

## **IMPACT STATEMENT**

**Legislation title:** \*Accept and appropriate a grant in the amount of \$40,000 from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service – Oregon Fish and Wildlife Office for Portland Parks & Recreation Environmental Education Programs. (Ordinance)

**Contact name:** Rachel Felice

**Contact phone:** 503-823-1233

**Presenter name:** n/a

### **Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:**

This legislation will support environmental education programs provided by Portland Parks and Recreation.

### **Financial and budgetary impacts:**

This amount will increase the FY21/22 budget by \$40,000. The FY 2021/2022 budget is hereby amended as follows:

#### **PP&R Environmental Education Programs**

- Subsidize nature-based field trip fees and transportation costs for low-income schools and community organizations  
Experiences will be shaped by new community standards around COVID and will be responsive to community needs. \$15,000
- Support for up to three casual staff to co-lead field trips and mentor youth. Experiences will be shaped by new community standards around COVID and will be responsive to community needs. \$20,000
- Supplies and outdoor gear to make participation possible for youth to participate; winter jackets, rain pants, supplies water bottles, boots, supply storage \$5,000

## **Community impacts and community involvement:**

Environmental Education (EE) connects Portlanders of all ages to their parks and natural areas through exploration, scientific inquiry, mentorship, and employment. EE is an important part of Portland Parks & Recreation's commitment to the future, as it builds tomorrow's stewards of our parks and natural areas.

### **CITY NATURE FIELD TRIPS**

Oregon Fish & Wildlife Office funding will be used to further support PP&R's Environmental Education Programs for K-12 students to include field trips that connect young children and families to urban nature through hands on outdoor learning. Topics include plants, habitats, amphibians, birds, geology, and stewardship. These additional funds would allow for an expansion of field trips for elementary school students, including Title I schools and transportation for field trips. For some children, this program provides first-time nature experiences and provides the opportunity for youth to view themselves as scientists and caretakers of our shared public lands. Because transportation and field trip fees create a barrier for many Portland schools and community groups to participate, grant funds will allow PP&R to provide free field trips for Title I Schools and community organizations as well as cover travel costs to and from school.

A priority of PP&R is to center community voices with a focus on removing barriers and meeting the needs of underserved populations, including Black and Indigenous People, People of Color, Immigrants and Refugees, LGBTQIA+ people, youth, people living with disabilities and people living with low income. Because PP&R's Environmental Education program has not been able to provide transportation funding for many years, this has been a barrier for many groups who are interested in city nature field trips for their students. We can start with schools who have already told us that transportation funding has been a barrier in the past, even if we have been able to provide the services free of charge. We will continue to center the needs of underserved populations and work to provide safe access to nature for all youth.

This funding will support PP&R to continue this program and address transportation funding as a barrier to access. Funding beyond \$40,000 would support additional PP&R programs such as youth employment or internships.

### **100% Renewable Goal:**

N/A

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### Budgetary Impact Worksheet

**Does this action change appropriations?**

- ☒ **YES:** Please complete the information below.  
☐ **NO:** Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount
217001	PKCN000004	529000	PRRECSLL000000GP	Non-Program	PK000063	PK00630002	\$ 15,000
217001	PKCN000004	511400	PRINNA00000000GP	Non-Program	PK000063	PK00630001	\$ 20,000
217001	PKCN000004	529000	PRINNA00000000GP	Non-Program	PK000063	PK00630001	\$ 5,000
217001	PKCN000004	441100	PRRECSLL000000GP	Non-Program	PK000063	PK00630002	\$ 15,000
217001	PKCN000004	441100	PRINNA00000000GP	Non-Program	PK000063	PK00630001	\$ 25,000

**Todd Lofgren**  Digitally signed by Todd Lofgren  
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**Finance, Property & Technology Manager's Signature**