Large scale community visions program application

Updated June 2024

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## Large scale community visions overview

Thanks to the voters of the region, the Parks and Nature bond’s large scale community visions program is intended to provide funds to help deliver significant investments in habitat preservation, restoration, and access to nature in coordinated and visionary capital projects that achieve outcomes identified in the 2019 parks and nature bond measure including centering community engagement and racial equity, protecting and improving water quality and fish and wildlife habitat, and supporting climate resiliency.

Metro Council has further defined a large scale community visions project as a capital investment that uplifts community by returning natural environment to a central role in projects that seek to address affordable housing, safe, reliable transportation and workforce development.

This program cycle can award up to $10M.

## Application

This application will be the basis of evaluation and recommendation to the Metro Council for final decision making. Applications will be reviewed monthly as they are received.

Applications will be evaluated on their ability to demonstrate close alignment with bond criteria, readiness to implement capital acquisition or development, and the necessary support from community and public agency sponsors. Bond and program criteria can be referred to in the program handbook; additional information is in the application guide.

## Instructions

* **Application due date:** ongoing until funds depleted

Application responses are limited to 15 pages of 12-point font, single-spaced answers. Written responses should be succinct, clear and complete. Applications do not need to remain in the format below and be their own stand-alone document if each question below is addressed in the final submittal.

Additional information such as supporting documents may be attached, but are not substitutions for responses to specific questions, and should only be included as they relate to the application question. Supplemental information and documents, such as budget spreadsheets schedules, and maps will not count toward the page limit.

Additional technical assistance and consultation will be made available during the application process. To coordinate availability contact lscv@oregonmetro.gov

* Electronic delivery to lscv@oregonmetro.gov (preferred)
* Hard copy delivery to Metro Regional Center 600 NE Grand Ave, Portland, OR 97232

## Point of contact information

1. First Name:
2. Last Name:
3. Telephone:
4. Email:

## Project description

1. Project Name:
2. Project Location (please include map):
3. Project Narrative: Please summarize in 2-4 sentences the project components, vision and intended outcomes.
4. Funding Amount Request:

## Public ownership and public/private partnership

1. Who is the committed local or state government owner of the public asset?
2. If the applicant is a non-profit/private entity, please include a letter of support from the state or local government entity expressing a commitment to owning and capitalizing the bond-funded asset.
3. If known, please describe the mechanism and potential anticipated timeline for ownership of assets transfer to the public partner. If unknown, please note ongoing processes and decision points with the public partner.
4. If you are a public entity, please describe your existing partnerships with private entities that you are collaborating with to deliver the project.

## Capital project information

1. Please describe how you intend to use program funding to secure, improve or construct a capital asset.
2. Please indicate if your capital improvement project can be categorized as restoration, urban transformation, or neighborhood livability.

## Connections to housing/transportation/jobs

1. How does the project enhance or leverage affordable housing/active or alternative transportation/job opportunities adjacent to the investment in nature uplift?
2. Please include specific examples of either how the project includes direct connections to housing, transportation and job opportunities and/or how the project unlocks potential for these other elements to advance outside of this specific project.
3. Please describe any measurable outcomes for the housing/transportation/workforce development elements of the project.

## Community driven engagement

1. How has community feedback shaped the vision for the project?
2. Describe the community engagement efforts that have shaped this project to date and how you have centered Black, Indigenous, and People of Color community needs.
3. As much as possible, please describe specific community organizations or groups that are project partners and have helped drive project outcomes to date.
4. Describe how meaningful community engagement efforts will continue through project implementation and site use. Please include any plan or strategy guiding this work.

## Racial equity

1. Describe how the creation and development of this project has used a racial equity lens to inform decision making to date. Please consider these prompts in your answer:
	* Description of communities that are most likely to benefit from this project by describing the demographics and location of the community adjacent or with an active interest in this project.
	* Description of engagement strategies and methods used to have communities who have underrepresented in past public engagement processes shape the project and decision making.
	* Description of any anti-displacement strategies employed by the project sponsor or partner organizations to mitigate any negative impacts of your project on at-risk communities.
2. Please describe how the project will continue to advance racial equity throughout its lifecycle.
3. If the sponsoring organizations or project itself has a specific strategy or equity statement, please explain how that has been or will be implemented in decision making.

## Nature uplift and climate resiliency

1. Describe how the envisioned nature uplift will connect people to nature in a manner that protects or restores habitat.
2. How does this proposed nature uplift address the climate resilience of the region? Please identify one of the bond’s climate resilience criteria the project can expect to address upon project completion. Metro has developed guidelines around the bond’s [climate resilience criteria](https://www.oregonmetro.gov/sites/default/files/2022/01/13/20210802-Bond-Climate-Resiliency-Criteria.pdf).
3. Please describe how the project’s nature uplift component aligns with [Oregon conservation strategy](https://www.oregonconservationstrategy.org/) or [Regional conservation strategies](https://www.theintertwine.org/projects/regional-conservation-strategy).

## Budget

1. The budget can be attached as a separate document and should:
* Provide a budget summarizing how funds will be used for capital costs, as well as a high-level budget for overall project cost estimate.
* Identify current funds on hand and additional funding sources being sought.
* Clearly document all match requirements.
* Include a budget narrative as necessary to provide additional context.

##

## Schedule

1. The schedule can be attached as a separate document and should address anticipated project completion timeline and key project milestones. Please indicate a level of confidence (High, Medium, Low) for each milestone indicated.

## Risk assessment and mitigation

1. Please fill out the following table on any potential risk that could impact project timelines and responsive risk mitigation strategies. Add more risk factors as needed.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Risk factor** | **Description**  | **Risk response**  | **Ongoing implication** |
| Political |  |  |  |
| Environmental issues |  |  |  |
| Permitting |  |  |  |
| Fundraising challenges |  |  |  |
| Tribal consultation |  |  |  |
| Other not listed above |  |  |  |

## Data tracking and outcomes

Awarded applicants will need to submit annual reports on their active projects and collect information related to the nature uplift element the grant award is funding. In this context:

1. What data are you currently or will have the capacity to collect to determine project success upon completion?
2. Please describe potential data collection strategies for community engagement, site stabilization and/or habitat restoration, and progress towards addressing climate resilience criteria for your project.
3. Please describe any project opportunities to advance contract equity through Certification Office of Business Inclusion and Diversity (COBID) participation and workforce equity through strategies aligned with [Metro’s Construction Career Pathways framework](https://www.oregonmetro.gov/regional-leadership/diversity-equity-and-inclusion/construction-career-pathways).
4. Please indicate if any additional outcomes measures that will be collected, including any potential indirect impacts of the project, such as ripple or catalytic outcomes as a result of project investments.

## Supplemental information and letters of support

Please describe any additional components of the project that may speak to bond criteria but have not been addressed above. Examples may include assessment of cultural resources, and/or goals for advancing workforce equity through project construction in alignment with the [regional workforce agreement](https://www.oregonmetro.gov/news/new-agreement-paves-way-greater-diversity-construction-careers) and [Metro’s Construction Careers Pathways Regional Framework](https://www.oregonmetro.gov/sites/default/files/2019/11/04/construction-career-pathways-regional-framework-20190901.pdf).

If you would like to supplement your application with letters of support, please attach them. There is no limit for letters, and these do not count toward the application page count limit.