

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: *Authorize eight grant agreements and intergovernmental agreements related to the Community Watershed Stewardship Program for a total amount of \$100,000 (Ordinance)

Contact name: Daryl Houtman

Contact phone: 503.823.1849

Presenter name: Daryl Houtman, Naomi Rodriguez, and Professor Judy Bluehorse Skelton of PSU's Indigenous Nations Studies Department

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, education and leadership development projects. These diverse projects will plant native landscapes, engage and train underrepresented community members in stewardship of natural areas, provide hands-on training to marginalized and underrepresented youths, create learning gardens, and conduct research and educate community members of all ages about influences on watershed health.

This year's Selection Committee included BES Community Engagement staff, Judy Bluehorse Skelton, Associate Professor, Indigenous Nations Studies Department (INST), Naomi Rodriguez, INST Student and Suzanne Easton, East Multnomah SWCD - Grants Manager. The committee continues to use three selection criteria to rate applications; benefits to watershed health, community and the strength of the project's equity. Thirty pre-applications were received this year by CWSP. Friends of Pier Park, Lloyd Eco District, and Historic Parkrose are the two organizations that are receiving CWSP funding for the first time ever.

Estimated grant awards are indicated below, but final awards may vary based on possible additional funds needed such as insurance coverage to meet City requirements.

Specific projects funded for 2021-22 are:

1. Camp ELSO's Wayfinders Camp,(\$12,000). Wayfinders sets out on a series of nature-based excursions that emphasize life science, ecology, community, and cultural history. Camp activities are co-led by Camp Guides and Tappin Roots Interns, who are high school and college aged youth of color.
2. Friends of Pier Park's Understory Establishment Project (\$12,000) will remove invasive plants and establish a native plants, selected with Indigenous partners and planting support from volunteers and ten neighborhood interns from Portland Tennis, who will receive stipends, and students from Sitton Elementary.
3. Parkrose's Connecting Black & Brown Communities in Parkrose to the Columbia Slough Project (\$12,000) will bring youth workshops oriented to the Slough, using the Historic Parkrose Greenspace Creation Team (youth).
4. Lloyd Eco District's Peace Park Restoration (\$12,000) EcoDistrict and Veterans for Peace are collaborating to revitalize Peace Park, enlarging the current park's message to tie together the messages of peace and pollinator protection. The project aims to create a space for teaching peace and justice through climate action.
5. Tryon Creek Watershed Council's (\$9,400) Mobile Training Program provide four-hour workshops combining restoration instruction with on-the-ground restoration practice. The workshop includes an introduction to watershed science & stewardship concepts serving westside immigrant communities.

6. Wisdom of the Elders' Great Spirit Urban Garden (\$12,000) will establish a pollinator Garden with City Repair and students learning from a twelve-week internship with Indigenous educators.
7. NAYA Family Center's Community First Foods and Healing Project (\$12,000) will help develop roof-top water harvesting as key step in establishing garden space to provide medicine and food gardens sought by the native community.
8. Friends of Tryon Creek's Healing Generations and Land Through Cultural Ecology (\$10,500) builds authentic relationships between Indigenous communities, social service agencies and conservation partners to develop culturally inclusive environmental education programs, trauma informed healing practices and Indigenous restoration practices.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

- 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 21-22 ESDP00023.
- 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 2021-22, ESDP00023.
- 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 community spaces 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.

100% Renewable Goal:

- Does this action does not increase or decrease the City's total energy use
- This action does not increase or decrease the City's renewable energy use.

Budgetary Impact Worksheet

Does this action change appropriations?

YES: Please complete the information below.

X NO: Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount