



AGENDA FOR BUSINESS MEETING
ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
October 11, 2023
Council Chambers – 6 p.m.
1175 E Main St

To attend the meeting or to provide public input, see public participation instructions on page 2
6:00 p.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - a. APRC Regular Meeting – August 9, 2023
 - b. APRC Special Meeting – September 6, 2023
- III. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA
- IV. PUBLIC FORUM
- V. CONSENT AGENDA
 - a. Approval of Subcommittee Minutes
 - b. Commissioner Committee Assignments
 - c. Conversation Clusters Seating Project - site adjustment for Glenwood Park
- VI. DIRECTORS REPORT
- VII. BUSINESS
 - a) CIP Discussion (Informational)
 - b) Park Hours (Action)
 - c) Ashland Fire Department Wildfire Division fuels reduction on parkland (Information)
 - d) Salmon Safe Certification (Information)
 - e) Alcohol Use in Parks (Action)
 - f) Parks, Trails, & Open Space Plan Map (Action)
- VIII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS/STAFF
- IX. UPCOMING MEETING DATES
 - a) Trails Subcommittee – Tuesday October 10, 2023
 - Lithia Park Cabin - 12:00 p.m.
- X. ADJOURNMENT

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(i) an executive session will be held at the end of the Regular Business Meeting to review and evaluate the employment-related performance of the chief executive officer of any public body, a public officer, employee or staff member who does not request an open hearing.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Administrator's office at (541) 488-6002 (TTY phone number (800) 735-2900). Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I). Parks Commission meetings are broadcast live on Channel 9, or on CHARTER CABLE CHANNEL 180. Visit the City of Ashland's website at www.ashland.or.us.

Public Participation Instructions

This meeting will be held in-person in Council Chambers 1175 E. Main St. Those who wish to provide oral testimony must attend the meeting and fill out a speaker request card. The public can view on Channel 9 or Channels 180 and 181 (for Charter Communications customers) or live stream via rvtv.sou.edu - select RVTV Prime.

Written testimony will be accepted via email sent to tara.kiewel@ashland.or.us. Please include "**Public Testimony**" in the subject line. Written testimony submitted the Tuesday before the meeting by 11:00 am will be made available to the Parks Commissioners before the meeting. All testimony will be included in the meetings minutes.

MINUTES FOR REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
August 9, 2023
Council Chambers – 6 p.m.
1175 E Main St

Present: Commissioners Landt (Chair), Adams, Bachman, Lewis; Deputy Director Dials, Senior Service Superintendent Glatt, Analyst Kiewel

Absent: None

I. CALL TO ORDER

Landt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

APRC Special Meeting – July 7, 2023

Motion: Bachman moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Adams.

Vote: The vote was all yes.

III. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

V. CONSENT

- a) Subcommittee Minutes for Acknowledgement
- b) Acknowledgement of Commissioner Eldridge Resignation

Motion: Bachman moved to approve the consent agenda for acknowledgment. Seconded by Adams.

Vote: The vote was all yes.

VI. BUSINESS

a) Conversation Cluster Seating Project (Action)

Glatt reviewed the information included in the meeting packet for the Conversation Cluster Project

- The locations are Lithia Park with 20 stacking chairs, Garfield Park with 3 benches in a circle, Glenwood Park 4 benches in a circle at front of park.
- Areas with benches would have space in between to accommodate wheelchair accessibility and be located close to cement paths and sidewalks.

Adams asked about public feedback regarding this project. Glatt said that feedback would be solicited with signage at the sites. For example, possibly asking what style of seating is preferred, demographics, etc., A press release will be issued and a survey distributed through regular City channels such as Senior and City Newsletters.

Motion: Lewis moved to approve the Conversation Clusters Seating Project as proposed by staff, with use of CIP funds not to exceed \$6000. Seconded by Adams.

Discussion: Lewis said the only possible issue he sees is with the stacking chairs, but the benches and outdoor discussion areas seem like excellent ideas.

Vote: The vote was all yes.

b) Butler Perozzi Fountain Plaque Request

Dials reviewed the information included in the staff report for the Ashland Parks Foundation Butler Perozzi plaque request.

- At the August 2, 2023, Study Session Meeting, the Ashland Parks Foundation presented a proposal to place a plaque at the Butler Perozzi Fountain location that would commemorate the restoration project the foundation is currently raising funds for.

- The Ashland Parks Foundation formally requests that the Butler-Perozzi Fountain restoration fundraising campaign be allowed to use a \$10,000 threshold for the minimum dollar amount to secure recognition on a future plaque at the fountain site.
- The goal is to raise \$800,000 by end of year; \$400,000 has already been raised.

Mike Gardiner, chair of the Ashland Parks Foundation, said the plaque is to acknowledge larger donations.

The project is being funded through donations, large and small. The “ask” is to add a new plaque to fountain site (as yet undesigned) to acknowledge donations over \$10,000. This can be used as a fund-raising tool for donors.

Landt asked if the APF is proposing to change the name of the fountain. Mike Gardiner said that this is a historic fountain, and no one has considered changing the name of the fountain.

Motion: Bachman moved to approve the request of the Ashland Parks Foundation to use a \$10,000 threshold for the minimum dollar amount to secure recognition on the future plaque at the Butler Perozzi Fountain site. Seconded by Adams.

Discussion: Bachman thanked the APF for all their fund-raising efforts for Butler Perozzi, and for the Japanese garden previously. Adams also praised all of APF’s efforts and pointed out the thoughtfulness of including maintenance funds in the to keep the fountain in excellent shape into the future. Lewis asserted, as a member of the Plaques and Memorial Subcommittee, that the exact size and dimensions of the plaque will have to be approved in the future. Landt agreed, noting that the original proposal called for the plaque to mirror the existing plaques (staff confirmed).

- **Vote:** The vote was all yes

c) Commissioner Vacancy Application Process: Commissioner Seat #1 Vacancy

Landt reviewed information included in the meeting packet:

- Commissioner Eldridge resigned Seat #1 effective July 31, 2023. Per City Charter, the seat needs to be filled within 60 days.
- At the August 2, 2023, Study Session, the Commission asked to review the application/interview questions.

Motion: Bachman moved to approve the Commissioner application form used in 2022 with modifications as reflected in the packet, and the addition of a request for a resume or CV to be attached. Seconded by Adams.

Discussion: For future vacancies, Adams would like to use this process as a learning experience to do things more in advance, so there’s less of a rush. Lewis agreed, and suggested Commissioners review the process after it is complete.

Vote: The vote was all yes.

Motion: Bachman moved to approve the presented interview questions for the commissioner vacancy selection process. Seconded by Lewis.

Discussion: Bachman thanked Adams and Landt for their work on the interview questions and thinks they will offer additional insight into who might make the best Commissioner. Lewis hopes there will be a large group of applicants and interest from citizens who want to get involved in City government.

Vote: The vote was all yes

- Landt outlined the appointment process which is subject to change. Candidates who complete the application by 5:00 PM, August 23rd will be interviewed individually by Commissioners. At the September 6, 2023, meeting Commissioners will vote on a candidate to fill the Commission vacancy. This allows the City Council time to vote on candidates before the 60-day deadline. Staff will consult with the City Administration and put it on the Council agenda.

d) Real Estate Acquisition: Liberty Street Property (391E16AC -TL300) (Action)

Dials reviewed the staff memo included in the meeting packet and showed a map of the property.

- At the April 12, 2023, APRC Executive Session, the Commission directed staff to negotiate for the 17.79 acres Liberty Street Property (391E16AC -TL300).
- On April 20, 2023, the seller accepted an offer of \$486,525 for the property (see attached real estate contract & addendum).
- In May, APRC contracted with Appraiser Mark Baird who conducted an appraisal of the Liberty Street property and valued the property at \$500,000 (see attached appraisal).
- The Charter of the City of Ashland requires both the Parks Commissioners and City Council to agree on property purchases for the Open Space Program. If the Commissioners approve the purchase by motion, the next step will be to present the same information to the City Council in a public meeting. We anticipate that the City Council will review and approve this proposal on August 15, 2023, pending approval by the Commissioners.

Motion: Lewis moved to approve the acquisition of the Liberty Street Property known as 391E16AC -TL300 for the price of \$486,525. Seconded by Adams

Discussion: Lewis praised the open space property accumulation and states that the meal's tax has made this possible. Adams noted that this is a beautiful piece of forest the property with mature Madrones, Douglas Fir, and Ponderosa Pine, and lots of important trail connections. He commended staff for their negotiations in obtaining the property at a good price. We can't underestimate the importance of these kinds of purchases,

Vote: The vote was all yes

e) Vice Chair Election (Action)

- Commissioners elect the Chair and Vice Chair on an annual basis at the beginning of the calendar year. The resignation of Leslie Eldridge leaves a vacancy in the Vice Chair position that needs to be filled.

Motion: Lewis moved to nominate Jim Bachman as Vice Chair of the Ashland Parks and Recreation Board of Commissioners Seconded by Adams.

Discussion: Lewis stated he was proud to nominate Mr. Bachman. Adams said Bachman has shown himself to be thoughtful and knowledgeable and was the first name he thought of when Eldridge stepped down.

Vote: Adams, Lewis, Landt all voted yes. Bachman abstained.

VII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS/STAFF

Lewis asked if there was time to evaluate potential building lots on the latest property acquisitions for potential sale to offset the costs of these properties. He outlined several potential lots. Landt said that we have sold property in the past and it did raise funds, so it would be a good idea to discuss this further.

Bachman acknowledged Senior Services staff for hosting a fun ice cream social with approximately 150 people attending the event.

Landt noted that Council Liaison Hansen was in attendance and said this was an example of strengthening the relationship between Council and APRC

Adams asked about Sub-Committee Assignments to replace Eldridge. Landt said this would be brought to the Commission in September. Adams will attend meetings informally in the meantime, and staff should let Landt know if there are any assignments that need to be filled before permanent roles are confirmed.

VIII. UPCOMING MEETING DATES

- a) Recreation Division Advisory Committee – August 17, 2023, Lithia Park Cabin 4:00 pm (Bachman will attend unofficially until nominated by the chair and approved with the consent of the Commissioners.)

- b) Ashland Senior Advisory Committee— September 11, 2023, Ashland Senior Center 3:30 p.m.
- c) Special Meeting September 6 – Zoom
- d) Regular Business Meeting – September 12, 2023, in Council Chambers 6:00 p.m.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Tara Kiewel, Administrative Analyst

DRAFT

MINUTES FOR SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING
ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
September 6, 2023
Council Chambers – 6 p.m.
1175 E Main St

Present: Commissioners Landt (Chair), Bachman (Vice Chair) Adams, Lewis; Interim Director Eldridge, Deputy Director Dials, Senior Service Superintendent Glatt, Analyst Kiewel

Absent: None

I. CALL TO ORDER

Landt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

APRC Study Session – August 2, 2023

Landt asked for the August 2nd minutes to be changed as follows:

- Change the title from Regular Business Meeting to Regular Study Session.
- Item V: Remove the last sentence from the second-to-last paragraph because it doesn't fit and is unnecessary: (i.e., "This is a small project with community support.")
- Item V: Reverse the last paragraph and second-to-last paragraph, so it makes better sense to the public and future readers.

Motion: Bachman moved to approve the minutes with the changes as recommended. Seconded by Adams.

Vote: The vote was all yes.

III. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

None

V. CONSENT

- a) Commissioner Committee Assignments

Motion: Adams moved to approve the committee assignments outlined in the consent agenda. Seconded by Lewis.

Vote: The vote was all yes.

VI. INTERIM DIRECTORS REPORT

Eldridge presented the APCR Interim Director's report.

Landt noted it was Eldridge's first Director's Report. Commissioners welcomed her. Eldridge thanked staff for their help over her first three weeks.

- Administration
 - Hiring: Moving forward on several hiring decisions including Park Superintendent and an Executive Assistant.
- Senior Services
 - Vaccines: A Covid and flu vaccination clinic is scheduled for October 12 and 27.
- Recreation
 - Daniel Meyer Pool has closed for the season and the pool liner replacement project is due to begin.
 - Oak Knoll Golf Course greens look amazing and fall maintenance will begin next week by aerating the greens.

- Irrigation
 - TID will be shut off on September 15, and City water will be used for Lithia and North Mountain Park. Municipal water will also be used for critical spots where needed, but we will mostly rely on rain for the rest of the season. (Landt asked if municipal water would be used to water the Golf Course if it gets too dry. Eldridge answered yes.)

Lewis asked if commissioners would be involved in hiring the Executive Assistant. Eldridge noted that Landt was on the hiring team for the Park Superintendent, and a team has not yet been formed to hire the Executive Assistant, but they would welcome to be part of that team.

VII. BUSINESS

a) CIP Discussion

Eldridge presented a memo and spreadsheet from the packet:

- On March 1, 2023, Commissioners adopted the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Budget for the 23/25 Biennium.
- Since the adoption, Parks has had the opportunity to acquire some properties, as well as make some project changes that will require Parks to look at the allocations within the CIP Budget for projects.
- Eldridge emphasized that this would not change the total amount of the CIP Budget, and confirmed with Finance that the reallocation is within the purview of APRC Commissioners if the total CIP Budget remains the same, it is within the Commission's authority to determine how those monies are spent.
- CIP is funded from the 25% of food and beverage taxes Parks receives.

Eldridge detailed the proposed changes to the CIP:

- Three properties have been approved by both the APRC Commissioners and City Council, all of which have been identified as key trail connectivity, as well as incredibly important areas—particularly the Liberty Street property—for land management and fire risk reduction.
- The prices of each of those properties are listed on the presented memo, as follows:
 - Palen Property \$150,628
 - Tuttle Property \$125,000
 - Liberty Street Property \$486,525
- Within the adopted CIP budget \$384,878 was allocated for the purchase of real estate, which will not be enough to cover those three properties. There is a need to increase the real estate acquisitions line item to \$786,058.
- Other changes in CIP from the last biennium:
 - a. There is a project overage of \$325,000 for the Ashland Japanese Garden renovation. This was due to several factors, mostly related to the global pandemic. There were price escalations, shipping prices were quite high, supply chain issues, and materials expenses like wood and labor were very high. There were communication issues with the designer and an accounting error that led to unexpected expenses and project overages. As a result, Parks is looking at adding another \$325,000 to the Japanese Garden project to close it out from the last fiscal year.
 - b. APRC knew that the opportunity to purchase the above properties was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and that it was going to cause some tough choices. Staff, in conjunction with Chair Landt, came up with the following options for Commissioners to consider reallocating CIP Funds.
 - Reducing \$100,000 out of the \$150,000 budgeted for the All-Parks Master Plan.
 - Reducing Oak Knoll Golf Course by \$150,000.
 - Reducing Facilities projects by \$100,000.
 - Remove \$150,000 for the Ashland Creek Park basketball court
 - Reduce Capital Outlay/Trails by \$276,182
- Eldridge added that the budgeted amounts for the Daniel Meyer Pool and East Main Park projects were not changed, as they are considered a priority and have a lot of community support. Adams questioned whether Pool funds could be reallocated (other than the liner project) Eldridge and Dials clarified the long-standing commitment to the Pool, including a previous ad hoc committee with citizen input, and a resulting report including design, etc. Landt clarified that the budget for the biennium for Capital Improvement Projects is \$16 million, but only \$8 million of that has been raised, with the other \$8 million being a placeholder. Potential projects, such as the pool project in this biennium, need to be budgeted in advance because the project can only move forward if it is in the CIP. This does make the budget look bigger than the actual money on hand.

- Adams questioned whether capital outlay funding for Trails was prioritized. Landt stated that money for trails improvement was utilized for once-in-a-lifetime land acquisitions that would ultimately preserve trails. Landt and Eldridge confirmed that there are no “shovel-ready” trails improvement projects. Eldridge also confirmed that money in the CIP can be reallocated again anytime during the biennium, and that there is also money for Trails within the Operations Budget. Lewis noted that with the economy improving, incoming revenue from the Food & Beverage tax might offset budget deficits.

Eldridge and Commissioners agreed that further consideration is needed and deferred the motion to a later date. Staff will confer with individual Commissioners on their preferences and bring this item back to the next Commission meeting.

b) Commissioner Seat #1 Selection Process

Bachman summarized the Voting Protocol outlined in the packet to fill APRC Position #1 Vacancy necessitated by the resignation of former Parks Director Black and subsequent appointment of Interim Director Eldridge, which opened a seat on the Commission.

Motion: Bachman moved that the voting protocol described above be adopted to select which candidate will fill APRC Position #1, with the following change. This sentence will be added to paragraph number four. “If the vote remains inconclusive, a motion to extend the voting for one or more rounds will be allowed to arrive at a majority of first place votes.” The result of this election will be immediately reported to the Ashland City Manager and Mayor for Council action prior to expiration of the mandated 60-day period. Seconded by Adams.

Discussion: Bachman noted the similarities of the Voting Protocol to Rank Choice Voting, which is designed for a bigger electorate than four people, so accommodations were made to have an orderly way to reduce the number of people in the vote. Adams thanked Bachman for his time and effort in crafting the process and noted that all seven candidates were wonderful.

Vote: The vote was all yes.

c) Commissioner Seat #1 Selection

Ballots were distributed to Commissioners; Eldridge reminded them to put their name on the top, and rank candidates first, second, and third, so the public can see the ballots. Dials collected the ballots, and Eldridge and Kiewel recorded the votes.

Landt noted that the Commission received public comments from Regina Ayers, and Joanne Hager. He thanked them for their participation.

A result was reached on the first-round ballot. Stefani Seffinger was chosen.

Landt asked for a motion for the record, in addition to the agreed-upon voting process.

Motion: Adams moved to approve Stefani Seffinger as the new Parks Commissioner, Position #1. Seconded by Bachman.

Discussion: Adams said Seffinger was an excellent candidate, she has experience with Parks and is a long-time champion of Parks as well as having experience on City Council. Bachman agreed and noted that Seffinger had a lot of experience coming back to the Commission, and the Council experience is even more valuable. Landt welcomed Steph Seffinger to the Board of Commissioners.

Vote: The vote was all yes.

d) Lookahead Review (Direction to Staff)

Due to a technical oversight, the Lookahead was unavailable. Landt asked Staff to send a current Lookahead to Commissioners and to let staff know of any changes requested.

VIII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS/STAFF

None.

IX. UPCOMING MEETING DATES

- a) Ashland Senior Advisory Committee—September 11, 2023
 - In Person-Ashland Senior Center—3:30 p.m.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Judy Plapinger
Temporary Office Assistant

DRAFT

ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

340 S PIONEER STREET • ASHLAND, OREGON 97520

COMMISSIONERS:

Rick Landt
Jim Bachman
Justin Adams
Jim Lewis
Stefani Seffinger



Leslie Eldridge
Interim Director
541.488.5340
AshlandParksandRec.org
parksinfo@ashland.or.us

STAFF MEMORANDUM

TO: Ashland Parks and Recreation Commissioners

FROM: Leslie Eldridge, Interim Director

DATE: October 5, 2023

SUBJECT: CONSENT: Subcommittee Minuets, Commissioner Committee Assignments, Conversation Clusters- site adjustment

Four items need acknowledgement for consent for October 5, 2023:

1. Parks Trails and Open Space Subcommittee Minutes 5.1.23
2. Parks Trails and Open Space Subcommittee Minutes 9.22.23
3. Commissioner Committee Assignments
4. Conversation Clusters Seating Project - site adjustment for Glenwood Park

Possible Motion

I move to acknowledge the consent agenda.

Attachments

Parks Trails and Open Space Subcommittee Minutes 5.1.23
Parks Trails and Open Space Subcommittee Minutes 9.22.23
Commissioner Committee Assignments Memo
Conversation Clusters Seating Project Memo – site adjustment for Glenwood Park

**MINUTES FOR
ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Parks & Open Space Map Update Subcommittee
May 1, 2023
340 S. Pioneer Street – 9:30 AM**

Present: Commissioners Landt, Eldridge; Analyst Kiewel, Eric Hansen, Katie Larsen, Torsten Heycke

Absent: Director Black, JoAnne Eggers

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** - Landt called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
- II. **Approval of minutes for September 27, 2022** – Eldridge moved to approve minutes Heycke seconded – All approved.
- III. **Additions or Deletions to the Agenda - None**
- IV. **Public Forum - None**
- V. **Review Parks & Open Space Map Recommendations** - Landt stated that rather than change the City Comprehensive Plan a narrative will be added to the updated map. City Council will hopefully approve of the new map and verbiage.

The subcommittee reviewed the map and agreed on the following updates:

- Update to reflect the Palen Property has now been acquired by APRC.
 - The subcommittee discussed the removal of Billings Ranch from the map except for the riparian areas, which are outside the Urban Growth Boundary. Eldridge would like to add the Billings ranch as an example in the narrative regarding the goals.
 - Added additional property for trail connectivity that connects trails through the watershed. (15)
 - Bottom of Wrights Creek property (6) leave on the plan
 - Keep property Bear Creek riparian/floodplain segments from Nevada Street to North Mountain Ave. (E) on plan
 - Eldridge suggested adding text regarding Imperatrice property as a potential trail system
 - Map will be updated when any new properties are acquired.
- VI. **Subcommittee Recommendations to Parks Commission** – APRC will be updated in the May study session meeting.

Motion: Eldridge moved that the subcommittee accept the parcels that have been removed from the plan as discussed.
Seconded by Larson.

Discussion – none

Vote: All Yes

Next meeting will review the property addition with the narrative language.

Eldridge would like to see the drainage and creeks layer added to the map.

Landt stated that staff will review the Trails Master Plan with the Parks and Open Space Map for consistency.

The meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted.
Tara Kiewel, Administrative Analyst

**MINUTES FOR
ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Parks & Open Space Map Update Subcommittee
September 22, 2023
340 S. Pioneer Street – 1:00 pm**

Present: Commissioners Landt, Interim Director Eldridge; Analyst Kiewel, JoAnne Eggers, Katie Larsen, Torsten Heycke

Absent: Eric Hansen

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** - Landt called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.
- II. **Approval of minutes for May 1, 2023** –Heycke moved to approve minutes Larson seconded. All approved.
- III. **Additions or Deletions to the Agenda - None**
- IV. **Public Forum - None**
- V. **Review Parks & Open Space Map Recommendations** – The subcommittee reviewed the plan and determined that property numbers 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9 color will change label to acquire for riparian/ connectivity.

The group decided to add the Newman/Johansson properties to the acquire list
- VI. **Review of Map Summary and Narrative** – The subcommittee reviewed the narrative and wants to add explanations for properties added removed from the plan. Staff will make the updates as discussed.
- VII. **Subcommittee Recommendations to Parks Commission –**
Motion: Eggers moved to approve the amended Parks and Open Space Map plan.

Discussion – none

Vote: All Yes

Motion: Heycke moved to approve summary language as amended. Eggers seconded

Discussion – none

Vote: All Yes

Landt thanked the group for their work. The subcommittee has completed their work and is now dissolved.

The meeting adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.
Tara Kiewel, Administrative Analyst

ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

340 S PIONEER STREET • ASHLAND, OREGON 97520

COMMISSIONERS:

Rick Landt
Jim Bachman
Justin Adams
Jim Lewis
Stefani Seffinger



Leslie Eldridge
Interim Director
541.488.5340
AshlandParksandRec.org
parksinfo@ashland.or.us

STAFF MEMORANDUM

TO: Ashland Parks and Recreation Commissioners

FROM: Chair Landt

DATE: October 5, 2023

SUBJECT: Commissioner Committee Assignments

Situation

Chair Landt is appointing Commissioners to the following Committees:

Public Arts Commission (Parks Commission liaison): Commissioner Seffinger

Current Parks, Conservation, and Maintenance Subcommittee: Commissioner Seffinger

Chair Landt is dissolving the following Committees:

AD HOC Parks & Open Space Map Update Subcommittee

Long Range Park Planning Subcommittee

Background

At the April 12, 2023 meeting the commissioners approved that for future committee/subcommittee appointments, The Chair of the Commissioners, with the consent of a majority of the Commissioners, shall appoint the membership of APRC committees and subcommittees.

ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

340 S PIONEER STREET • ASHLAND, OREGON 97520

COMMISSIONERS:

Rick Landt
Jim Bachman
Justin Adams
Jim Lewis
Stefani Seffinger



Leslie Eldridge
Interim Director

541.488.5340
AshlandParksandRec.org
parksinfo@ashland.or.us

STAFF MEMORANDUM

TO: Ashland Parks and Recreation Commissioners

FROM: Isleen Glatt, Senior Services Superintendent

DATE: 10/5/23

SUBJECT: CONSENT: Conversation Clusters Seating Project – site adjustment for Glenwood Park

Situation

On August 9, 2023, the Commission approved specific locations and CIP funding for a Conversation Clusters Seating Project, even though some Commissioners expressed concern that the location for Glenwood Park might be noisy during high traffic times. This memo proposes an alternate site for Commission approval.

Background

The original site proposed for the Glenwood cluster of four benches was near the intersection of Ashland Street and Glenwood Drive, as illustrated below. Further investigation revealed that this is a busy traffic area when SOU is in session, as many students park in this area.

Original Glenwood Park site near
corner of Ashland St & Glenwood →



Assessment

Further investigation revealed that Ashland at Glenwood is a busy traffic area when SOU is in session, as many students park in this area. Parks Supervisor Minica, the project manager for the installation, suggested an alternate site closer to the middle of the park under a grove of pine trees, as illustrated below. This later area does not currently have grass, so less labor is required to prepare the site. Staff suggest a site that currently has a movable picnic table which can be relocated to the nearby grassy area. (For mowing, Parks staff easily move picnic tables with mower itself.)



New Glenwood Park site near center of park

Recommendation

Staff recommend the new location under the pine trees for the benches in Glenwood Park.

Approval of the consent agenda would adopt the following motion:

"I move to approve to approve the adjusted location for the conversation cluster seating in Glenwood Park, as proposed by staff."

ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

340 S PIONEER STREET • ASHLAND, OREGON 97520

COMMISSIONERS:

Rick Landt
Jim Bachman
Justin Adams
Jim Lewis
Stefani Seffinger



Leslie Eldridge
Interim Director
541.488.5340
AshlandParksandRec.org
parksinfo@ashland.or.us

STAFF MEMORANDUM

TO: Ashland Parks and Recreation Commissioners
FROM: Interim Director Eldridge
DATE: October 5, 2023
SUBJECT: Update to CIP Budget for APRC (Information)

Situation

APRC is working with City Finance Department to reconcile FY23 CIP Ending Fund Balance and update BN 23-25 CIP budget accordingly.

Background

The FY23 Annual Audit is in progress and the accounting period is still open. However, the APRC CIP Ending Fund Balance for FY23 has been reconciled. Although there are always differences between the budgeted and actual amounts, there was a larger than expected disparity between Budget vs Actuals. In addition, working closely with Finance Department, APRC will be modifying the way we track and present our SDC expenditures.

Assessment

Interim Director Eldridge will provide the details of the FY 23 Ending Fund Balance for CIP and discuss how this will impact budget decisions for BN 23/25 going forward.

ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

340 S PIONEER STREET • ASHLAND, OREGON 97520

COMMISSIONERS:

Rick Landt
Jim Bachman
Justin Adams
Jim Lewis
Stefani Seffinger



Leslie Eldridge
Interim Director
541.488.5340
AshlandParksandRec.org

STAFF MEMORANDUM

TO: Ashland Parks and Recreation Commissioners

FROM: Interim Director Eldridge

DATE: October 5, 2023

SUBJECT: Municipal Code Amendment to Establish Park Hours for All City Parks (Action)

Situation

Over the last decade, Ashland Parks and Recreation has seen an increasing amount of vandalism and damage to public property, improper use of public restrooms, and security/public safety issues in our parks, parklands, and facilities. These incidents have largely been occurring during nighttime hours. Managing these issues has resulted in significant maintenance and financial burdens to APRC, as well as challenges to the Ashland Police Department (APD) enforcement efforts.

Background

Currently, the Ashland Municipal Code (10.68.380) has an established "Curfew" for Lithia Park **only** between the hours of 11:30PM and 5:30AM. The remaining parks and parklands within the APRC system do not have any formal hours of closure.

The proposed amendment to the AMC would establish hours of parks closure in all City parks. The Ashland Municipal Code (10.68.010) defines the term "Parks" as inclusive of all parks, trails, and open space lands, as stated below.

10.68.010 Parks-Defined

Unless some other meaning clearly appears, the words “park” and “parks” means the lands dedicated for park purposes under and by virtue of that certain charter amendment adopted by a vote of the people of the City at the annual city election held on December 15, 1908, and proclaimed by the mayor December 17, 1908, together with all other lands since acquired or that may hereafter be acquired, or may have been dedicated, or may hereafter be dedicated, for park and recreation purposes, either by the City, by corporations, or by individuals. (Ord. 626 § 1, amended, 1916)

Assessment

Without established park closure hours, it has become difficult for APD to partner with APRC to protect public assets and safety during nighttime hours. APRC strives to serve the public by keeping parks open and accessible as late as possible. APRC also values the ability of the public to transit through parks and open spaces at all hours of the day or night.

Recommendation

Staff recommends amending Section 10.68 of the Ashland Municipal Code to establish hours of parks closure **in all City parks**. (See attached Ordinance No. 3226)

Attachments

Ordinance 3226: An Ordinance Amending Section 10.68 of the Ashland Municipal Code: Curfew.

ORDINANCE NO. 3226

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 10.68 OF THE ASHLAND MUNICIPAL
CODE: CURFEW**

Annotated to show deletions and additions to the Ashland Municipal Code sections being modified. Deletions are ~~bold lined through~~, and additions are **bold underlined**.

THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

10.68.380 ~~Curfew~~ Hours of Parks Closure

- A. ~~Except for City officials or their designees on official business, no one shall be in Lithia Park between the hours of 11:30 P.M. and 5:30 A.M. No person shall remain in any City park, as defined in AMC 10.68.010, between the hours 12:00 AM (midnight) and 5:00 AM, except authorized city personnel or as authorized by the Ashland Parks and Recreation Director or designee consistent with established parks rules and regulations.~~**
No person shall remain in any City park, as defined in AMC 10.68.010, between the hours 12:00 AM (midnight) and 5:00 AM, except authorized city personnel or as authorized by the Ashland Parks and Recreation Director or designee consistent with established parks rules and regulations.

- B. ~~Any person who violates any provision of this Chapter is subject to Section 1.08.020 of the Ashland Municipal Code. Any violation of this section is a Class IV violation. (Ord. 3137, amended, 2017; Ord. 3026, amended, 08/03/2010). Any violation of this section is a Class IV violation subject to the penalties and procedures in AMC 1.08.030.~~**
Any violation of this section is a Class IV violation subject to the penalties and procedures in AMC 1.08.030.

PASSED by the City Council this _____ day of _____, 2023.

ATTEST:

Dana Smith, Clerk of the Council Pro Tem

SIGNED and APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2023.

Tonya Graham, Mayor

Reviewed as to form:

Douglas M. McGeary, Acting City Attorney

MEMO

TO: Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Chris Chambers, Forestry Officer (chris.chambers@ashland.or.us)

CC: Ashland Forest Lands Management Advisory Committee
Leslie Eldridge, Interim APRC Director

RE: Forestland Climate Change Adaptation—Siskiyou Mountain Park

The changing climate can contribute to unpredictable forest conditions and forecasts predict increased climatic stressors affecting our municipal forestlands, which are governed by the [2016 Ashland Forest Plan](#) (AFP). Recent insect outbreaks have reached epidemic levels, with Douglas-fir (DF) tree mortality [measured at 20%](#) (perhaps a significant underestimate) in the lower watershed and Siskiyou Mountain Park (SMP), with some units seeing up to 72% die-off and smaller pockets up to near complete DF mortality...a phenomena dubbed the [“Douglas-fir decline spiral”](#) in a 2023 research paper by Oregon State University and the U.S. Forest Service.

SMP was particularly hard-hit this spring, a symptom of our changing climate exacerbated by past forest management that created particularly vulnerable forests. As predicted shifts in vegetation communities play-out, forest managers will have to respond quickly to ease the transition to more drought, heat, and fire tolerant species and forest structures. If fuels are allowed to accumulate, there is increased risk for a severe wildfire that could negatively impact neighborhoods and the ecology of the park. As an example, the vegetation resulting from the 1973 Hillview Fire and previous industrial logging has been challenging and expensive to manage since it was acquired in 1992. Infrequent and high intensity disturbances are highly undesirable in vegetation that evolved with frequent, low intensity disturbance.

Results from the City’s drone-based survey of forest health in July of this year showed SMP with a range of 12 percent to 72 percent Douglas-fir mortality, averaging 30% across the SW portion of the park covering 142 acres. This survey is an underestimate and more trees have died since that survey in mid-summer.

Through the Forest Lands Committee, the City is proposing a helicopter-based thinning project to remove dead and dying trees, help resilient species establish, and thin green trees to reduce competition and build resiliency to future drought and heat in surviving Doug-fir. Prolonging them as long as possible in the favorable locations is part of our “refugia” strategy in the Climate Change Addendum.

Two field tours of SMP have been hosted with the Southern Oregon Land Conservancy to talk about the developing situation and discuss areas of concern as pertains to the conservation easement between SOLC and APRC. Further follow-up is needed once a project proposal is drafted and ready for review.

One important aspect of a potential helicopter-based project to remove trees is where to drop them. The City’s property at the top of Granite St has an old quarry that’s been used as a log landing twice in the past and logs from the lower City ownership will go there. That landing is almost two air miles from

ASHLAND FIRE & RESCUE

455 Siskiyou Boulevard
Ashland, OR 97520
(541) 482-2770 • Fax (541) 488-5318
TTY: 800-735-2900



SMP, which would add significant cost to the project and require shutting down the Loop Road and White Rabbit Trailhead areas (anywhere where people could be under a load of logs) for as long as it takes to finish the work at SMP. It is worth asking for a bid to take logs to the Granite St landing, but the APRC should consider approving a landing in lower SMP accessed by Timberline Terrace and driveways that allow access to the lower park. (A map will be presented with the proposed landing location. A landing big enough would be approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre.)

The work needed at SMP will be a combination of tree thinning similar to what has been done previously in the Ashland Forest Resiliency Project and on the City's lower watershed properties i.e. mainly smaller trees, and also cutting more heavily in areas with significant mortality along with areas predicted to lose significant numbers of trees in the near future. A project involving a helicopter is preferred in keeping ground impacts minimal, but the cost will be significant and therefore not something that can be done frequently to chase down waves of tree mortality. Because of this, a prudent course is to remove trees that are predicted to die in the next five years, or "pre-capture" what will very likely be dead soon according to recent research and modelling. Areas with significant die-off should be replanted with pine, oak, and desirable understory plants as appropriate.

We are using predictive GIS tools to outline where future mortality will occur and it should be noted that trails will be impacted regardless of what course of action is ultimately decided upon. Dead and dying trees that are within falling distance of trails will need to be cut to provide for public safety. This will be a significant cost as there are at least 359 trees dead or dying within 100 feet of trails in SMP as of the survey in mid-summer. This has already played out on smaller scales on the Lithia Park hillside and last year at Hald-Strawberry Park where hundreds of large trees have been cut down over the last five years of drought, at significant expense shared between APRC and the Wildfire Division.

Climate change projections and predictive tools specific to Douglas-fir survival show significant change is imminent. Just as we couldn't have imagined that the last decade would have brought unfathomable smoke and wildfire devastation to our valley, the next decade will only accelerate the predisposing conditions for more fire, smoke, and forest transitions. A proactive approach is imperative to maintain thriving forests in and around our town.

A critical component of this work is education and outreach to the public. The perception and aesthetic of a "healthy forest" must change as we adapt to present and future conditions. Tours are being scheduled to see areas that are being "sample marked" to show what we think needs to be done as well as signage in the same areas.

Lomakatsi Restoration Project will be submitting a proposal to work with us on this project, to be reviewed at the October 17 Council meeting. We will be bringing a proposal for Commission approval back to this body at the November 7 Business meeting. We hope to be implementing this work in the spring.

ASHLAND FIRE & RESCUE

455 Siskiyou Boulevard
Ashland, OR 97520
(541) 482-2770 • Fax (541) 488-5318
TTY: 800-735-2900



MEMO

TO: Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Chris Chambers, Forestry Officer (chris.chambers@ashland.or.us)

CC: Ashland Forest Lands Management Advisory Committee
Leslie Eldridge, Interim APRC Director

RE: Prescribed Burning on APRC Forestlands

The [2016 Ashland Forest Plan](#), the [2023 Forest Plan Climate Change Addendum](#), and the draft Lithia Park Master Plan all address the need for increased use of prescribed fire to mitigate community wildfire exposure and restore the critical ecosystem benefits of frequent low intensity fire used over millennia by indigenous tribes.

Last year's wildfires on the Lithia Park hillside were a reminder that forestlands internal to the city limits are critical pieces of our wildfire protection strategy because they are surrounded by homes, contain city infrastructure, have high recreation value, and are more likely to experience human ignitions.

As a result of the fires and public concern, the APRC asked Ashland Fire & Rescue to help implement prescribed fire on the Lithia Hillside to reduce fuels. Two steps of that process were accomplished since last summer:

1. Parks staff contracted fuels reduction (cutting brush, piling and burning) below Glenview Drive to create a more effective fuel break and anchor point for prescribed burning.
2. AF&R had a prescribed fire burn plan built for the Lithia Hillside. The plan is a requirement for both liability and operations. This adds to a plan previously built for the Acid Castle, Hald-Strawberry, and Westwood properties.

Implementing burning in those low elevation, grass dominated woodlands pushes us strongly toward fall burning to take advantage of the dry grass and thatch, a lack of new, green grass that impedes fire, and syncing with the seasonal dormancy of trees like Oregon white oak. It is a narrow window for burning given that fire season often extends well into October and even November and the expertise/workforce from burn contractor Grayback Forestry are often committed to wildfires well into the fall. A four-year contract with Grayback was approved by the City Council on October 3rd and will be executed by October 12th, opening the door for burning this fall. Funding is through the AF&R wildfire division.

AF&R will coordinate with ODF on smoke management and permitting and requests help from APRC on public communications and managing recreation traffic while burning is taking place. We can keep smoke to a minimum by using water from nearby hydrants to eliminate smoldering after the initial ignition is completed.

ASHLAND FIRE & RESCUE

455 Siskiyou Boulevard
Ashland, OR 97520
(541) 482-2770 • Fax (541) 488-5318
TTY: 800-735-2900



92-18115

DEED OF CONSERVATION EASEMENT

ACCOMPLISHED
KAM

3500.10⁰⁰
2000
LP-46772

This Deed of Conservation Easement is made this 6th day of May, 1992, by the CITY OF ASHLAND, a municipal corporation, Grantor, in favor of SOUTHERN OREGON LAND CONSERVANCY, INC., a nonprofit Oregon corporation, having an address as PO Box 671, Medford, OR 97501, Grantee.

WITNESSETH:

The Grantor is the owner of certain real property in Jackson County, Oregon, more particularly described in Exhibit A attached hereto, incorporated by this reference (**the Property**); and

WHEREAS, the Property possesses natural, scenic, recreational and open space values (collectively, **Conservation Values**) of great importance to Grantor, the people of the City of Ashland, and the people of the State of Oregon; and

WHEREAS, in particular, keeping the Property in open space preserves and enhances the viewshed for the City of Ashland; and

WHEREAS, the Southern Oregon Land Conservancy and local citizens have donated money to the Grantor in order to enable the Grantor to acquire the Property; and

WHEREAS, said money was contributed with the understanding that the Grantor would protect the conservation values of the Property;

WHEREAS, Grantor desires to preserve and protect the Conservation Values of the Property by conveying to Grantee the right to preserve and protect the Conservation Values of the Property in perpetuity;

WHEREAS, the Grantee is a publicly supported, tax-exempt, nonprofit organization qualified under Section 1501(C)(3) and 170(h) of the Internal Revenue Code whose primary purpose is the preservation, protection, and enhancement of lands in its natural, scenic, historical, agricultural, forested, and/or open space condition; and

WHEREAS, Grantee agrees, by accepting this grant, to honor the intent of Grantor stated herein and to preserve and protect in perpetuity the conservation values of the Property for the benefit of this generation and future generations to come;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the above and the mutual covenants, terms, conditions, and restrictions contained herein and pursuant to the laws of the State of Oregon and in particular ORS 271.715 through 271.785, Grantor voluntarily grants and conveys unto Grantee a conservation easement in perpetuity over the Property of the nature and character and to the extent hereafter set forth (**Easement**).

1. **PURPOSE.** It is the purpose of this easement to assure that the Property will be retained forever predominantly in its natural, scenic, and open space condition and for recreational uses and to prevent any use of the Property which would significantly impair or interfere with the conservation values of the Property. Except for recreational development as allowed hereunder, the Property shall be reserved in its natural state and managed to promote healthy natural ecosystems as fully as is reasonable within the considerations of generally accepted ecological, silvicultural, and public safety standards.

2. **RIGHTS OF GRANTEE.** To accomplish the purposes of this easement, the following rights are conveyed to Grantee by this easement:

(A) To preserve, protect, and enhance the natural, scenic, open space and public recreational features of the Property.

(B) To enter upon the Property at reasonable times in order to monitor Grantor's compliance with and otherwise enforce the terms of this easement.

(C) To enjoin any activity on or use of the Property that is inconsistent with the purpose of this easement and to require the restoration of such areas or features of the Property that may be damaged by any inconsistent activity or use.

3. **GRANTOR'S USE.** Grantor intends that this conservation easement will grant the use of the Property to natural, scenic, public recreational, and open space uses including the right to create public access and parking areas and to provide for picnicking, walking, hiking, jogging, biking, horseback riding, nature observation, and other recreational activities of a compatible nature. Grantor may take any reasonable action in respect to the Property as deemed necessary for public safety. Any activities on or use of the Property inconsistent with the purpose of this easement are prohibited. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, **the following activities and uses are expressly prohibited:**

(A) Commercial or industrial use;

(B) The exploration for or extraction of minerals, hydrocarbons, oils or materials on or below the surface of the Property;

(C) The construction of any building, structure, signs, roads, or improvements on the Property except those related to public access and recreational uses of the Property, and those related to or deemed necessary for public safety.

(D) The cutting of live trees other than in accordance with a plan approved by Grantee that is designed to protect the natural, scenic, open space, and recreational values of the Property, or as necessary to

control or prevent imminent hazard, disease, fire, or to restore natural habitat areas or to promote native vegetation;

(E) Any use or activity which causes or presents a substantial risk of ground and soil erosion, except in emergencies, or for public safety reasons, or as reasonably necessary on a short-term basis for maintenance to or installation of improvements on the Property;

(F) The use of offroad motorized vehicles except in emergencies, or for public safety reasons, or as reasonably necessary on a short-term basis for maintenance to or installation of improvements on the Property.

4. **RESERVED RIGHTS.** Grantor reserves to itself, its heirs, successors, or assigns, all rights as owners of the Property including the right to engage in all uses of the Property that are not expressly prohibited herein and are not inconsistent with the purpose of this Conservation Easement, plus the right to grant easements to neighboring property owners for access to their properties for forest management purposes.

5. **COSTS AND LIABILITIES.** Grantor retains all responsibilities and shall bear all costs and liabilities of any kind relating to the ownership, operation, upkeep and maintenance of the Property and do hereby indemnify and hold Grantee harmless therefrom.

6. **TAXES.** Grantor agrees to pay any and all real property taxes and assessments levied by any governmental authority on the Property.

7. **ENFORCEMENT COSTS.** Grantee agrees to pay all costs associated with its obligations to honor and defend the intentions of Grantor stated herein and to preserve and protect in perpetuity the natural, scenic, open space and recreational values of the Property including any costs incurred in monitoring the compliance with the terms of this Conservation Easement. However, Grantor intends that any costs incurred by Grantee in enforcing, judicially or otherwise, the terms and restrictions of this Conservation Easement against Grantor, its heirs, successors, personal representatives or assigns, including without limitation, costs of suit, attorney's fees, and any costs of restoration necessitated by violation of the terms of this Conservation Easement by Grantor, its successors, personal representatives, or assigns, shall be borne by Grantor, its heirs, successors, personal representatives, or assigns.

8. **GRANTEE'S DISCRETION.** Grantor intends that the enforcement of the terms and provisions of the Conservation Easement shall be at the discretion of the Grantee and any forbearance by Grantee to exercise its rights hereunder in the event of any breach hereof by Grantor, its heirs, successors, personal representatives, or assigns, shall not be deemed or construed to be a waiver of Grantee's rights hereunder in the event of any subsequent breach.

9. **ACTS BEYOND GRANTOR'S CONTROL.** Nothing contained in this easement shall be construed to entitle Grantee to bring any action against Grantor for any injury to or change in the Property resulting from causes beyond Grantor's control, including, without limitation, fire, flood, storm, and earth movement, and from any prudent action taken by Grantor under emergency conditions to prevent or mitigate significant injury to the Property resulting from such causes.

10. **CONDEMNATION.** If this Easement is taken in whole or in part by exercise of the power of eminent domain, Grantee shall be entitled to compensation in accordance with applicable law.

11. **ASSIGNMENT.** Grantee agrees that it will hold this Conservation Easement exclusively for conservation purposes and it will not assign its rights and obligations under this Conservation Easement except to another organization qualified to hold such interests under applicable state and federal laws and committed to holding this Conservation Easement exclusively for conservation purposes. In the event the Grantee is dissolved or ceases to operate, the easement shall be granted to another non-profit organization which qualifies to hold such conservation easements.

12. **SEVERABILITY.** If any provision of this Conservation Easement or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is found to be invalid, the remainder of the provisions of this Conservation Easement and the application of this instrument to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is found to be invalid shall not be affected thereby.

13. **LIBERAL CONSTRUCTION.** Any rule of construction to the contrary notwithstanding, this easement shall be liberally construed in favor of the grant to effect the purpose of this easement. If any provision in this instrument is found to be ambiguous, then an interpretation consistent with the purpose of this easement that would render the provision valid shall be favored over any interpretation that would render it invalid.

14. **RECORDATION AND SUBSEQUENT TRANSFER.** This instrument shall be recorded in the Official Records of Jackson County, Oregon, at the time that the Grantor obtains legal title to the Property. The Grantor agrees that the terms, conditions, restrictions, and purposes of this grant will be inserted by them in any subsequent deed or legal instrument by which Grantor divests itself of any interest in the Property.

15. **SUCCESSORS.** The covenants, terms, conditions, and restrictions of this easement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective personal representatives, heirs, successors, and assigns, and shall continue as a servitude running in perpetuity with the Property.

92-18115

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD unto Grantee, its successors and assigns, forever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor and Grantee have set their hands on the day and year first above written.

GRANTOR:

CITY OF ASHLAND, a municipal corporation

Catharine M. Golder

By:
Title:

GRANTEE:

SOUTHERN OREGON LAND CONSERVANCY, INC., an Oregon nonprofit corporation

Mike Urtoff

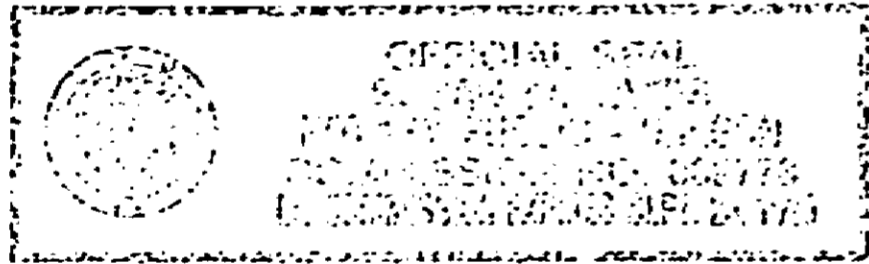
By: MIKE URTOFF
President

STATE OF OREGON)
County of Jackson) ss.

February 28, 1992

Personally appeared *Catharine M. Golder*, the *Mayor* of the City of Ashland, and acknowledged the foregoing to be the act of the municipality by resolution of its City Council, and that *she* executed said document on behalf of said municipality. Before me:

Alison M. Yates
Notary Public for Oregon
My Commission Expires: *9/28/95*



92-18115

STATE OF OREGON
County of Jackson

)
) ss.
)

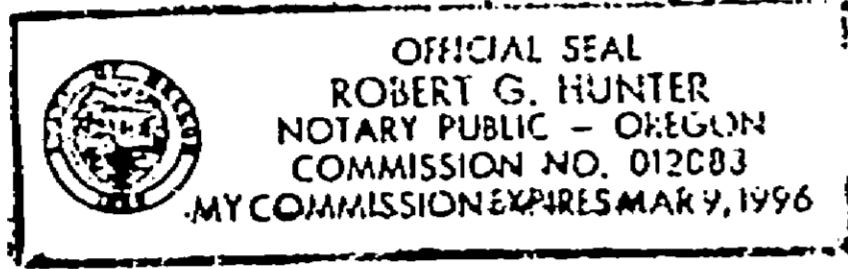
May 6, 1992

Personally appeared **MIKE UHTOFF**, the President of **SOUTHERN OREGON LAND CONSERVANCY, INC.**, an Oregon nonprofit corporation, and acknowledged the foregoing to be the act of the corporation by resolution of its board of directors, and that he executed said document on behalf of said corporation. Before me:

Robert G. Hunter

Notary Public for Oregon
My Commission Expires:

3-9-96



-6- DEED OF CONSERVATION EASEMENT

JACKSON COUNTY TITLE DIVISION has recorded this instrument by request as an accommodation only, and has not conducted a full regularity and sufficiency or as to its effect upon the title to any real property that may be described therein.

92-18115

EXHIBIT A

Parcel Number 1 of that land partition recorded as partition plat number P-51-1992, INDEX VOLUME 3 PAGE 51, of the Records of Partition Plats in Jackson County, Oregon.

Jackson County, Oregon
Recorded
OFFICIAL RECORDS

11:41 JUN 22 1992 A.M.

KATHLEEN S. BECKETT
CLERK and RECORDER

By Cheryl Auger Deputy

7-

ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

340 S PIONEER STREET • ASHLAND, OREGON 97520

COMMISSIONERS:

Rick Landt
Jim Bachman
Justin Adams
Jim Lewis
Stefani Seffinger



Leslie Eldridge
Interim Director
541.488.5340
AshlandParksandRec.org
parksinfo@ashland.or.us

STAFF MEMORANDUM

TO: Ashland Parks and Recreation Commissioners
FROM: Interim Director Eldridge
DATE: October 11, 2023
SUBJECT: Salmon Safe System-Wide Certification for APRC (Information)

Situation

APRC has the opportunity to achieve system-wide Salmon Safe Certification through a Pacific Northwest region peer-reviewed certification program.

Background

In the Spring of 2023, APRC partnered with Southern Oregon University (SOU) to evaluate options for enhanced environmental stewardship on the East Main Park project. Lulu Brazeau, a recent SOU graduate from the Environmental Science, Policy and Sustainability Department was hired by SOU's Institute for Applied Sustainability to work as a paid Intern for Terrain Landscape Architecture. Terrain is the firm contracted by APRC for the design of East Main Park.

Ms. Brazeau researched and evaluated the feasibility of several 3rd party environmental certifications that might be appropriate for the East Main Park project. Her research included:

- Envision
- SITES by LEED
- Core Green Building Certification (International Living Future Institute)
- Bee City USA
- Firewise

Assessment

Through consultation with Terrain and APRC, it was determined that the Salmon Safe Certification was appropriate to our region, scientifically rigorous and achievable by APRC. Subsequent meetings with Salmon Safe staff and review of certification requirements reinforced these findings.

ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

340 S PIONEER STREET • ASHLAND, OREGON 97520

COMMISSIONERS:

Rick Landt
Jim Lewis
Jim Bachman
Justin Adams
Stefani Seffinger



Leslie Eldridge, Interim Director
541.488.5340
AshlandParksandRec.org
parksinfo@ashland.or.us

STAFF MEMORANDUM

TO: Ashland Parks and Recreation Commissioners

FROM: Deputy Director Dials

DATE: October 5, 2023

SUBJECT: Municipal Code Amendment to Allow Alcohol Use in Parks for Specific Circumstances.
(Action) (GOAL #9 Opportunities for Community Building through Programming and Events)

Situation & Background

In 2019, Commissioners asked staff to research a plan for how to manage alcohol use within parks. In January of 2020, potential ordinance language and a draft of guidelines for alcohol within parks was presented to the Commissioners. The proposed language was not approved at that time. Shortly thereafter, the COVID-19 pandemic occurred, and social events were de-prioritized in the name of public safety.

In early 2023, during budget preparations and goal setting, the Commissioners approved Biennium Goal #6: "Seek out and support opportunities for community building through programs and events in our parks, open spaces and trail networks that celebrate art, music, sports and nature".

Finally, at the APRC Study Session on August 3, 2023, the Commissioners continued discussion on this issue and provided feedback to staff. Commissioners requested that staff bring proposed language and policies that support focused and limited use of alcohol in parks for permitted events.

Assessment

Allowing the focused and limited sale/service of alcohol within parks in conjunction with an APRC Special Event permit, an OLCC permit and an APRC Alcohol Use in Parks Permit has several benefits. First, it can potentially support Goal #6 by encouraging event organizers to choose Ashland parks for their events. Second, it can enable revenue generation that makes holding these events economically feasible to organizers. Finally, APRC has received feedback from small business owners, the public and event organizers that alcohol service in parks is desired.

APRC staff has worked to develop an initial process to support focused and limited sale/service of alcohol in parks with the requirement of the following materials:

1. Special Events Permit (Already in use)
2. OLCC permit (State permit for alcohol service)
3. Alcohol Use in Parks Supplementary Application
4. APRC Rules for Alcohol Service in Parks

Staff have worked to provide legal and policy structure to support limited and focused use of alcohol in parks. The current structure provides ONLY for permitted events that physically separate alcohol service/sale to individuals that are 21+ years of age (i.e., a Beer/Wine Garden) OR are holding an event in a space in the park where entrance/exit can be controlled and only 21+ adults are present (ex. The Ashland Japanese Garden).

Events such as weddings or parties of mixed ages are NOT supported at this time by the proposed structure presented today. Per OLCC, licensed service is not a requirement for weddings, which would require more staff time to coordinate and increased management complexity. However, staff have crafted broad Ordinance language to allow for change in APRC rules and policies into the future.

Additional points:

1. The Special Event Permit is already a requirement for parks events. A supplementary Alcohol Use in Parks Application, along with an OLCC permit, would be added as a requirement if service of alcohol is requested.
2. General Liability insurance of 2 million is always required for events and liquor liability would be an added requirement for the insurance.
3. Security requirements will be handled on a case-by-case basis, and at the discretion of the APRC Director or designee.
4. There is a current non-refundable "Alcohol Fee" of \$150 in the Miscellaneous Fees and Charges document approved by City Council. This fee was established when APRC used to manage Pioneer Hall and the Community Center for weddings and other events. APRC proposes to use this existing fee for the first phase of this new policy until the Miscellaneous fees and Charges get reviewed again May/ June of 2024.

Staff have worked through proper protocol to ensure that we can take on this ordinance and guidelines as written. The next step after approval by the Parks Commission is to take the ordinance to the City Council for a first and second reading in November.

Recommendation

Staff are recommending approval of the ordinance amending section 10.68 of the Ashland Municipal Code titled Intoxicating Liquor Prohibited and the associated rules and guidelines for alcohol use.

Potential Motion

I move to approve and recommend to City Council the amendment as presented to ordinance #3227 that modifies section 10.68 of the Ashland Municipal Code titled Intoxicating Liquor Prohibited.

I move to approve the APRC rules and guidelines for alcohol use in parks as presented.

Attachments

DRAFT ordinance template for City Council

DRAFT of APRC Rules and Guidelines

ORDINANCE NO. 3227

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 10.68 OF THE ASHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE: INTOXICATING LIQUOR PROHIBITED

Annotated to show deletions and additions to the Ashland Municipal Code sections being modified. Deletions are ~~bold lined through~~, and additions are **bold underlined**.

THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF ASHLAND DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

10.68.090 ~~Intoxicating Liquor Prohibited~~ Alcohol Use in Parks

It is unlawful for any person to take any intoxicating liquor or beverage into any portion of the public parks of the City, except **that as authorized by the Ashland Parks and Recreation Director or designee, consistent with established parks rules and regulations.**

~~A. Intoxicating liquor or beverages may be transported through the Lithia Park extension area which is located between North Main Street and Winburn Way and between Ashland Creek to the west and the Plaza to the east.~~

~~B. This section and the prohibitions on the possession and use of intoxicating liquor shall not apply to that portion of the park that is leased to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival Association.~~

~~C. This section and the prohibitions on the provision and use of intoxicating liquor shall not apply to the park property commonly known as Calle Guanajuato only when such is served with prepared meals and with the express approval of the Ashland Park and Recreation Commission and the Oregon Liquor Control Commission.~~

~~D. This section and the prohibitions on the provision and use of intoxicating liquor shall not apply to the park property commonly known as Oak Knoll Golf Course only when such is served as part of the City Golf Course operation or approved concession with the approval of the Ashland Park and Recreation Commission and the Oregon Liquor Control Commission.~~

~~E. Any person who violates any provision of this Chapter is subject to Section 1.08.0230 of the Ashland Municipal Code. Any violation of this section is a Class II violation. (Ord. 3137, amended, 2017; Ord. 3026, amended, 08/03/2010)~~ **Any violation of this section is a Class II violation subject to the penalties and procedures in AMC 1.08.030.**

PASSED by the City Council this _____ day of _____, 2023.

ATTEST:

Dana Smith, Clerk of the Council Pro Tem

SIGNED and APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2023.

Tonya Graham, Mayor

Reviewed as to form:

Douglas M. McGeary, Acting City Attorney

ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

340 S PIONEER STREET • ASHLAND, OREGON 97520

COMMISSIONERS:

Rick Landt
Leslie Eldridge
Jim Lewis
Jim Bachman
Justin Adams



Michael A. Black, AICP
Director

541.488.5340
AshlandParksandRec.org
parksinfo@ashland.or.us

FINAL DRAFT

APRC Rules for Alcohol Use in Parks

1. The Sale and consumption of malt beverages, wine, and hard cider by the drink for consumption is allowed in a controlled setting, with licensed service (OLCC Permit) within the parks system by a special permit.
2. Only events where an OLCC permit (Licensed Service) is required will be allowed.
 - a. **Licensed Service** is defined as:
 - (1) An event where malt beverages, wine or hard cider will be sold
 - (2) An event where alcohol is available (but not being sold), and the event host is charging or accepting donations of goods for admission, or where payment is required to attend the event.
3. If the applicant fails to obtain an OLCC permit, this permit will be null and void.
4. A copy of the OLCC permit must be presented to APRC staff prior to the permit being issued.
 - a. *All OLCC forms can be found here:*
https://www.oregon.gov/olcc/lic/Pages/license_form_publications.aspx
5. Applicants must be at least 25 years of age.
6. Special Event and (2) alcohol use applications and a 3) detailed site plan is due at least 60 days prior to the event; no exceptions. We strongly encourage event organizers to begin planning with APRC at least 180 days prior to the event to ensure all requirements are met.
7. All sales and consumption must be within an enclosure as defined by the OLCC and detailed on the APRC Alcohol Use Application.
8. General Liability Insurance is required to consume alcohol on City of Ashland property. If alcohol is being served at an event Liquor Liability Insurance is required as well. Both certificates of insurance (COI) are required in the amount of \$2,000,000 per occurrence and must name City of Ashland as additionally insured.
9. Permit is only valid for the identified purpose and date.
10. Event organizers are required to provide a zero-waste event. All glass containers must be kept within control of the OLCC licensed server.
11. Permit will not be issued for event hours prior to 11am or later than 9pm in conjunction with the established noise ordinance AMC 9.08.170.
12. Permits are issued on a first-come, first-served basis and are dependent on availability of park areas and conflicts with other uses.
13. The Ashland Parks and Recreation Director or designee shall retain full discretion to determine security requirements.
14. Payment of established fees and charges are required, as provided in the Miscellaneous Fees and Charges Document adopted by the City Council.

15. Fees will be refunded minus administrative costs incurred if the event is not approved.

16. The event is confirmed when all the following have been received and approved by APRC staff within the established timelines and requirements. Those include:

- The APRC Special Event Permit
- The APRC Alcohol Use Application
- General Liability Insurance and Liquor Liability Insurance certificates that name the City of Ashland as additional insureds.
- Proof of OLCC Permit approval.
- Permit fee payments in full have been received by APRC.

ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

340 S PIONEER STREET • ASHLAND, OREGON 97520

COMMISSIONERS:

Rick Landt
Jim Bachman
Justin Adams
Jim Lewis
Stefani Seffinger



Leslie Eldridge
Interim Director
541.488.5340
AshlandParksandRec.org
parksinfo@ashland.or.us

STAFF MEMORANDUM

TO: Ashland Parks and Recreation Commissioners

FROM: Leslie Eldridge, Interim Director

DATE: October 5, 2023

SUBJECT: Update to the Parks, Trails, and Open Space Map (Action)
(Improve watershed trail network Goal #6)

Situation

The Park, Trails, and Open Space Map is a part of the City of Ashland's Comprehensive Plan. The map is a guide for APRC land acquisition and designates properties for different usage including neighborhood parks, potential sports fields, open spaces, trail connectivity, and riparian areas.

Since May of 2022 the Parks, Trails, and Open Space Map Update Subcommittee has been working on assessing the current map. The subcommittee completed its work and is recommending the changes that are shown on the attached Parks and Open Space Map Update Draft #9.

Background

The last official update of the Map was done in 2002 with a "Light Update" done by APRC in 2012. The current situation with Ashland's Parkland is very different than in 1991 when the Comprehensive Plan was first developed and approved by City Council when Ashland had less parkland per capita than Roseburg, Medford, and Klamath Falls. Now, after 30-plus years of effort, Ashland's per capita park land ranks it among the State's leaders.

One of the goals of the City's Comprehensive Plan is to have a neighborhood park located within a 1/4 mile of every resident living inside the current city limits. Except for the Mistletoe (Croman) area Commissioners have deemed that sufficient property has been obtained to meet this goal.

Subcommittee Recommendations

The Subcommittee is recommending roughly 200 acres of property that had been formerly identified for purchase be removed from the Map.

- (A)* Billings Property southern portion – only northern portion of property has potential for sports fields

- (B & C) Helman Street Property – within quarter mile of Ashland Creek Park
- (D) Helman to Oak partial corridor – no longer available as corridor
- (E) Cottle Phillips tiny portion to the West - developed
- (F) Upper Elkader/Roca Cannon - developed
- (G) Willow Wind school site - Ashland School District owned
- (H, I,) Property on lower Clay Street – developed
- (J) YMCA- divested
- (K) Middle Clay- Park within a quarter mile
- (L) Chitwood Property on Upper Clay Street – developed
- (M) Crowson Road Extension – no longer needed no plans to expand OKGC

*Letters are the property highlighted in purple on the map

The majority of properties left on the map for future purchase provide protection of significant natural areas like streams and riparian areas and/or are land and easements that provide trail connectivity. The connectivity goal is to secure land, through outright purchase, donation, grants, or easements, on which to develop a trail system that would provide connecting links to neighborhoods and additional trails throughout the City and surrounding area for non-motorized, recreational use. Efforts to accomplish this goal will be advanced through collaboration with other organizations, such as the Ashland Woodland and Trails Association, Rogue Valley Mountain Bike Association and Southern Oregon Land Conservancy.

Properties Designated Purchase or Easements and Projected Use

- (#1) Billings Property. North part of property for possible sports fields and protection for riparian zone
- (#2) Wright's Creek Parcel. Trail corridor and protection for riparian zone.
- (#3) Grizzly Peak. Conservation easements on the south slopes of Grizzly visible from Ashland would not only protect iconic view visible from most of Ashland, but would also reduce development pressure on rare and sensitive flora and on large mammals.
- (#4 & #5) Ashland Creek Corridor – Year-round stream, significant wildlife habitat and potential pedestrian/bicycle connection
- (#6) Nevada St to North Mountain Ave. (Bear Creek Corridor) Riparian area.
- (#7) Property across from Riverwalk. Riparian area.
- (#8) Willows area trail connection (RR property) Acquire riparian area.
- (#9) Bear Creek riparian/floodplain corridor from east of North Mountain Park. Significant wildlife habitat, natural area that is potentially a part of the Greenway extension.
- (#10) Walker Ave. East Main Street. Possible sports fields
- (#11) Talent Irrigation Ditch Segment
- (#12 & #13) West side watershed (Hitt Road) Trail connectivity.
- (#14) 440 Granite Street. Surrounded on three sides by Lithia Park. Only private property on the east side of Granite above Nutley not part Lithia Park. Lithia Park Master Plan recommends purchase of property.
- (#15) Lincoln School. Critical to goal of neighborhood park within ¼ mile of all residents. Many low-income residents in the area.
- (#16 & #17) Upper Liberty St/Ivy Ln Forest/Urban Interface. Connects southern residential neighborhoods with trail network.
- (#18) Tolman Creek/Mistletoe Road Area.

The subcommittee recommends adding the property numbers 12,13,14,16 and 17 to the map which is approximately 98 acers.

Please note that the summary narrative printed on Draft #9 of the map is not the current version. The current map summary narrative is included in the packet and has been updated with direction from Commissioners as of October 5, 2023.

Recommendation

The Parks, Trails and Open Space Map Update Subcommittee recommends the amended map and summary language.

Next Steps

If the Parks, Trails and Open Space Map Update is approved by the Commission this will go to the Planning Commission and then to the City Council for adoption.

Possible Motion

I move to approve the Parks, Trails and Open Space Map Update and summary language as presented by staff.

Attachments

Parks, Trails, and Open Space Map Update Draft #9
Map Summary Language

A goal of the Ashland Parks & Recreation Commission (APRC). Board of Commissioners' (the "*Commissioners*") is to update the Parks, Trails & Open Space Plan (the "*Plan*") every ten years. Although a "Light Update" was done by APRC in 2012, it was not reviewed and approved by City Council. The last official update of the Plan was done in 2002.

In preparation for the 2002 update, APRC held a series of community meetings to gather input from citizens on updating the 1991 plan. Following the meetings, Commissioners developed an updated Plan map that included changing the name of the program to the "Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan". For the 2023 update, a Parks, Trails and Open Space Subcommittee (the "Subcommittee") was formed by the Commissioners to review the Plan and make recommendations. The Subcommittee has prepared the 2023 update and that body has recommended the 2023 Plan for approval by the Commissioners and City Council. There have been seven APRC meetings where public input was solicited. This Plan was approved by Commissioners XXXX and by City Council XXXX .

The current situation with Ashland's park land is very different than in 1991 when the Comprehensive Plan was first developed and approved by City Council. In 1991, Ashland had less park land per capita than Roseburg, Medford and Klamath Falls. Now, after 30-plus years of effort, Ashland's per capita park land ranks it among the State's leaders. It has been determined that procurement of land for developed parks is no longer a high priority. Additionally, because City legislation accompanying the Plan specifically mandated that no land would be obtained by condemnation, originally more property than needed was on the Plan to ensure sufficient land could be acquired from willing sellers. For the reasons stated and after careful review by the Subcommittee and approval by APRC Commissioners, roughly 200 acres of property projected for purchase from the 2005 Plan map has been removed from this updated 2023 Plan.

One of the goals of the City's Comprehensive Plan is to have a neighborhood park located within a 1/4 mile of every resident living inside the current city limits. With the exceptions of the Mistletoe (Croman) neighborhood, fully developed sections of the City where no open lands exist, and areas in the urban-forest interface characterized by large lots where Commissioners have deemed that the benefits are not great enough to justify the costs, sufficient property has been obtained to meet this goal. If the City's boundaries are expanded, additional property may need to be identified, for example, a part of the Billings Ranch and acquired to meet the neighborhood goal.

The majority of properties left on the Plan for future purchase provide protection of significant natural areas like streams and riparian areas and/or are land and easements that provide trail connectivity. The connectivity goal is to secure land, through outright purchase, donation, grants, or easements, on which to develop a trail system that would provide connecting links to neighborhoods and additional trails throughout the City and surrounding area for non-motorized, recreational use. Efforts to accomplish this goal will be advanced through collaboration with other organizations, such as the Ashland Woodland and Trails Association, Rogue Valley Mountain Bike Association and Southern Oregon Land Conservancy.

Properties Designated Purchase or Easements and Projected Use








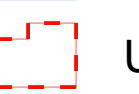


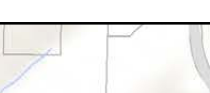
- (#1) **Billings Property.** North part of property for possible sports fields and riparian zone protection
- (#2) **Wright's Creek Parcel.** Trail corridor and protection for riparian zone.
- (#3) **Grizzly Peak.** Conservation easements on the south slopes of Grizzly visible from Ashland would not only protect iconic view visible from most of Ashland, but would also reduce development pressure on rare and sensitive flora and on large mammals.
- (#4 & #5) **Ashland Creek Corridor** – Year-round stream, significant wildlife habitat and potential pedestrian/bicycle connection
- (#6) **Nevada St to North Mountain Ave. (Bear Creek Corridor) Riparian area.**
- (#7) **Property across from Riverwalk.** Riparian area.
- (#8) **Willows area trail connection (RR property) Acquire** riparian area
- (#9) **Bear Creek riparian/floodplain corridor from east of North Mountain Park.** Significant wildlife habitat, natural area that is potentially a part of the Greenway extension.
- (#10) **Walker Ave. East Main Street.** Possible sports fields
- (#11) **Talent Irrigation Ditch Segment**
- (#12 & #13) **West side watershed (Hitt Road) Trail connectivity.**
- (#14) **440 Granite Street.** Surrounded on three sides by Lithia Park. Only private property on east side of Granite above Nutley not part Lithia Park. Lithia Park Master Plan recommends purchase of property.
- (#15) **Lincoln School.** Critical to goal of neighborhood park within ¼ mile of all residents. Many low-income residents in the area.
- (#16 & #17) **Upper Liberty St/Ivy Ln Forest/Urban Interface.** Connects southern residential neighborhoods with trail network.
- (#18) **Tolman Creek/Mistletoe Road Area.**

Properties removed from the map

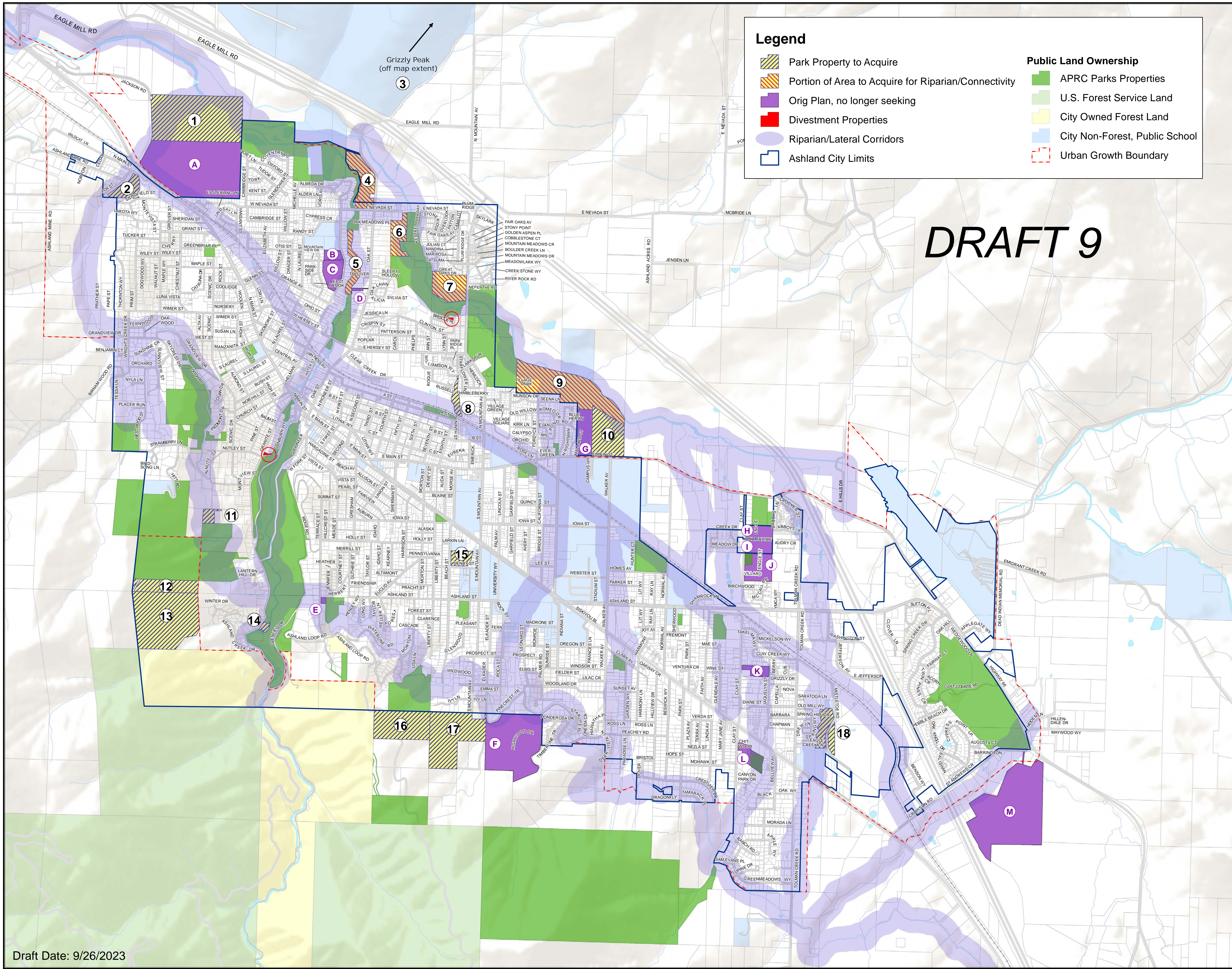
- (A) **Billings Property southern portion** – only northern portion of property has potential for sports fields
- (B & C) **Helman Street Property** – within quarter mile of Ashland Creek Park
- (D) **Helman to Oak partial corridor** – No longer available as corridor
- (E) **Cottle Phillips tiny portion to the West** - developed
- (F) **Upper Elkader/Roca Cannon** - developed

- (G) Willow Wind school site - Ashland School District owned
- (H, I,) Property on lower Clay Street – developed
- (J) YMCA- divested
- (K) Middle Clay- Park within a quarter mile
- (L) Chitwood Property on Upper Clay Street - developed
- (M) Crowson Road Extension – no longer needed no plans to expand OKGC

Legend

	Park Property to Acquire		APRC Parks Properties
	Portion of Area to Acquire for Riparian/Connectivity		U.S. Forest Service Land
	Orig Plan, no longer seeking		City Owned Forest Land
	Divestment Properties		City Non-Forest, Public School
	Riparian/Lateral Corridors		Urban Growth Boundary
	Ashland City Limits		

DRAFT 9



A goal of the Ashland Parks & Recreation Commission (APRC), Board of Commissioners (the "Commissioners") is to update the Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan (the "Plan") every ten years. Although a "Light Update" was done by APRC in 2012, it was not reviewed and approved by City Council. The last official update of the Plan was done in 2002.

In preparation for the 2002 update, APRC held a series of community meetings to gather input from citizens on updating the 1991 plan. Following the meetings, Commissioners developed an updated Plan map that included changing the name of the program to the "Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan". For the 2023 update, a Parks, Trails and Open Space Subcommittee (the "Subcommittee") was formed by the Commissioners to review the Plan and make recommendations. The Subcommittee has prepared the 2023 update and that body has recommended the 2023 Plan for approval by the Commissioners and City Council. There have been seven APRC meetings where public input was solicited. This Plan was approved by Commissioners XXXX and by City Council XXXX.

The current situation with Ashland's park land is very different than in 1991 when the Comprehensive Plan was first developed and approved by City Council. In 1991, Ashland had less park land per capita than Roseburg, Medford and Klamath Falls. Now, after 30-plus years of effort, Ashland's per capita park land ranks in among the State's leaders. It has been determined that procurement of land for developed parks is no longer a high priority. Additionally, because City legislation accompanying the Plan specifically mandated that no land would be obtained by condemnation, originally more property than needed was on the Plan to ensure sufficient land could be acquired from willing sellers. For the reasons stated and after careful review by the Subcommittee and approval by APRC Commissioners, XXX acres of property projected for purchase from the 2005 Plan map has been removed from this updated 2023 Plan.

One of the goals of the City's Comprehensive Plan is to have a neighborhood park located within a 1/4 mile of every resident living inside the current city limits. With the exceptions of the Mistletoe (Croman) neighborhood, fully developed sections of the City where no open lands exist, and areas in the urban-forest interface characterized by large lots where Commissioners have deemed that the benefits are not great enough to justify the costs, sufficient property has been obtained to meet this goal. If the City's boundaries are expanded, additional property may need to be identified for example, a part of the Billings Ranch and acquired to meet the neighborhood goal.

The majority of properties left on the Plan for future purchase provide protection of significant natural areas like streams and riparian areas and/or are land and easements that provide trail connectivity. The connectivity goal is to secure land, through outright purchase, donation, grants, or easements, on which to develop a trail system that would provide connecting links to neighborhoods and additional trails throughout the City and surrounding area for non-motorized, recreational use. Efforts to accomplish this goal will be advanced through collaboration with other organizations, such as the Ashland Woodland and Trails Association, Rogue Valley Mountain Bike Association and Southern Oregon Land Conservancy.

Properties Designated Purchase or Easements and Projected Use

- (#1) Billings Property. North part of property for possible sports fields.
- (#2) W. Figge's Creek Corridor. Trail corridor and protection for riparian zone.
- (#3) Grizzly Peak. Conservation easements on the south slopes of Grizzly visible from Ashland would not only protect iconic view visible from most of Ashland, but would also reduce development pressure on rare and sensitive flora and on large mammals
- (#4 & #5) Ashland Creek Corridor – Year-round stream, significant wildlife habitat and potential pedestrian/bicycle connection
- (#6) Nevada St to North Mountain Ave. (Bear Creek Corridor) Riparian area.
- (#7) Property across from Riverwalk. Riparian area.
- (#8) Willows area trail connection (RR property) Riparian area.
- (#9) Bear Creek riparian/floodplain corridor from NMP to I5 crossing. Significant wildlife habitat, natural area that is potentially a part of the Greenway extension.
- (#10) Walker Site East Main Street. Possible sports fields
- (#11) Talent Irrigation Ditch Segments
- (#12) Johanson Property
- (#13) Neuman Property
- (#14) 440 Granite Street. Surrounded on three sides by Lithia Park. Only private property on east side of Granite above Nutley not part Lithia Park. Lithia Park Master Plan recommends purchase of property.
- (#15) Lincoln School. Critical to goal of neighborhood park within 1/4 mile of all residents. Many low-income residents in the area.
- (#16 & #17) Upper Liberty St/Vy Ln Forest/Urban Interface. Connects southern residential neighborhoods with trail network
- (#18) Tolman Creek/Mistletoe Road Area

Properties removed from the plan

- (A) Billings Property southern portion
- (B & C) Helman Street Property
- (D) Helman to Oak partial corridor
- (E) Cattle Phillips tiny portion to the West
- (F) Upper Elkader/Roca Cannon
- (G) Willow Wild school site
- (H, I, J) Property on lower Clay Street
- (K) YMCA
- (L) Chitwood Property on Upper Clay Street
- (M) Crowson Road Extension