

TAKE CARE OF METRO PARKS

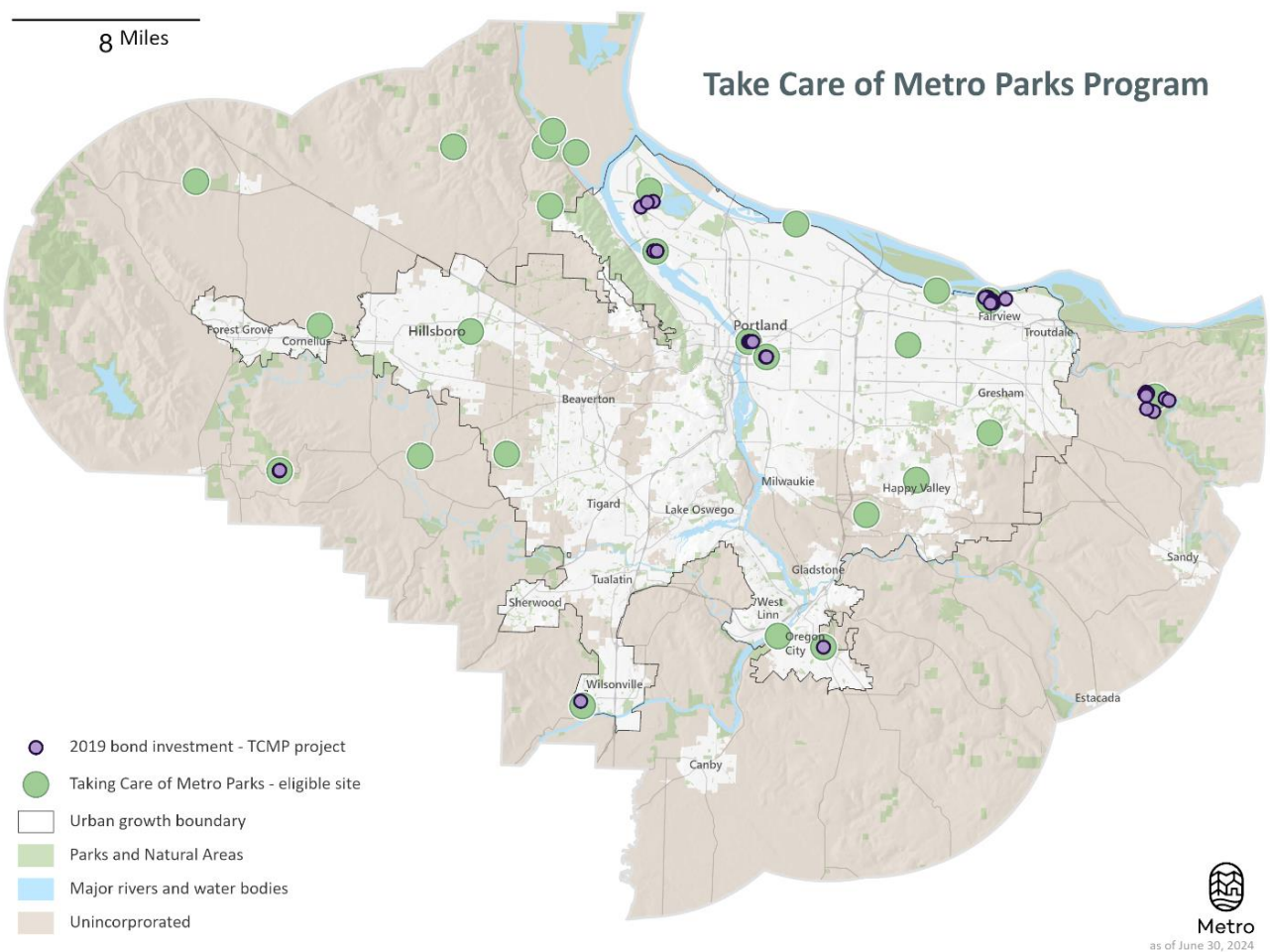
\$98 million for safety and accessibility improvements at Metro parks and facilities across the region

Take care of Metro parks program description

Metro's regional parks, boat launches and cemeteries welcome visitors each year to enjoy nature, exercise, and cultural gatherings. The take care of Metro parks program is a promise to take care of Metro's existing sites by addressing capital maintenance, repair and improvement needs at Metro facilities and completing nature parks with adopted master plans.

Since 2020, the take care of Metro parks program has invested over \$34 million in bond funding to complete projects that advance capital improvements at Blue Lake, Oxbow, Lone Fir, helped to complete Newell Creek Canyon and Chehalem Ridge and to advance some of Metro's most recent policy commitments around accessibility, sustainability and workforce equity.

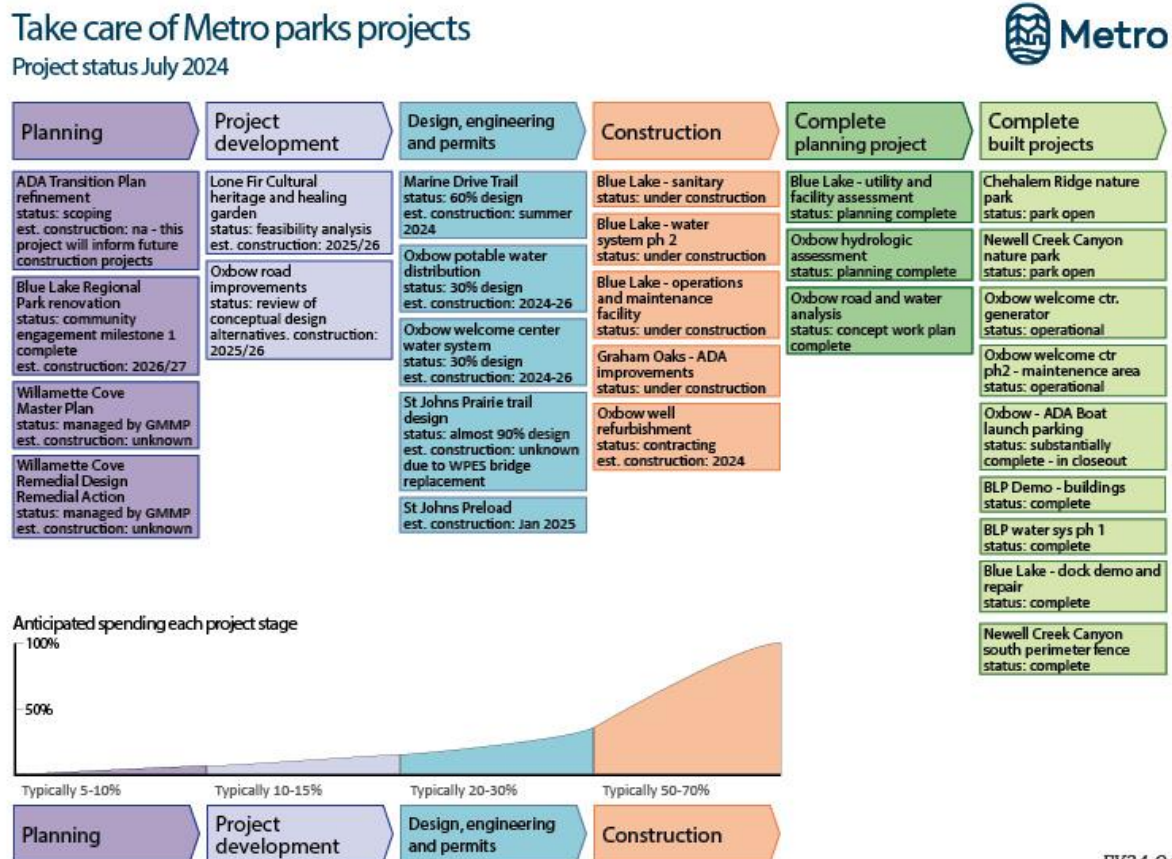
Figure 1, map of take care of Metro parks projects, as of June 2024



Take care of Metro parks program milestones completed as of June 2024

- Completed nine construction projects at Metro’s developed sites and an additional three planning projects (see diagram).
- Recently completed several health, safety and accessibility improvements at Blue Lake Park including upgrades to the water, sanitary sewer, fishing pier as well as the renovations and construction of the Parks and Nature operations facility.
- Completed engagement activities for bond funded projects at Metro sites included the Blue Lake Park renovation project, Lone Fir memorial design and the master planning effort for a potential nature park at Willamette Cove (more detail in figure 3).
- Implementing ADA accessibility improvements across Metro’s system of developed sites including an accessibility pilot at Graham Oaks Nature Park to support the removal of barriers to access in accordance with the Parks and Nature ADA Transition Plan.

Figure 2, Take care of Metro parks stages and gates



FY24 Q4
Projects are fully or partially funded by 2019 bond.

Looking ahead

Metro anticipates that many other bond funded projects to improve health, safety and accessibility at Metro sites like Oxbow, Lone Fir and others, which are currently in design, engineering and planning phase will move into construction in this fiscal year and future fiscal years. Specifically, the team anticipates that the next set of significant construction projects including the Blue Lake Park renovation project, the Oxbow roadway and water project and Lone Fir Memorial could begin construction in 2026. The team continues to advance these projects while navigating known and unknown challenging conditions for construction projects including high costs for labor and materials and permitting requirements.

In addition, Metro continues to meaningfully engage with BIPOC community and center their voices in shaping planned projects and improvements to Metro's developed parks. Targeted engagement strategies include partner cohorts, community specific events/listening sessions and tribal engagement centering the voices of those who have typically been left out of these conversations in the past for projects including the Blue Lake Park renovation, the Lone Fir Memorial and the Willamette Cove master plan.

Markers to demonstrate progress on take care of Metro parks

- Number of projects out of priority take care of Metro parks list substantially complete
- Project status for each of the take care of Metro parks projects over time
- Number of Metro developed sites where bond funds are investing in ADA accessibility improvements
- Number and participation in engagement activities for Blue Lake Park renovation and Lone Fir Cultural Healing and Heritage Garden
- Examples of how feedback from community members has been implemented
- Number of take care of Metro parks construction projects implementing policies from Metro's public benefits program aimed at contract and workforce equity and overall sustainability.

Figure 3, List of engagement activities for take care of Metro parks projects from 2023 through June 2024

Community engagement activity from 2023-2024 related to projects at Metro’s developed sites (listed by date in ascending order)	Who was engaged	How feedback was used
Fall 2023	General public at kick off for Blue Lake Park renovation project (50-100 individuals) and online survey (with 120 responses)	Build awareness for the project and solicit feedback in the survey
Fall 2023	33 BIPOC community members at a focus group for Blue Lake Park renovation	Review design alternatives
Fall 2023	20 Indigenous community visits to Blue Lake Park site	Support development of 3 draft alternative concept plans
Fall 2023 through ongoing	BLP partner cohort meets monthly	Participate in project decisions for Blue Lake Park renovation
Fall 2023	Virtual meeting with 30 members of the Portland Chinese community about Lone Fir Memorial	Project updates
Winter 2023	60 BIPOC community members participating in design charrettes	Review initial design alternatives
Early 2024	75 community members at Willamette Cove field day Tribes, Indigenous community, People of Color, the disability Community and houseless community, Advocacy groups, conservation groups)	Engage key stakeholders in Willamette Cove master planning project
Spring 2024	150 responses to an online survey and 50 individuals participated in an open house to launch the survey about the design concepts for the Lone Fir Memorial.	Provide feedback on preference for two conceptual designs; helped prioritize one design
Spring 2024	Over 2200 unique responses to an online survey asking community members about the types of things they’d like to see at Willamette Cove	To inform focus for master planning efforts
Summer 2024	Online survey on Blue Lake Park renovation (open from June through September 2024), so responses not tallied	To get feedback on the design alternatives for the Blue Lake Park renovation