

Park and Recreation Growth Assessment Community Roundtable Discussion About the Future of Parks

January 27, 2019

Introduction

The City of Camas is taking a proactive look at park, trail and recreation funding for the future of our community. This discussion includes an exciting opportunity to create sustainable funding for our system. The committee that has been working on this topic since late 2017, invited a broad group of community stakeholders to an in-depth roundtable discussion to help the city better understand community priorities.

This document provides an overview of the questions raised during the meeting and important clarifications to consider as the committee refines the messages about the challenge and the recommended solution. Attached are the presentation and a tally of responses to the exercise.

Questions and Requested Clarifications

- Work on the short and clear description of the problem
 - How much more is needed to bring maintenance of the system to adequate?
 - What are the new projects that would be funded?
 - What is most impressive or unique? "Make it wow us"

- Explain what qualifies as a trail in the inventory
 - Formal, city-maintained trails
 - County trails
 - Soft-surface or informal trails

- How much of the general fund is spent on parks?
 - What are the other priorities funded over parks?

- Is there a way to exempt low-income households from any new tax?
- How does the growth of Camas impact the costs and revenue assumptions?
- What could Camas get if the existing parks budget of \$1.2million was freed up by a new district?
 - What other priorities could be funded?

- Is there a timeline for the use of impact fees charged to new development
- Who is responsible for prioritizing projects?

- What are the options for a Metropolitan Park District
 - o Board make up, structure
 - o Boundary
 - o How is the rate set?
- Can we implement a higher MPD rate now and bank some money?
- Are there cities of a similar size that do a great job? Can we replicate them?
- How is a MPD different than a bond or operating levy?

These questions are similar to those asked by the PRGA committee during their work last year. MIG created a series of technical memos about the City's budget, Metropolitan Park District details and alternative maintenance structures.

Suggestions

- Can the selection and implementation of new projects be guided by data about use or demand?
 - Clearly connect maintenance funding to new projects
 - Start with linking existing trails, then look to expand system
 - Project details will get people more excited
 - Start with taking care of what we have
 - Explain the cost of the possible district rate in terms of an amount for a typical home
 - o Include the context of the other taxes (School District, City, etc.) to make the full picture more clear
 - Make better use of volunteers
 - Create low-maintenance spaces
 - Pay-as-you-go, let voters approve additions to park system
- #### Important Ideas and Projects
- Community Center
 - o Kitchen
 - o Aquatics
 - o Year-round recreation
 - Lacamas Lake Trails (T-1 and T-3)
 - Take care of what we have!
 - o Repairing and reinvesting

Roundtable Project Priority Ratings

Project Title	Description	Capital Cost (to build)	Additional Maintenance Cost (\$ = Low, \$\$ = Medium, \$\$\$ = High)	Check up to five (5) projects that are most important to YOU	Check up to five (5) projects that are most important to <u>THE COMMUNITY</u>
Ash Creek Park	Develop neighborhood park site already owned by the City.	\$1,000,000	\$\$	4	
Community Center Renovation	Upgrade existing community center to extend useful life.	\$500,000	\$	10	10
Crown Park	Improvements to Crown Park resulting from the master plan.	\$5,200,000	\$	25	27
Dog Park	Acquire and develop a dog park site	\$250,000	\$	12	14
Fallen Leaf Park	Improvements to Fallen Leaf Park resulting from the master plan.	\$2,540,000	\$\$	10	13
Future Community/Aquatics Facility	Long-standing desire in the community for an indoor aquatics facility with community center space.	\$25,000,000	\$\$\$	21	19
Heritage Park entrance upgrades	Improve safe access to Heritage Park and expand seasonal parking.	\$1,500,000	\$	3	5
Mill Ditch Trail	Build trail connecting Round Lake to downtown (T-9 on map).	\$1,225,000	\$	11	5
North Shore Trailhead	New trailhead with parking and restroom to access the Curry trail extension.	\$1,000,000	\$	9	6
Ostenson Canyon Park	Develop neighborhood park site already owned by the City.	\$2,500,000	\$\$	2	
Proposed Neighborhood Park (NP-1)	Acquire and Develop a neighborhood park (see map for location)	\$3,375,000	\$\$	1	
Proposed Neighborhood Park (NP-11)	Acquire and Develop a neighborhood park (see map for location)	\$3,375,000	\$\$		

Proposed Neighborhood Park (NP-16) North Shore	Acquire and Develop a neighborhood park (see map for location)	\$3,000,000	\$\$		
Proposed Neighborhood Park (NP-17) North Shore	Acquire and Develop a neighborhood park (see map for location)	\$3,375,000	\$\$		
Proposed Neighborhood Park (NP-18)	Acquire and Develop a neighborhood park (see map for location)	\$3,375,000	\$\$		
Proposed Neighborhood Park (NP-19)	Acquire and Develop a neighborhood park (see map for location)	\$3,375,000	\$\$		
Proposed Sports Complex (SU-13)	Acquire and Develop a park focused on sports fields for competition/league play	\$10,000,000	\$\$\$	5	9
Trail Development (T-1)	Develop portions of north-south connection from the west end of Lacamas Lake to Washougal River Greenway	\$100,000	\$	16	6
Trail Development (T-3) North Shore	Convert existing road to recreational trail	\$1,250,000	\$	26	17
Open Space and Park Acquisition and Development	Opportunity-based open space and park land acquisition beyond identified sites.	\$6,000,000	\$	10	7
Trail and Trail Head Development	Various locations, connecting trails and improving access.	\$3,150,000	\$	7	1
Major Capital Improvements	Reinvesting in existing parks, replacing damaged and out-of-date elements.	\$1,350,000	N/A	11	11
Wildlife League Clean-up and Development	Funding approved, underway	\$2,500,000	\$\$	5	2
Legacy Lands Acquisition	Funding approved, underway	\$8,800,000	\$\$	10	7

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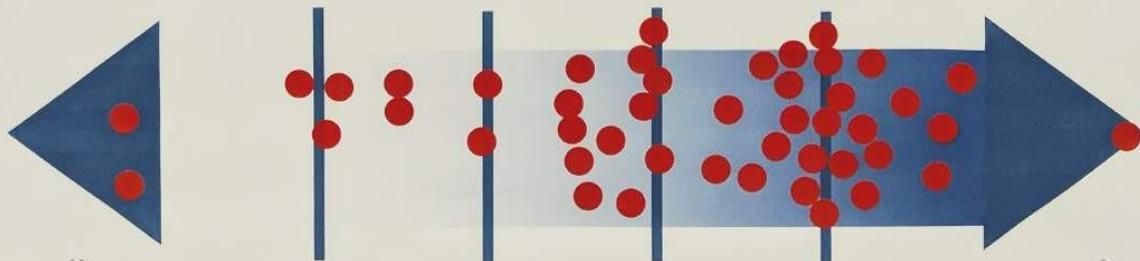
Is a Metropolitan Park District (MPD) a good idea for Camas?
How supportive are YOU of new resources specifically for maintenance and operations of Camas parks, trails and recreation facilities?

Please place a dot in the area of the scale that represents your opinion.

NOT AT ALL
SUPPORTIVE

NEUTRAL

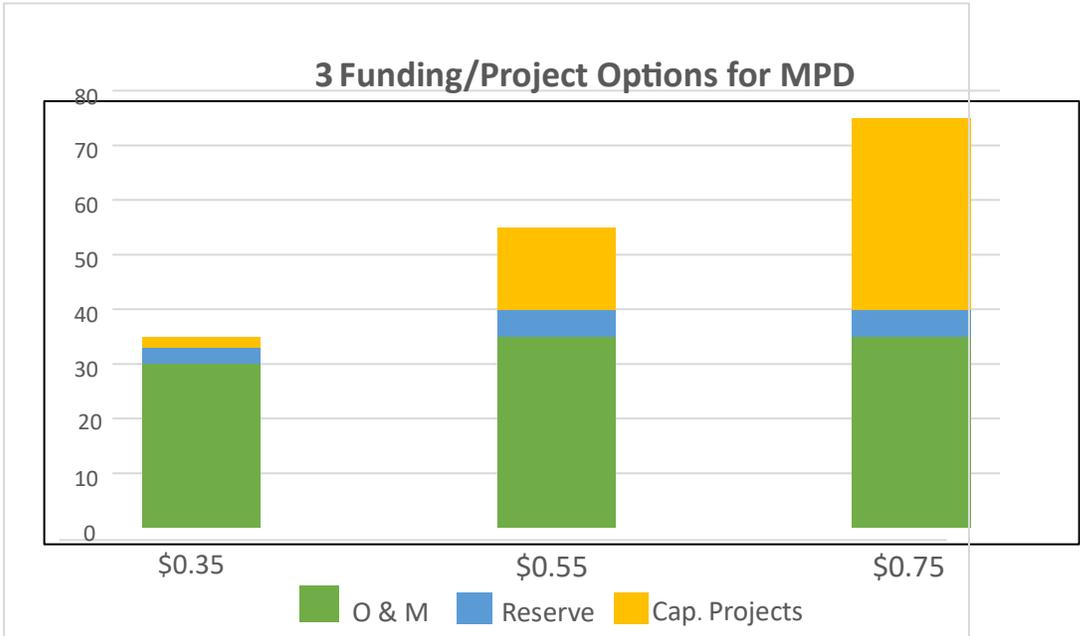
EXTREMELY
SUPPORTIVE



Example Only

Project and Funding Impact for an MPD

The following graph illustrates 3 options for funding the creation of a Metropolitan Parks District. The taxing options and project list is based partly on feedback the committee received at the January 2019 Roundtable event. Operations and Maintenance was the top priority.



Option A
 O&M= \$1,133,030
 Reserve= \$113,301
 Projects= \$75,534

Option B
 O&M= \$1,321,845
 Reserve= \$188,836
 Projects= \$566,505

Option C
 O&M= \$1,321,845
 Reserve= \$188,836
 Projects= 1,321,845

<u>Tax Impact for \$500,000 home</u>		
Option A = \$175/year	Option B = \$275/year	Option C = \$375/year

A Projects	B Projects	C Projects
Trail Connections (2miles)	Park acquisition (15 ac)	Crown Park (ph. II)
New Playground Eq.	Parks development (10 ac)	New trail development (15mi.)
Open Sp. Resource Assess.	Crown Park (ph. 1)	Fallen Leaf Park
	Trail development (5 mi)	Park acquisition incl. N.S (30 ac)
		Heritage Park upgrades
		Park development (30 ac)
		**Community/aquatics ctr

** Partial funding only depending cost and partnerships. Additional bond approval may be required

