

## **ORDINANCE No. 190297 As Amended**

\*Amend the Portland Parks & Recreation FY 2020-21 Budget to allow expenditures related to the Parks Local Option Levy (Ordinance)

The City of Portland ordains:

Section 1. The Council finds:

1. Portland's parks, natural areas, trees, and recreational opportunities improve public health, add beauty to our city, are essential public assets, and connect people to place, nature, self, and community; and
2. The City of Portland's park system, which is managed by Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R), includes 11,712 total acres, 8,000 acres of which are natural areas, across 5 watersheds, over 300 park properties, 12 community and art centers, 13 community pools, 1.2 million trees, and more, together serving Portlanders across the city; and
3. Portlanders treasure and care for this legacy and value equitable access for all Portlanders; and
4. Equity is achieved when one's identity cannot predict the outcome, and today's parks and recreation system is inequitable in its distribution of parks, playgrounds, tree canopy, and more; and
5. Portlanders value trees, and trees provide essential benefits by improving air quality, reducing heat island effects, decreasing heating and cooling costs, sequestering carbon, increasing property values, and more; but today, the benefits of the City's urban tree canopy are not equally distributed; and
6. Safety has been identified as a barrier to park visitation for 30% of all Portlanders, and a barrier to park visitation for 37% of Portlanders of color and 45% of East Portland residents; and
7. Cost is also an inequity and barrier to program access for 20% of Portlanders, but it is a larger barrier for Portlanders of color (25%) and East Portland residents (28%), and so long as PP&R relies on user fees to deliver programs, cost will continue to be a barrier; and
8. PP&R has not been appropriately funded to deliver the service levels that the community and City Council have called for, and the bureau's reliance on fees for program and service delivery is inequitable and causes a structural funding issue that resulted in service level cuts for several consecutive years, and would continue to lead to cuts in future budget years; and

9. In November 2019, Portland City Council held a Sustainable Future work session where PP&R shared their research into the financial trajectory of the bureau and outlined service level scenarios and potential sources for additional funding; and
10. The Coronavirus 2019 disease (COVID-19) is a global emergency that is unprecedented in modern history, profoundly impacting Portlanders daily lives and causing physical, social, psychological, and economic challenges; and
11. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted PP&R's overdependence on program fees and has resulted in recreation facilities and programs closing, and PP&R team members losing their jobs; and
12. COVID-19 has also highlighted the importance of parks and natural areas as essential community assets to community healing and health; and
13. While PP&R augments its funding by seeking grants, public-private and inter-bureau partnerships, and volunteerism, funding is still insufficient to deliver promised services and outcomes to the community and provide an equitable and affordable parks and recreation system; and
14. Over the last century, Portlanders have created and maintained today's parks and recreation system through a series of public investments, including voter-approved bonds and levies such as the last Portland Parks & Recreation levy, which was passed by voters in 2002 and expired in 2007; and
15. Portland City Council, on July 22, 2020, passed Resolution 37498 that referred a tax measure to the ballot that would, if passed, direct a five-year local option levy within the City of Portland at a rate of \$0.80 per \$1,000 of assessed value to support park operations; and
16. On November 3, 2020, the voters of the City of Portland overwhelmingly supported the passage of Measure 26-213, with 64% of ballots cast in favor; and
17. The Parks Levy is effective for five fiscal years beginning on July 1, 2021; and
18. Parks Levy tax revenues will be used to prevent ongoing reductions to park services and recreation programs, preserve and restore park and natural area health, and ensure equitable and affordable access for all Portlanders; and
19. The City Council passed Ordinance 190240 authorizing creation of the 2020 Parks Local Option Levy Fund (Parks Levy Fund) to be overseen by PP&R to budget for receipt of local option levy tax revenues; and

20. PP&R estimates that the Parks Levy will raise \$48 million per year, on average, over five years; and
21. PP&R expects to incur up to \$9,000,000 in total initial costs for staff and materials in FY 2020-21 and up to \$13,000,000 in FY 2021-22 prior to when Parks Levy tax revenues will begin to be received; and
22. The Parks Levy will center equity in PP&R's work and delivery of services; and
23. The Parks Levy allows PP&R to restart recreation and environmental education programming, end reliance on user fees to deliver programming, center equity and affordability as outcomes, and deliver essential public programs for Summer 2021, including serving over 100,000 free lunches to children in neighborhood parks and providing healthy recreation programs for families; and
24. The Parks Levy will help to keep parks and restrooms cleaner and safer for all Portlanders; and
25. The Parks Levy will provide resources to protect natural areas, improve the health and equitable distribution of our tree canopy, enable PP&R to proactively maintain existing park trees, and plant hundreds of new trees each year in parks and natural areas with low canopy; and
26. A Parks Levy Community Oversight Committee will be appointed to review Levy expenditures and report annually to the City Council, and the Levy will be audited to ensure that services and programs funded by the Levy are consistent with voter intent; and
27. The continuation of respective costs and positions requested in this ordinance and included in the PP&R's FY 2021-22 Requested Budget creates 50 new full-time equivalent positions (FTE) and preserves an estimated 69 FTE, and up to 1,850 summer seasonal and casual hires; and
28. PP&R has sufficient revenue in its System Development Charge Fund to lend monies to the 2020 Parks Local Option Levy Fund temporarily until the Parks Levy tax revenues are received beginning in FY 2021-22 and has agreed to make a loan to the 2020 Parks Local Option Levy Fund to be repaid with interest from local option levy tax revenues no later than January 31, 2022, subject to Council approval of the Interfund Loan Ordinance per City Financial Policy 2.18.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council directs:

- a. The FY 2020-21 Appropriation Schedule is hereby amended by adjusting appropriations within the 2020 Parks Local Option Levy Fund and the Parks Construction Fund as follows:

**2020 Parks Local Option Levy Fund**

Fund – 232000

Business Area – PK

Loan Proceeds – \$9,000,000

Personal Services -\$4,600,000

External Materials and Services - \$4,400,000

**Parks Capital Construction Fund, SDC Subfund**

Fund - 402001

Business Area – PK

Contingency – (\$9,000,000)

Internal Loan Remittance - \$9,000,000

- b. The explanation of these changes is provided in the memorandum attached as Exhibit 1.
- c. The number of authorized positions in the FY 2020-21 Revised Budget is hereby amended to add 50 new FTE positions as presented in Exhibit 2.
- d. The actions amending the FY 2020-21 Revised Budget contained in this ordinance are binding City policy.

Section 2. The Council declares that an emergency exists to promptly ensure the sufficient ramp up of services needed to provide park and recreation programming to the public for summer 2021; therefore, this ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon passage.

Passed by the Council: February 17, 2021

Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Prepared by: Jason Smith

Date Prepared: February 2, 2021

**Mary Hull Caballero**

Auditor of the City of Portland

By *Megan Lehman*

Deputy

**95**  
 Agenda No.  
**ORDINANCE NO. 190297 As Amended**  
 Title

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>INTRODUCED BY</b>          Commissioner/Auditor:  <b>Commissioner Rubio</b></p>	<p>CLERK USE: DATE FILED <u>February 9, 2021</u></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COMMISSIONER APPROVAL</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mary Hull Caballero          Auditor of the City of Portland</p> <p>By: <u>Keelan McClymont</u>  <small>Digitally signed by Keelan McClymont          Date: 2021.02.09 11:59:06 -08'00'</small>          Deputy</p> <p><b>ACTION TAKEN:</b></p>
<p>Mayor—Finance &amp; Administration - Wheeler</p>	
<p>Position 1/Utilities - Rubio <small>Carmen Rubio          Digitally signed by Carmen Rubio          Date: 2021.02.09 10:28:55 -08'00'</small></p>	
<p>Position 2/Works - Ryan</p>	
<p>Position 3/Affairs - Hardesty</p>	
<p>Position 4/Safety - Mapps</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BUREAU APPROVAL</b></p>	
<p>Bureau: Parks and Recreation          Bureau Head: <u>Adena Long</u>  <small>Digitally signed by Adena Long          Date: 2021.02.04 09:50:00 -08'00'</small></p>	
<p>Prepared by: <u>Jason Smith</u>          Date Prepared: <u>2/2/2021</u></p>	
<p>Impact Statement          Completed <input type="checkbox"/> Amends Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Portland Policy Document          If "Yes" requires City Policy paragraph stated in document.          Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p><b>City Auditor Office Approval:</b>          required for Code Ordinances</p>	
<p><b>City Attorney Approval:</b>          required for contract, code, easement, franchise, comp plan, charter</p>	
<p>Council Meeting Date  <u>February 17, 2021</u></p>	

<b>AGENDA</b>
<p><b>TIME CERTAIN</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Start time: <u>9:45</u></p> <p>Total amount of time needed: <u>60 minutes</u> (1 of 2)          (for presentation, testimony and discussion)</p>
<p><b>CONSENT</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>REGULAR</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Total amount of time needed: _____          (for presentation, testimony and discussion)</p>

FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
		YEAS	NAYS
1. Rubio	1. Rubio	✓	
2. Ryan	2. Ryan	✓	
3. Hardesty	3. Hardesty	✓	
4. Mapps	4. Mapps	✓	
Wheeler	Wheeler	✓	