

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: *Authorize ten grant agreements and intergovernmental agreements related to the Community Watershed Stewardship Program (CWSP) for \$100,000. (Ordinance)

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Presenter name: N/A

Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

The purpose of this ordinance is to provide funding to community partners to implement small, on-the-ground restoration and education projects. These diverse projects will de-pave impervious surface, restore streamside areas, engage and educate underrepresented community members in conservation of natural areas, encourage exploration of the Columbia Slough, provide important environmental education and hands-on training to marginalized and underrepresented youths, create learning gardens, and conduct research and educate community members of all ages about influences to watershed health.

Specific projects funded for 2019-20 are:

1. Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership's Sitton Schoolyard Stormwater Project (\$11,997): This project will engage students to depave an underutilized area of Sitton School property to improve stormwater management and create beneficial green space.
2. Columbia Slough Watershed Council's Wapato on the Slough (\$8,684): This project will support two Indigenous community members to survey and map presence of Wapato, a culturally significant first food, along the Columbia Slough, to be used to educate the community and inform future restoration.
3. Wisdom of the Elders' Columbia Slough Water Trail Guide and Restoration (\$10,740): This project will be led by Native American environmental workforce to restore a boat launch site along the Columbia Slough and create a water trail guide to encourage exploration.
4. The Blueprint Foundation's Constructing Careers Green Building Mentoring Program at Dharma Rain Zen Center (\$12,000): This project will provide valuable hands-on education and experience about green infrastructure and brownfield restoration to black youth at the Dharma Rain Zen Center.
5. Depave's Centennial School District Depave at Powell Butte Elementary (\$12,000): This project will remove asphalt from Powell Butte Elementary School property to create new active greenspaces that will provide nature play areas, sustainable on-site stormwater management, native plantings, and other infrastructure beneficial to the community.
6. Division Midway Alliance's Cleanup & Youth Engagement Through Environmental Education (\$10,050): This project will engage underrepresented youth from David Douglas High School using the train-the-trainer model to educate other community members about supporting watershed health and lead a cleanup project along SE Division St.
7. Johnson Creek Watershed Council's 22nd Annual Watershed Wide Event (\$7,145): This project will be the continuation of the JCWC's largest event of the year during which hundreds of volunteers remove invasive species and plant more than 5,000 native plants and shrubs along Johnson Creek.
8. Urban Greenspaces Institute's PSU and Siletz Indigenous Garden (\$9,640): This project will engage PSU students to expand the existing Indigenous learning garden at the Siletz tribal office by depaving and installing native plants in underutilized areas of the outer courtyard.

9. Tryon Creek Watershed Council's "Watershed 101" Mobile Training Program (\$9,000): This project will provide educational opportunities to the community by facilitating workshops that include lecture-style learning in tandem with hands-on restoration opportunities.
10. Leach Garden Friends' Community Restoration Project (\$7,000): This project will engage community members and David Douglas School District students to plan and implement restoration of rare riparian habitat at Leach Botanical Garden.

Additional community projects will be awarded Native Plant Gift Certificates, not exceeding \$500 each, for the purchase of native plants for stormwater and natural area restoration projects (\$1,744).

Financial and budgetary impacts:

Discuss the impacts of the legislation relating to all of the following if relevant:

- Long-term financial impacts for the City: Long term financial impacts are not a consideration for these grants as the projects have a 12-month execution period.
- Budget impacts: the budget for CWSP is included in the Sewer System Operating Fund Budget, FY 2019-20, ESWS000007.
- Change in expenses: This legislation authorizes spending on an existing project and include funds that have been budgeted for this intended use.
- The level of confidence for these project estimates are high. Budgets for individual projects have been examined and approved by the Stewardship Grant selection committee.
- Sources of funding are included in the Sewer System Operating Fund Budget, FY 2019-20, ESWS000007.
- This legislation does not create, eliminate or re-classify positions now or in the future.
- Financial agreements: This legislation does result in a new or modified financial obligation or benefit, including IGAs, grants and contracts.

Community impacts and community involvement:

This legislation is in direct response to requests for engagement from the community. The community identified benefits include improved watershed health, greener school grounds and natural areas, improved access to natural areas, and education for marginalized populations. Several of the projects improve participation of underrepresented people in environmental activities. The projects authorized through this legislation are driven by community members with the assistance of a CWSP coordinator from the PSU Indigenous Nations Studies Program. The purpose of this authorization of funding is to provide financial support for community designed and community executed environmental endeavors.

- Different communities of people are benefitting from this legislation. Specific populations that are served by these projects include Portlanders who are seniors, Indigenous, have immigrated from other countries, have refugee status, are low-income, and/or are from underserved populations.
- The geographic area served by these projects are within the City of Portland's Urban Services Boundary.
- Businesses, institutions, and interest-based organizations all benefit from this legislation. Several educational programs and institutions will also benefit from this legislation.
- This legislation makes several improvements to City livability. Projects authorized by this legislation contributes to a prosperous, educated, healthy, and equitable Portland. Populations within the City who are currently underserved will benefit from this funding authorization by gaining conservation and restoration education and training.
- Summarize significant objections/concerns: No objections received.

