
  - River Road/Santa Clara (64%)
  - Southeast Eugene (69%)
  - Southwest Eugene (72%)
  - Willakenzie/Northeast Eugene (79%)

PERCEPTIONS OF PARKS

PARK CLEANLINESS

A little over half of the respondents indicated that parks and natural areas are *extremely* or *very clean* (54%), and 37% indicated parks are *moderately clean*. Although these are nearly identical to the responses in 2020, the number of people who indicated parks are *extremely clean* rose from 9% to 17%, while the number who responded *very clean* decreased from 44% to 37%.

How clean do you feel Eugene parks and natural areas are?

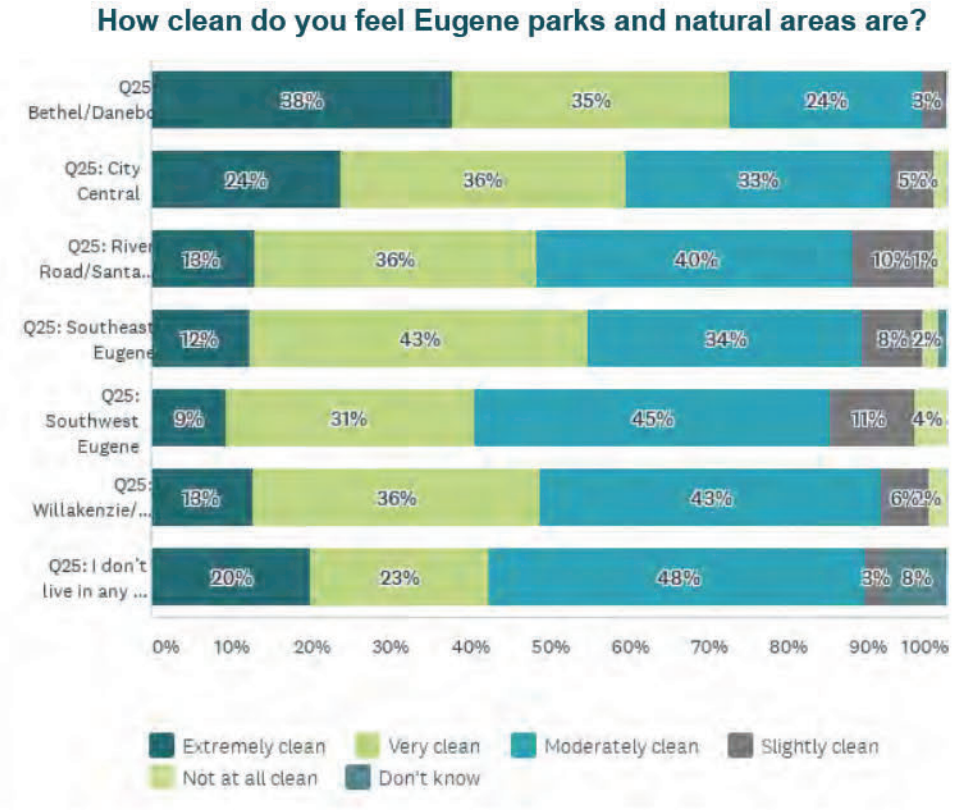


- Importance: The importance of parks is correlated with the perceived cleanliness of parks. Those who indicate parks are *extremely clean* are mostly people for whom parks are *extremely important*. Those who indicate the parks are *very clean* are those who say parks are *very important*. Those who indicated parks are *moderately clean* are those who indicated that parks are *moderately important*.

- Children in the home: Children present in the home and their ages affect perceptions of cleanliness. Responses for *extremely* or *very clean* are as follows:
  - Children in home, ages 0-5 (59%)
  - No children (56%)
  - Children in home, ages 6-11 (51%)
  - Children in home, ages 12-18 (39%)

- Frequency: Those who are at the park more frequently are more likely to indicate parks are clean. Those who indicated parks are *extremely* or *very clean* visit *daily* (69%), *weekly* (59%), *monthly* (35%), *5-10 times per year* (31%), and *rarely* (30%).

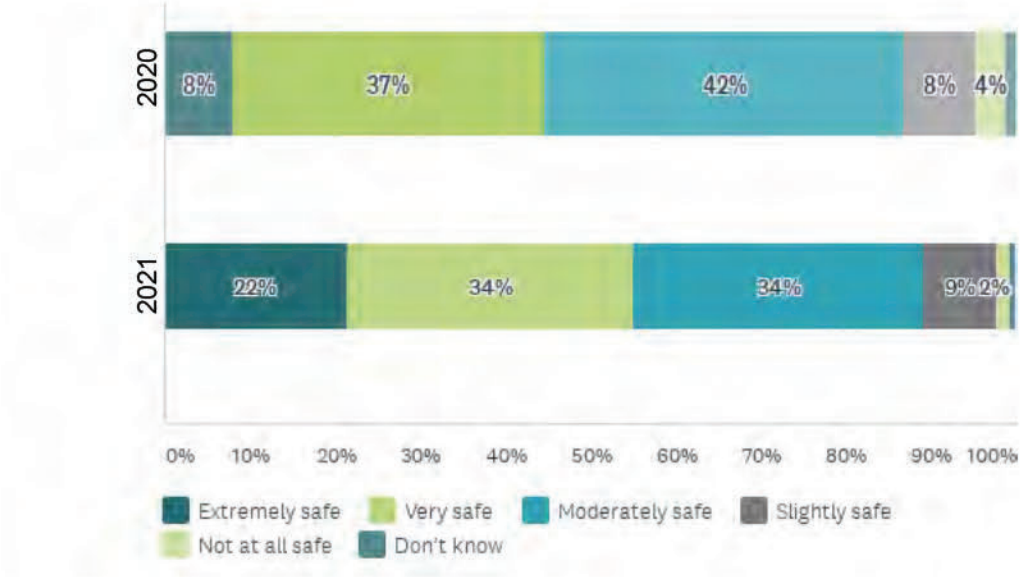
- Area of Residence: Those living in the Bethel-Danebo area of Eugene rated cleanliness significantly higher than any other area, with 73% selecting *extremely* and *very clean.*



PARK SAFETY

Most people feel parks are *extremely safe* (22%) and *very safe* (34%) for a combined positive sentiment of 56%. This is a shift from the 2020 survey, with more respondents indicating parks are *extremely safe* in 2021 (22%) than in 2020 (8%).

How safe do you feel Eugene parks and natural areas are? (For example, lighting, equipment conditions, personal safety.)



- Frequency: The frequency with which people use parks is related to their sense of safety. Those selecting either *extremely* or *very safe* are as follows:
  - Daily 66%
  - Weekly (56%)
  - Monthly (55%)
  - 5-10 times a year (29%)
  - Rarely (16%)

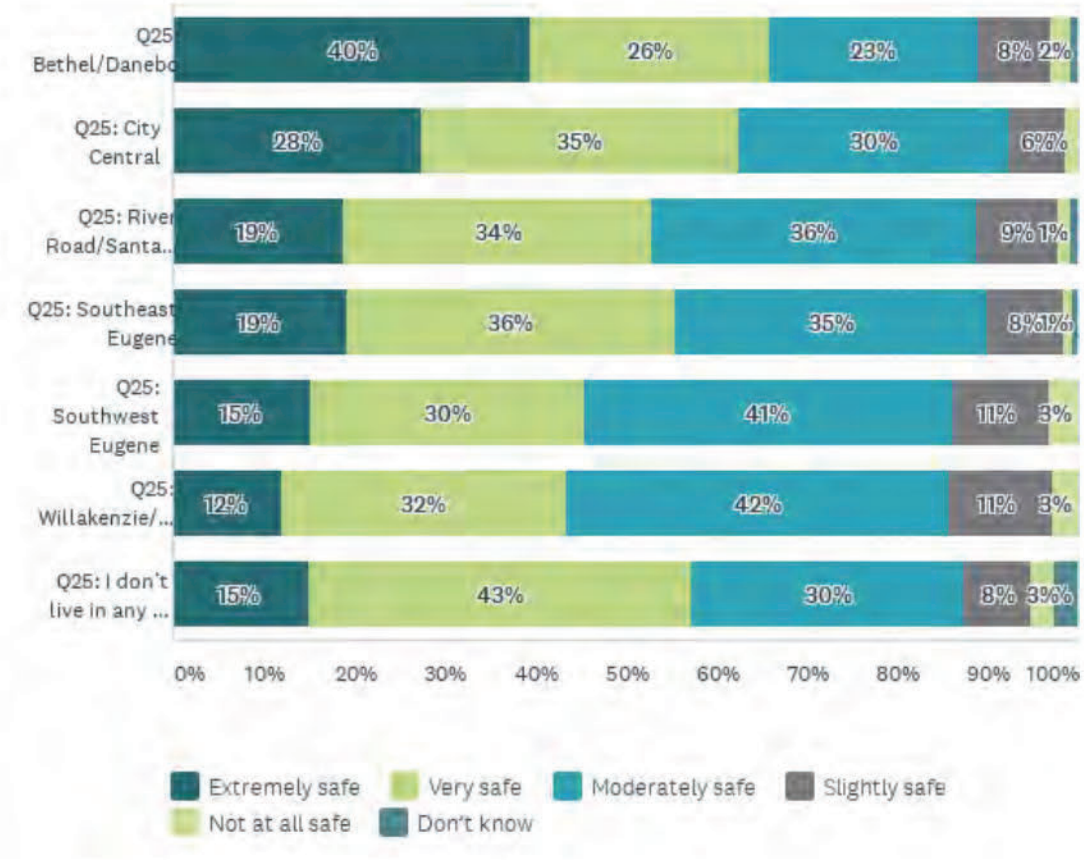
- Gender: Respondents' gender had no significant effect on perceptions of safety.

- Children in the home: Although people with children in the home, in general, did not have a different sense of safety than those without children, those with younger children feel safer than those with older children. The perception of safety is nearly identical to how this segment perceives the cleanliness of parks. People with children in the home selected *extremely* or *very safe* as follows:
  - Children in home ages 0-5 (64%)
  - No children (56%)
  - Children in home ages 6-11 (50%)
  - Children in home ages 12-18 (40%)

- Language: Respondents to the Spanish survey indicated they feel *extremely safe* at a lower rate than the English-language respondents (5%). They primarily felt *very safe* (30%) or *moderately* safe (48%).

- Area of Residence: Residents of the Bethel-Danebo area of Eugene feel the safest, with 66% selecting either *extremely* or *very safe*.

How safe do you feel Eugene parks and natural areas are? (For example, lighting, equipment conditions, personal safety.)



WHAT AFFECTS THE SENSE OF SAFETY

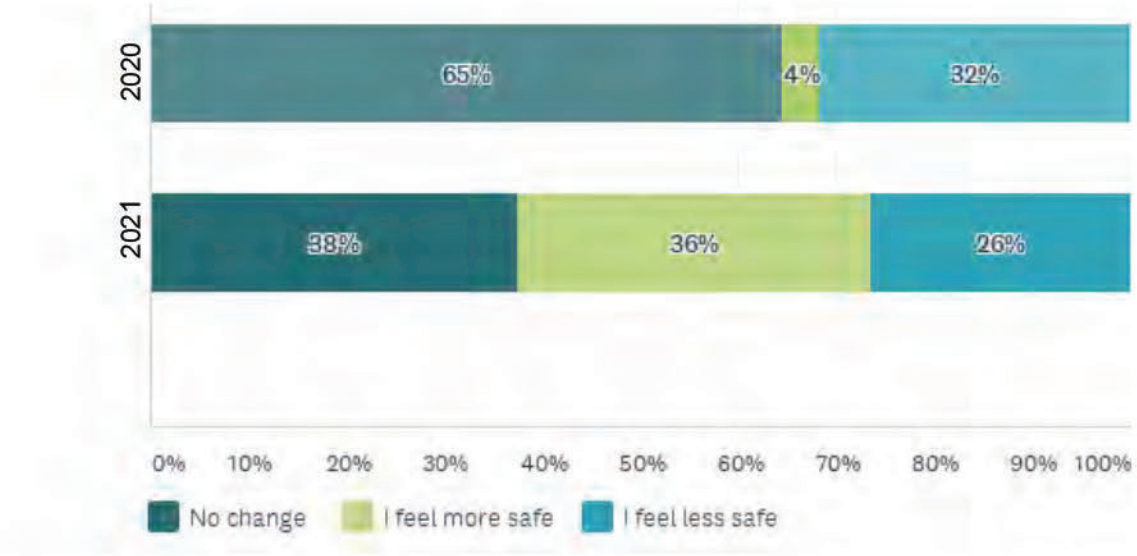
Respondents were prompted to share what would make them feel safer. All responses will be provided to the Parks and Open Space Division. Responses included:

- Increase security patrols, or security measures (195)
- Concerns about the unhoused (82)
- Improve lighting (51)
- Concerns about drug use (44)
- Cleaning (40)

CHANGES IN SENSE OF SAFETY

Between 2020 and 2021, the number of respondents who indicated they feel safer than the previous year is significant, with 4% indicating they felt safer in 2020 and 36% indicating they feel safer in 2021.

How has your sense of safety at parks and natural areas changed in the past year?



No Change in Sense of Safety

For respondents who indicated their sense of safety has *not changed* in the past year:

- Area of residence: Those living in Southeast Eugene were most likely to indicate no change in their sense of safety (47%) in the past year.
- Language: Fifty percent (50%) of respondents to the Spanish survey selected no change.
- Seen at parks: When asked if respondents typically see any of the listed items at the parks they visit, the most frequently selected were *people camping* (51%) and *litter* (49%). For a full list of what respondents selected, see the Appendix where all responses are reported. The following are significantly different from the average response:
  - *Unsafe equipment or structure conditions:* Southwest Eugene (24%)
  - *Inadequate lighting*: City Central (40%)

More Safe

For respondents who indicated they felt safer in the past year:

- Area of residence: The areas of Eugene where respondents live who feel safer are Bethel-Danebo (52%), River Road/Santa Clara (45%), and City Central (44%).
- Language: Only four percent (4%) of those completing the Spanish version indicated that they felt safer in 2021 than the previous year.

- Why safer: When asked why they feel safer, respondents selected *improved condition of equipment or structures* (40%) and *more safety patrols* (40%). For a full list, see the Appendix. Differences in responses based on area of residence that were notable are:

    - *Improved condition of equipment or structures*: City Central (49%)
    - *Less graffiti*: Willakenzie/Northeast Eugene (38%), Bethel-Danebo (36%)
    - *Less litter*: Southwest Eugene (36%)
    - *Less evidence of drug use*: City Central (32%)

Less Safe

For respondents who indicated that they felt *less safe* in the past year:

- Areas of residence: The respondents living in the Willakenzie/Northeast Eugene area selected this option more than other areas (36%); however, most residents in this area selected *no change* (44%).

- Language: Forty-four percent (44%) of those completing the Spanish survey version indicated they felt safer in 2021 than the previous year.

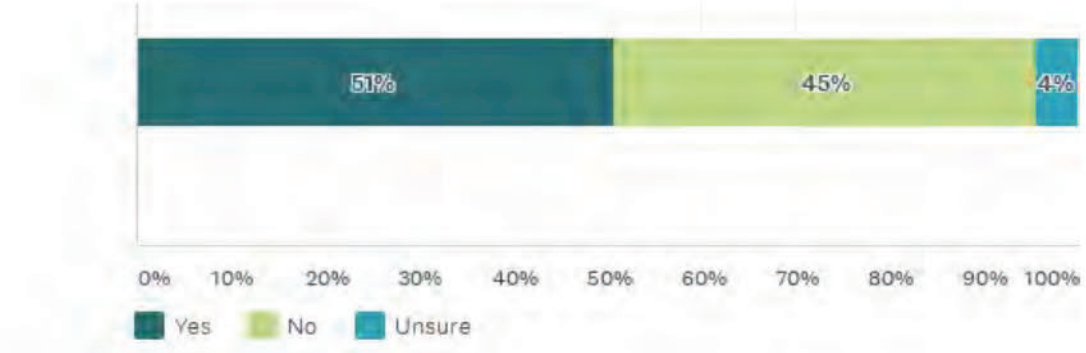
- Why *less safe*: The top two identified factors contributing to this declined sense of safety were *people camping* (50%), *evidence of drug use* (45%), and *behavior of people at the parks* (44%). For a full list of how respondents answered, see the Appendix. Looking at responses by area of residence, the following differences are significant:

    - *People camping*: Willakenzie/Northeast Eugene (76%) and Bethel-Danebo (72%)
    - *Unable to maintain a safe distance from others for COVID-19 safety*: City Central (41%)

REPORTING SAFETY CONCERNS

Respondents were asked if they had ever reported a safety concern to the City of Eugene Park Watch Website. About half indicated that they had.

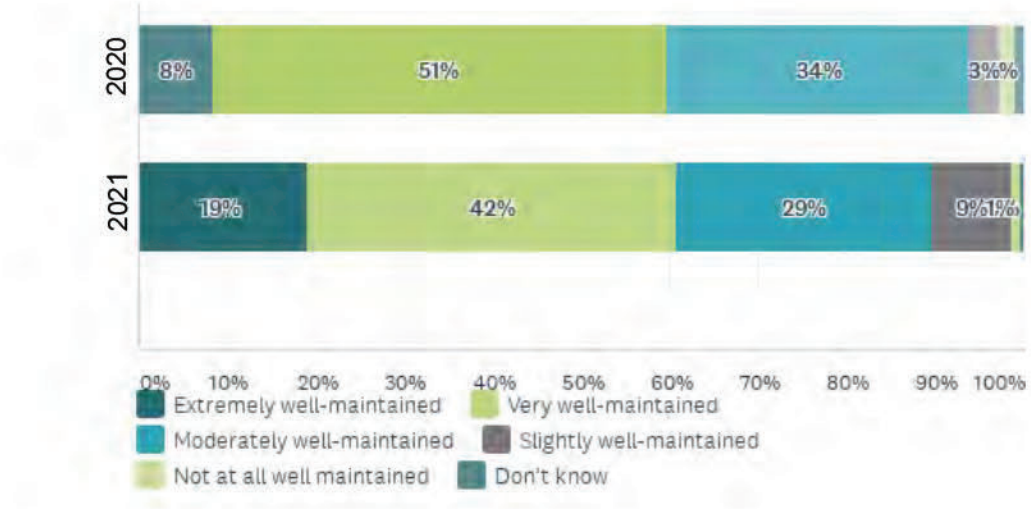
Have you ever reported a safety concern to the City of Eugene Park Watch website?



PARK MAINTENANCE

About two thirds of respondents feel Eugene parks and natural areas are *extremely* or *very well maintained* (61%); however, the proportion who feel parks are *extremely well maintained* increased by 11% from 2020.

How well-maintained do you feel Eugene parks and natural areas



- Area of residence: Respondents living in the Bethel-Danebo area had the highest percentage of respondents indicating parks are *extremely* or *very well maintained* (75%), and Southwest Eugene had the lowest (50%).

- Frequency of use: The frequency with which a respondent visits a park is directly correlated with their perception of how well the park is maintained. Following is the breakdown of those who selected *extremely* or *very well-maintained*:
  - Daily (75%)
  - Weekly (65%)
  - Monthly (45%)
  - 5-10 times a year (40%)
  - Rarely (30%)

- Parks visited: Those who visit parks in the following areas indicated parks are *extremely* or *very well maintained*:
  - Bethel-Danebo (75%)
  - City Central (67%)
  - River Road/Santa Clara (58%)
  - Southeast Eugene (60%)
  - Southwest Eugene (50%)
  - Willakenzie/Northeast Eugene (56%)

CONCERNS ABOUT THE UNHOUSED

A pervasive topic for Eugene related to its parks is the number of unhoused individuals and families living in the area. Survey participants were asked what concerns them about those who are unhoused camping in public parks and open spaces. Responses are as follows:

- *Garbage accumulated* (58%)
- *The space no longer feels accessible to the public* (52%)
- *Behavior issues* (48%)
- *Evidence of drug use* (39%)
- *Other* (9%)
- *None* (7%)

Over 100 respondents added comments, which included concern that people are unhoused, concern for their hygiene needs and safety needs, garbage accumulation, drug use and crime, and safety.

DESIRED IMPROVEMENTS

Considering what, if anything, participants would like to see improved, the top choices were *Less camping* (39%), *restrooms (33%), garbage removal* (32%), *and litter pick up* (30%). A complete list of how respondents ranked improvements is included in the Appendix.

- Importance: Those for whom parks are *extremely important* are significantly more concerned with *camping* (42%), *restrooms* (36%) than the average respondent.
- Gender: Respondents identifying as female were significantly more concerned with the following than other gender identities: *less camping* (38%), *garbage removal* (35%), and r*estrooms* (34%)
- Age: People over the age of 46 are more likely to choose *less camping* (50%) than those 45 years old and younger (27%). People age 66+ indicated *restrooms* (44%) as a high priority.
- Area of residence: The following table shows priorities by area of residence.

In what area do you live?	Top priority	Second priority	Third priority
Bethel-Danebo	Less camping (39%)	Restrooms (35%)	Care of playground equipment (30%)
City Central	Restrooms (29%)	Garbage removal (29%)	Dog waste clean-up (28%)
River Road/Santa Clara	Garbage removal (30%)	Less camping (29%)	Litter pickup (27%)
Southeast Eugene	Less camping (31%)	Restrooms (30%)	Garbage Removal (28%)
Southwest Eugene	Garbage Removal (35%)	Less camping (33%)	Litter Pick Up (33%)
Willakenzie/ Northeast Eugene	Less camping (50%)	Restrooms (32%)	Garbage Removal (30%) Litter Pickup (30%)

FUNDING & APPROVAL

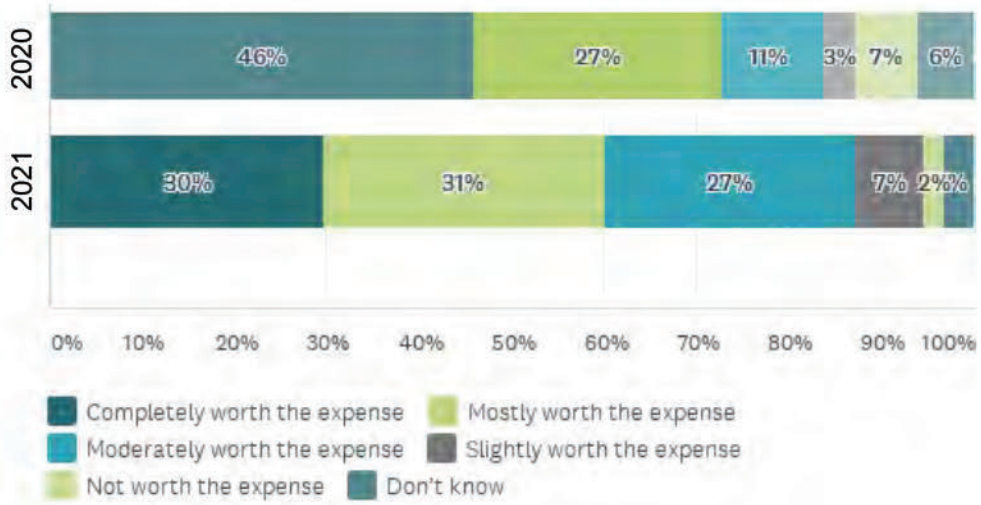
LEVY CHANGES

Respondents were presented with information about the levy approved in 2018, including changes that have been made with the increased funding.

Value of Changes

Fewer respondents felt the changes funded by the 2018 levy were worth the additional expense, compared to the 2020 survey. There was a significant decrease in respondents who selected *completely* or *mostly worth the expense,* dropping from 73% in 2020 to 61% in 2021.

Considering the changes made in the past two years, do you think the changes funded by the levy are worth the additional expense?



- Area of residence: Bethel-Danebo residents were the strongest supporters of the expense, with 75% indicating changes are *completely* or *mostly worth the expense*. In contrast, the fewest supporters of the expense were Southwest Eugene (54%) and River Road/Santa Clara (55%) areas.

- Age: Those age 56 years and older support the expense more strongly (82% selecting *completely* or *mostly worth the expense*), compared to those under the age of 55 (56%).

- Frequency: Those who use the parks the most are most supportive of the costs. The responses for combined *completely* or *mostly worth the expense* by use are as follows:
    - Daily (74%)
    - Weekly (65%)
    - Monthly (43%)
    - 5-10 times a year (40%)
    - Rarely (32%)

Respondents were asked why they feel the way they do about the worth of the expense in terms of value. All answers are provided to the Parks and Open Space Division. Example responses include:

- It seems the funds are being used appropriately. It's worth every penny to have funds for maintenance and safety. The more we can provide safe, clean environments the more we help our community enjoy the beauty our area has to offer. It increases our value of living here.
- I feel that Eugene Parks & Open Spaces has not done enough to inform the community of the hard work it is doing and to showcase the improvements that have been made with the funds from the levy.
- There are more homeless and (it is) unclear if the changes have made an impact.

Noticed Changes

The top three things that respondents noticed, in terms of changes related to the levy, included: *increased care of trees and vegetation, removing invasive plants, and planting native plants where appropriate* (38%), r*eopened restrooms and more portable toilets* (36%), and *decreased camping in parks, other than Washington Jefferson Park* (36%). The results by area are as follows:

In what area do you live?	Top noticed change	Second noticed	Third noticed
Bethel-Danebo	Increased care of vegetation (44%)	Restrooms (40%)	Added trash cans & service (36%)
City Central	Increased care of vegetation (46%)	Decreased camping (42%)	Added trash cans & service (38%)
River Road/ Santa Clara	Decreased camping (46%)	Added trash cans & service (33%)	Restrooms (38%)
Southeast Eugene	Increased care of vegetation (44%)	Decreased camping (41%)	Restrooms (32%)
Southwest Eugene	Decreased camping (40%)	Increased care of vegetation (39%)	Restrooms (39%)
Willakenzie/ Northeast Eugene	Restrooms (42%)	Increased care of vegetation (40%)	Restrooms (37%)
			Added trash cans & service (32%)

OPERATING PRIORITIES

The top three operating priorities for existing parks are as follows. A complete list of responses is included in the Appendix.

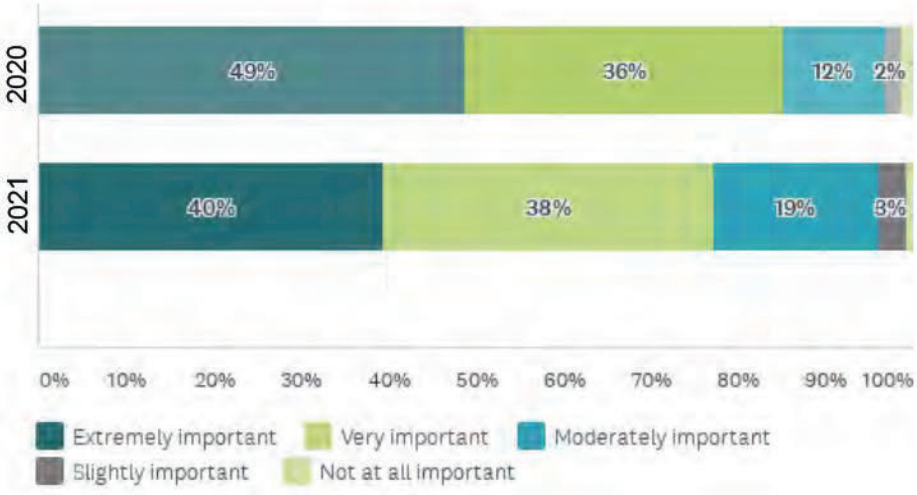
- *Ongoing park maintenance, such as removing litter and garbage, mowing, cleaning restrooms, etc.* (43%)
- *Cleaning up homeless encampments in public parks* (39%), and
- *Improving park safety and security* (32%).

For those responding to the Spanish survey, the top priority was *cleaning up homeless encampments in public parks* (69%)

IMPORTANCE OF FUNDING

Funding parks to improve safety, accessibility, usability and attractiveness is *extremely* (40%) or *very important* (38%) to most who participated in the survey, for a combined positive sentiment of 78%. This is a decrease of 7% from 2020.

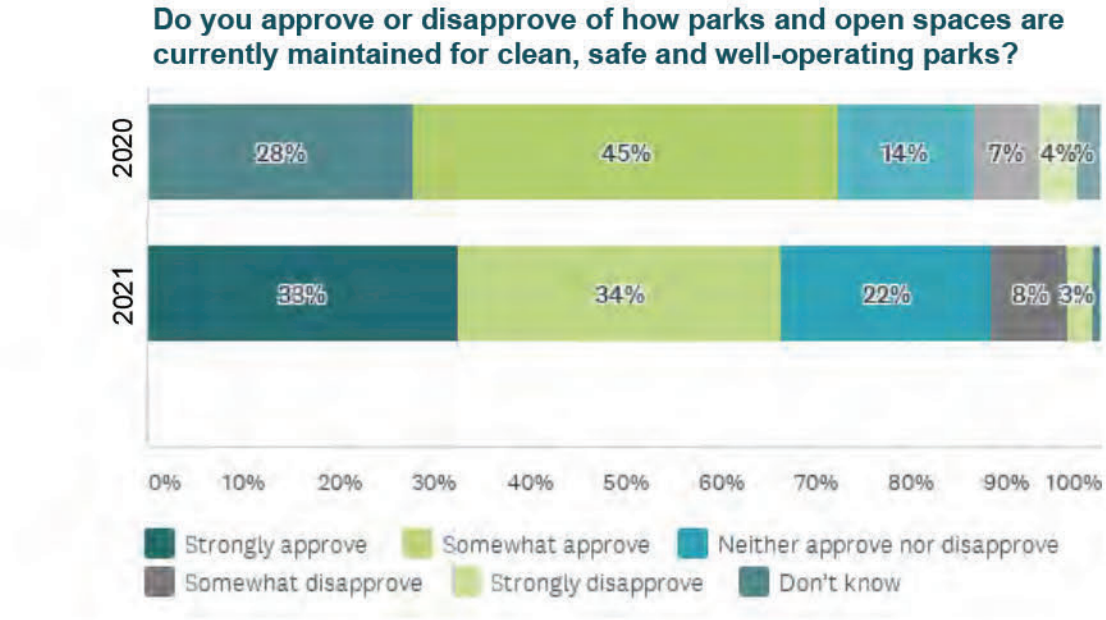
How important to you is funding parks to improve safety, accessibility, usability and attractiveness?



- Frequency: The frequency of visiting parks is correlated with the importance of funding, with the following indicating a positive sentiment:
  - Daily (88%)
  - Weekly (83%)
  - Monthly (66%)
  - 5-10 times a year (52%)
  - Rarely (48%)
- Language: Respondents to the Spanish survey have a stronger positive sentiment of 94%.
- Age: Younger and older respondents indicated that they felt funding for parks is *extremely* or *very important* at these rates: 66+ (93%), 55-65 (92%), 18-25 (83%).

APPROVAL OF PARKS MANAGEMENT

The majority of participants *strongly* (33%) or *somewhat approve* (34%) of how parks and open spaces are currently maintained for clean, safe and well-operating parks, for a combined positivity sentiment of 67%. This is a decrease from 2020.



- Area of residence: Participants from the Bethel-Danebo area approve at a significantly higher rate than any other area, with 49% selecting this option. Following is the breakdown by area for a combined *strongly* and *somewhat approve* positive sentiment:
  - Bethel-Danebo (79%)
  - City Central (72%)
  - River Road/Santa Clara (59%)
  - Southeast Eugene (68%)
  - Southwest Eugene (60%)
  - Willakenzie/Northeast Eugene (67%)

- Age: Participants age 66+ approve at the highest rate (82%), followed by ages 55-65 (76%) and the youngest segment, 18-25 (73%).

- Frequency: How frequently people are at a park directly correlates with approval, with people in the park daily *strongly* or *somewhat approve* (78%). Approval steps down with each increment of park usage.

- Language: Respondents to the Spanish survey *strongly* or *somewhat approve* at a slightly higher rate (70%) than the English-language respondents.

DESIRED IMPROVEMENTS

Of those who responded to the survey, 1,217 included comments indicating what they would like to see improved. All comments will be provided to the Parks and Open Space division.

FEEDBACK FOR PARKS AND OPEN SPACES DIVISION

Participants were invited to share feedback for the Parks and Open Space Division, and 1,100 provided comments. Most comments were positive, expressing appreciation for the work the division is doing, telling staff they are doing a great job, and that the residents of Eugene love parks. All comments will be shared with Parks and Open Space.

DEMOGRAPHIC DIFFERENCES

FREQUENCY OF PARK USE

The frequency with which survey participants visit parks has a direct correlation with many sentiments. Those who visit parks most frequently:

- Feel safer,
- Believe parks are better maintained and clean,
- Believe more strongly that changes made possible by the levy were worth the expense,
- Express that parks are extremely important to their quality of life, and
- More strongly approve of how parks and open spaces are currently operated.

Although this survey cannot determine cause and effect (i.e., do people go to parks because they feel safe or do they feel safe because of their experiences at parks), this survey does indicate that the people most familiar with the parks and natural areas are the most positive in their responses. Extrapolating the responses to this survey to the public will need to consider that respondents to this survey may visit parks at a different rate than to the public.

AREA OF RESIDENCE

In several instances, responses varied significantly depending on where the respondent lives. This survey found a significant variance in responses from the Bethel-Danebo area compared to the 2020 survey.

Residents of the Bethel-Danebo area were the strongest supporters of the expense related to maintenance, with 75% indicating changes are *completely* or *mostly worth the expense* compared to the aggregate of 61%. This sentiment is also reflected in the approval of park management, with 79% of Bethel-Danebo area residents indicating they *strongly* or *somewhat approve*, compared to the aggregate of 67%.

Other areas where the Bethel-Danebo area varied substantially from the aggregate in selecting the two highest responses include:

- Increased use during pandemic: 34% compared to 28%,
- Importance of parks: 83% compared to 72%,
- Cleanliness of Eugene parks and natural areas: 73% compared to 54%,
- Safety of Eugene Parks and natural areas: 66% compared to 56%,
- Indicated felt safer in 2021: 52% compared to 36%,
- Well-maintained level of Eugene parks and natural areas: 69% compared to 61%.

GENDER

Those identifying as male and female visit parks at the same rate. Individuals self-identifying as either non-binary or another gender identity reported less than average daily use (13%) and greater than average monthly use (33%).

Females (80%) indicated that parks are *extremely* or *very important*, more so than any other gender identity (65%). In addition, females were significantly in favor of *less camping* (38%), *garbage removal* (35%), and *restrooms* (34%) than the average respondent.

AGE

A few notable differences emerged in considering age. Typically, respondents 55 and older, and those age 18-25 were most positive about parks and the work of Parks and Open Space.

RACE/ETHNICITY

As part of this year's survey, respondents were allowed to choose multiple race options, in response to frustration expressed by a few people who completed the 2020 survey. In the 2021 survey, many people chose multiple races, and 26 respondents selected every possible race. This made the race/ethnicity responses non-representative of the Eugene population. Because these numbers appear to be wrong, none of the questions were analyzed for correlations with race/ethnicity. We recommend in the next iteration to limit one response per person and include "Multiple Races" or similar language as an option.

APPENDIX

SURVEY QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

1. Typically, how frequently do you visit a park in Eugene?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Daily	26%	543
Weekly	43%	916
Monthly	21%	433
5 – 10 times a year	7%	147
Rarely	3%	54
Never	0%	3
	Answered	**2096**

2. How has your use of Eugene parks and natural areas changed during the COVID-19 epidemic?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Increased use	28%	603
Decreased use	49%	992
No change	19%	452
Unsure	4%	76
	Answered	**2096**

3. In what activities do you participate at Eugene parks? (Select all that apply.)

Answer Choices	Responses	
Enjoy nature	52%	1153
Utilize paved paths	42%	918
Exercise	42%	890
Walk/exercise my dog	40%	818
Utilize unpaved trails	36%	784
Play on structures and in open areas	32%	952
Attend events	28%	564
Other (please specify)	8%	181
	Answered	**2096**

4. How important or unimportant are Eugene parks to your quality of life?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Extremely important	41%	921
Very important	31%	660
Moderately important	24%	438
Slightly important	4%	70
Not at all important	0%	7
	Answered	**2096**

5. What, if anything, prevents you from visiting Eugene parks? (Select all that apply.)

Answer Choices	Responses	
Concern about my personal safety at parks	31%	638
People Camping	29%	602
Unable to maintain safe distance from others	27%	535
Lack of time	22%	470
Lack of amenities, such as playground equipment	22%	400
Challenges/concerns about traveling to/from parks	19%	362
Lack of parks near my house	17%	339
Unaware of park locations	15%	281
None	12%	272
Other (please specify)	7%	176
	Answered	**2096**

6. How well-maintained do you feel Eugene parks and natural areas are?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Extremely well-maintained	19%	391
Very well-maintained	42%	867
Moderately well-maintained	29%	621
Slightly well-maintained	9%	186
Not at all well maintained	1%	26
Don't know	0%	5
	Answered	**2096**

7. How clean do you feel Eugene parks and natural areas are?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Extremely clean	17%	342
Very clean	37%	781
Moderately clean	37%	763
Slightly clean	7%	164
Not at all clean	2%	38
Don't know	0%	8
	Answered	**2096**

8. How safe do you feel Eugene parks and natural areas are? (For example, lighting, equipment conditions, personal safety.)

Answer Choices	Responses	
Extremely safe	22%	397
Very safe	34%	701
Moderately safe	34%	755
Slightly safe	9%	188
Not at all safe	2%	45
Don't know	0%	10
	Answered	**2096**

9. What changes would make you feel more safe?

All responses will be provided to Parks and Open Space

Answered	**680**

10. How has your sense of safety at parks and natural areas changed in the past year?

Answer Choices	Responses	
No change	38%	803
I feel more safe	36%	668
I feel less safe	26%	599
	Answered	**2070**

10a (No Change) At the parks you go to, do you typically see any of these? (Select all that you see.)

Answer Choices	Responses	
People Camping	51%	359
Litter	49%	342
Dog Waste	37%	260
Graffiti	36%	255
Vandalism	26%	180
Evidence of drug use	25%	178
Inadequate lighting	23%	163
None	13%	93
Unsafe equipment or structures conditions	12%	87
Crime	10%	70
Other (please specify)	8%	58
	Answered	**705**

10b. (More Safe) Why do you feel more safe? (Select all that apply.)

Answer Choices	Responses	
More safety patrols	40%	262
Improved condition of equipment or structures	40%	251
Better lighting	38%	251
Fewer people camping	30%	198
Less vandalism	28%	182
Less litter	26%	172
Less graffiti	26%	170
Less crime	25%	167
Less evidence of drug use	25%	162
Other (please specify)	0%	9
	Answered	**659**

10c. (Less Safe) Why do you feel less safe? (Select all that apply.)

Answer Choices	Responses	
People camping	50%	329
Evidence of Drug use	45%	289
Behavior of people at the parks	44%	284
Lack of safety patrols	43%	219
Litter	42%	211
Vandalism	36%	184
Crime	36%	181
Graffiti	27%	138
Unable to maintain safe distance form others for COVID-19 safety	24%	124
Declining condition of equipment or structures	19%	97
Poor lighting	19%	94
Other (please specify)	7%	34
	Answered	**508**

11. Have you ever reported a safety concern to the City of Eugene Park Watch website?

Answer Choices	Responses	
No	51%	994
Yes	45%	971
Unsure	4%	80
	Answered	**2045**

12. What, if anything, would you like to see improved? (Select all that apply.)

Answer Choices	Responses	
Less Camping	39%	716
Restrooms	33%	615
Garbage removal	32%	598
Litter pick up	30%	553
Dog waste clean up	27%	510
Lighting	24%	436
Care of playground equipment	21%	394
Picnic shelters	20%	377
Trails	18%	334
Turf/grass care and mowing	18%	331
Signage	16%	289
Sports fields	15%	284
Other	9%	174
None	5%	84
	Answered	**2060**

13. What, if anything, concerns you about the unhoused camping in public parks and open spaces?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Garbage accumulated	58%	1196
The space no longer feels accessible to the public	52%	1078
Behavior Issues	48%	990
Evidence of drug use	39%	807
Other (please specify)	9%	184
None	7%	135
	Answered	**2060**

14. Considering the changes made in the past two years, do you think the changes funded by the levy are worth the additional expense?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Completely worth the expense	30%	616
Mostly worth the expense	31%	570
Moderately worth the expense	27%	512
Slightly worth the expense	7%	147
Not worth the expense	2%	62
Don't know	3%	71
	Answered	**1978**

14a. Please share why you feel this way.

All responses will be provided to Parks and Open Space

Answered	**1167**

15. Which, if any, of the changes have you noticed in Eugene parks? (Select all you have noticed.)

Answer Choices	Responses	
Increased care of trees and vegetation, removing invasive plants, and planting native plants where appropriate	38%	774
Reopened restrooms and more portable toilets	36%	739
Decreased camping in parks, other than Washington Jefferson Park and along 13th Avenue near Chambers. (Due to COVID-19 stay-in-place criteria, the City is managing two camping sites at these locations.)	36%	730
Added trash cans and increased frequency of trash service	33%	674
Increased trail maintenance	27%	556
Increased presence of safety personnel	21%	438
None	8%	170
Other (please specify)	4%	76
Answered		**2039**

16. What are your top 3 operating priorities for existing parks? (Select up to 3.)

Answer Choices	Responses	
Ongoing park maintenance, such as removing litter and garbage, mowing, cleaning restrooms, etc.	43%	884
Cleaning up homeless encampments in public parks	39%	799
Improving park safety and security	32%	656
Maintaining hiking and biking trails	28%	577
Restoring natural areas	26%	524
Protecting wildlife habitat	26%	523
Repairing and improving park restrooms	24%	497
Repairing lighting and irrigation systems	18%	362
Other (please specify)	3%	68
Answered		**2039**

17. How important to you is funding parks to improve safety, accessibility, usability and attractiveness?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Extremely important	40%	822
Very important	38%	720
Moderately important	19%	366
Slightly important	3%	63
Not at all important	0%	7
	Answered	**1978**

18. Do you approve or disapprove of how parks and open spaces are currently maintained for clean, safe and well-operating parks?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly approve	28%	653
Somewhat approve	45%	667
Neither approve nor disapprove	14%	409
Somewhat disapprove	7%	168
Strongly disapprove	4%	64
Don't know	1%	17
	Answered	**1978**

19. What, if anything, would you like to see improved in Eugene parks?

All responses will be provided to Parks and Open Space

Answered 1208

20. Do you have any feedback or comments about Eugene Parks and Open Space?

All responses will be provided to Parks and Open Space

Answered 1100

21. In what area do you live? (See map above.) (Map is included on page 40 of this report)

Answer Choices	Responses	
Bethel/Danebo	10%	199
City Central	19%	362
River Road/Santa Clara	19%	371
Southeast Eugene	26%	499
Southwest Eugene	14%	270
Willakenzie/Northeast Eugene	9%	172
I don't live in any of these areas	4%	69
	Answered	**1,942**

22. In what areas do you visit parks? (select all that apply)

Answer Choices	Responses	
Bethel-Danebo	20%	404
City Central	45%	887
River Road/Santa Clara	36%	696
Southeast Eugene	43%	876
Southwest Eugene	25%	522
Willakenzie/Northeast Eugene	21%	448
	Answered	**1,827**

23. What is your gender?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Male	37%	728
Female	50%	970
Non-binary	5%	89
Another gender identity	5%	98
Prefer not to answer	3%	57
	Answered	**1,942**

24. Which of these age brackets best fits you?

Answer Choices	Responses	
18-25	10%	185
26-35	38%	735
36-45	23%	449
46-55	11%	209
56-65	9%	171
66+	10%	193
	Answered	**1,942**

25. Do children under the age of 18 live in your household?

Answer Choices	Responses	
No	52%	1001
Yes	48%	941
	Answered	**1,942**

25a. Which age range(s) of children live in your household? (Select all that apply)

Answer Choices	Responses	
0-5	36%	378
6-11	43%	451
12-18	22%	231
	Answered	**1,060**

26. Race/ethnic identity

Answer Choices	Responses	
African American/Black	7%	121
Asian American	9%	171
American Indian/Alaska native	12%	215
Hispanic/Latinx	17%	317
White/Caucasian	65%	1186
Prefer not to answer	6%	111
Other (please specify)	1%	19
	Answered	**1,827**

27. Would you like your email address to be included in future Eugene Parks and Open Space emails?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	28%	1345
No	72%	536
	Answered	**1,881**

Neighborhood Planning Districts

Eugene Parks and Recreation System