

BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

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Budget Summary (\$ in 000's)

	2017 Adopted	2018 Endorsed	2018 Proposed	% Change Adopted to 2018 Endorsed
Appropriations by BCL				
Environmental Learning & Programs	\$1,254	\$1,290	\$1,189	(7.9%)
Facility and Structure Maintenance	\$17,703	\$18,157	\$20,883	15%
Finance and Administration	\$16,728	\$17,813	\$18,360	3%
Golf	\$12,113	\$12,350	\$11,303	(8.4%)
Judgment and Claims	\$668	\$580	\$580	0
Natural Resources Management	\$9,528	\$9,792	\$9,692	(1%)
Park Cleaning, Landscaping & Restoration	\$34,338	\$35,642	\$39,180	10%
Planning, Development & Acquisition	\$7,575	\$7,771	\$7,935	2.1%
Policy Direction and Leadership	\$4,797	\$4,929	\$3,802	(23%)
Recreation Facilities and Programs	\$30,185	\$30,799	\$28,578	(7.2%)
Regional Parks & Strategic Outreach	\$6,480	\$6,608	\$7,195	9%
Seattle Aquarium	0	0	0	0
Seattle Conservation Corps	\$4,708	\$4,830	\$4,830	0
Swimming, Boating, and Aquatics	\$10,040	\$10,330	\$8,834	(15%)
Woodland Park Zoo	\$7,088	\$7,093	\$7,093	0
O & M Expenditures	\$163,201	\$167,984	\$169,454	0.9%
Capital Appropriations	\$75,578	\$84,380	\$92,489	9.6%
Total Expenditures	\$238,779	\$252,364	\$261,943	4%
Total FTEs	913.01	912.51	921.74	1%
Revenues				
General Subfund (GSF)	\$103,266	\$106,794	\$108,439	1.5%
Real Estate Excise Tax (REET)	\$35,593	\$35,020	\$40,900	17%
Park District	\$49,844	\$53,107	\$53,103	0
Use of Fund Balance	\$1,400	\$800	\$1,370	71%
Other Grants and Fees	\$52,502	\$56,640	\$58,130	2.6%
Total Revenues	\$242,605	\$252,360	\$261,942	3.8%

Totals may not exactly reflect sum of line items due to rounding

Interactive Budget Website: <http://www.seattle.gov/city-budget/2018-proposed-budget/parks-and-recreation>

BACKGROUND:

The Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) budget has both an operating and a capital component, which reflects the Department's mission of both (1) providing recreational services and programming and (2) maintaining and developing city parks facilities. The key changes in the 2018 proposed budget related to the operating and capital budgets are summarized below.

Operating Budget: The 2018 proposed operating budget for DPR is approximately \$169,454,000, an increase of \$1.4 million (0.9%) over the 2018 Endorsed Budget. The previous Budget Summary table shows the changes in DPR's budget by Budget Control Level (BCL). Listed below are the most notable changes:

- **Encampment Clean Up** – The proposed budget includes \$2,012,074 (\$1.3 million in ongoing and \$704,000 in one-time expenditures) and 5.73 FTEs to expand the special city-wide maintenance crew and the evening and weekend maintenance crews to provide clean-up of homeless encampments. The ongoing costs are funded by \$1 million of Commercial Parking Tax revenue and \$300,000 of GSF revenue. The one-time costs are funded by \$500,000 of Gas Tax revenue and \$204,000 of GSF revenue.

Three new positions are added to implement this effort: a Manager 2, a Health and Safety Specialist, and a Radio Dispatcher (a reclassification of an existing position). In addition, approximately 11 positions are reclassified and three park rangers will be deployed to assist with clean-up work. The special maintenance crew will perform encampment work three days a week with the remaining two days focused on seasonal maintenance activities, including ballfield preparation, wading pool and spray park preparation, leaf removal efforts, and other park maintenance activities. The evening and weekend crews will perform encampment work two days a week with the remaining three days focused on parks maintenance including litter, garbage and recycle collection, and comfort station cleaning. (See further details in the Homeless Services Response budget deliberation paper.)

- **Golf Program Debt Service** – The proposed budget reduces operating expenditures for the golf program by \$1,102,135, primarily reflecting a shift of the \$900,000 debt service expense to the capital budget, described in the capital budget section below. Several years of poor weather; delays in completing planned golf improvements; increases in wages, both minimum wage and City labor costs; and water and drainage costs have negatively impacted the financial performance of the golf program over the last several years and is anticipated to continue in 2018. This necessitates the use of non-golf capital resources to make the debt service payment in 2018. The third quarter supplemental budget ordinance includes an additional \$700,000 to cover a portion of the debt service payment in 2017. DPR is hiring a consultant to conduct a comprehensive review of the golf program to examine and address ongoing issues and concerns about the financial performance of this program with a report due in early 2018.
- **Use of Fund Balance** – The proposed budget uses \$570,000 of fund balance to reduce GSF support. This is in addition to the \$800,000 included in the 2018 Endorsed Budget.

- Park District Operating Budget Transfer – The proposed budget reprograms \$440,879 of Seattle Park District operating funds to the District capital budget to support the development of parks on land-banked sites and Smith Cove. The District’s financial plan assumed Smith Cove Park and five other landbank sites would be online in 2018. Smith Cove will not be online in 2018, and only two of the other five parks will open in 2018. These opening delays allow for funds that were allocated for operating costs to be used for the capital costs. DPR is developing Smith Cove Park and 14 other landbank sites using capital funding from the District.
- Lake City Community Center – The proposed budget appropriates \$269,999 and adds 2.75 FTE to support operations and programming at the Lake City Community Center. This Center will operate up to 25 hours per week as a satellite facility of the Meadowbrook Community Center and not as a full-service center. A new operating arrangement for this Center is required as the current partner will cease operating at the end of 2017.
- Maintenance – The proposed budget appropriates \$251,417 to support operations and maintenance at newly opened or renovated parks and the new trails at Washington Park Arboretum.
- My Brother’s Keeper – The proposed budget appropriates \$153,750 to continue funding of the My Brother’s Keeper Mentoring Program, which was included in DPR’s 2017 budget. This program is proposed to be funded in 2018 with Sweetened Beverage Tax revenue. See further details in the Sweetened Beverage Tax budget deliberation paper.
- Homeless Shower Facilities – The proposed budget appropriates \$112,933 and adds 0.5 FTE to fund continuation of restroom and shower facilities at four community centers for people experiencing homelessness. This effort was started in mid-2017.
- Off-leash Areas – The proposed budget appropriates \$40,000 to support the on-going maintenance and/or potential lease costs for a new off-leash area. \$100,000 of capital funding (REET) is also provided to assist in funding the costs of developing a new park, if a proposal is submitted and approved by the Superintendent.

Capital Budget: The proposed capital budget is \$92,489,000, an increase of \$8.1 million (9.6%) over the 2018 Endorsed Budget. The proposed capital budget includes the following notable spending changes:

- Lake City Community Center – The proposed budget appropriates \$3 million for Lake City Community Center Improvements. This funding will be used for a comprehensive site plan to facilitate the development of a new Lake City Community Center and the design and construction of the first phase of implementation of that plan. This plan may include a new gymnasium, additional office space, and related work. It is anticipated that \$975,000 will be expended in 2018. Remaining funds will be carried over into 2019. The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) indicates an additional \$2 million in funding is planned for 2019.

- Magnuson Park Community Center (MPCC) – The proposed budget appropriates \$2.15 million, consisting of \$1.15 million of Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) revenue and \$1 million of King County funds for improvements at MPCC. This funding will be used to complete renovations of an additional 4,800 square feet of space in the south end of the existing building to provide additional program and office space. This space could include two large multi-purpose areas, restrooms, a kitchen with commercial grade appliances, game or office space, and storage areas. The estimated cost of this work is \$1.9 million. It is anticipated that \$400,000 will be expended in 2018 for planning and design work. Remaining funds will be carried over into 2019 to complete construction of the improvements.
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Improvements – The proposed budget appropriates \$1.2 million for ADA compliance improvements at DPR facilities including community centers, pools, and parks to comply with federally mandated upgrades.
- Golf Program – The proposed budget appropriates \$900,000 to pay a portion of the debt service payment for the golf program in 2018. This project is funded with unallocated 2014 King County Parks Replacement Levy dollars. An *additional* \$700,000 will cover a portion of the debt service payment in 2017. Unallocated 2008 King County Open Space and Trails Levy funds will be used for this payment as it approximates the costs associated with the development of the Jackson Perimeter Trail project that was funded with bonds issued for golf improvements and is an eligible project for the use of the King County funds.
- Cal Anderson Landscape Improvements – The proposed budget appropriates \$200,000 for planning, design, and installation of a seating and enhanced landscape area in Cal Anderson Park that will complement a larger AIDS memorial project located at the nearby Capitol Hill light rail station.
- P-Patch Space Planning – The proposed budget appropriates \$150,000 for space planning for the potential move of the P-Patch program from the Department of Neighborhoods (DON) to DPR. See further discussion below.

BUDGET LEGISLATION AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

1. Parks Fee Ordinance

This ordinance adopts the 2018 Fee Schedule for the use of DPR properties and other park and recreation facilities and services. The ordinance would authorize the DPR Director to promulgate fees by rule. –In addition, the ordinance adds language regarding the establishment of fees for Lake Union Park Historic Ships Wharf that was inadvertently left out of the 2017-2018 Fee Schedule adopted last year. Fees for temporary use of vessels of the wharf and north seawall at Lake Union Park are established by the Center for Wooden Boats (CWB), which manages the wharf under contract with DPR. The fees are consistent with and subject to this contract and are available on the [CWB's website](#).

2. Budget Performance Measures

DPR is participating in the Budget Performance Measures pilot program. DPR's goals, for which data is available and performance can be measured, are as follows:

- *Provide a high quality, financially sustainable golf operation.* Goal: 105 percent cost recovery annually. DPR has not achieved this goal with 101 percent and 93 percent cost recovery achieved in 2015 and 2016, respectively. See above for further discussion on golf program operations.
- *Maintain assets for continued public use and enjoyment.* Goal: complete 118 major maintenance projects from 2016-2020 (average goal of 23 projects per year). DPR has achieved this goal with 24 projects completed in 2016.
- *Teach our community to swim.* Goal: provide 340,000 swim lessons annually. DPR has achieved this goal with 345,793 and 347,996 lessons taught in 2015 and 2016, respectively.
- *Engage the community through meaningful volunteer opportunities.* Goal: 260,000 volunteer hours provided, annually. Progress towards this goal is mixed with 270,360 and 231,675 volunteer hours provided in 2015 and 2016, respectively.

ISSUE IDENTIFICATION:

1. Space Planning for P-Patch Program

The proposed budget appropriates \$150,000 in REET funding to determine where the P-Patch program would reside should the program be moved from DON to DPR. DPR does not have space currently for the six P-Patch staff. A thorough analysis of the program and appropriate location of this program has not been completed to date. Such an analysis would provide further information regarding the appropriate location and other potential changes to this program. See options and further discussion included in the DON deliberation paper.

BUDGET ACTIONS PROPOSED BY COUNCILMEMBERS AS OF 10/09/17:

1. Community Planning for Hubbard Homestead Park (CM Juarez)

This proposal would add \$35,000 in one-time funding for community planning efforts to identify and discuss potential future improvements to this park. Capital funds and potential matching opportunities would be identified after the community planning process is completed.

2. Increased Staffing at Magnuson Park Community Center (CM Johnson)

This proposal would add \$139,000 in ongoing funding to provide increased staffing, such as an Assistant Recreation Coordinator, Recreation Leader, and Recreation Attendant) to plan and coordinate recreation programs and to monitor and supervise youth at the center.

3. Enhanced Lighting at Magnuson Park (CM Johnson)

This proposal would add one-time funding to replace existing lights along the walking paths in Magnuson Park to provide increased safety. Central Staff will continue to work with CM Johnson to determine the specific resources needed.

4. Replace Gas Leaf Blowers with Electric Leaf Blowers (CM Johnson)

This proposal would add \$80,000 in one-time funding to replace the DPR's 200 gas leaf blowers with electric leaf blowers. The average electric backpack blower costs about \$400.

5. Continue Operation of Five Wading Pools (CM Johnson)

This proposal would add \$45,800 in ongoing funding to continue operation of five wading pools reopened in the summer of 2017, which was previously funded through the first quarter supplemental budget ordinance. Funding was not included in the Proposed 2018 Budget to continue the operation of these wading pools.

6. Purchase and install 12 caches of emergency communications gear (CM González)

This proposal would add \$21,600 in one-time funding and ongoing funding for .25 FTE to support the purchase of 12 emergency communication caches in City parks. Parks staff would install boxes and conduct outreach to the community. The Council added \$18,000 to DON's 2016 budget for Community Emergency Hubs. Neighborhood Small Sparks grants also funded three Hubs in 2016. Central Staff will continue to work with CM González to determine the specific resources needed.