



Annual Report FY23-24

Solid Waste Community Enhancement Program

February 2025

If you picnic at Blue Lake or take your kids to the Oregon Zoo, enjoy symphonies at the Schnitz or auto shows at the convention center, put out your trash or drive your car – we’ve already crossed paths.

So, hello. We’re Metro – nice to meet you.

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Solid Waste Community Enhancement Program provides grants to improve economic opportunities, neighborhood livability, public safety, and more in areas near the region's garbage transfer and reload facilities. The purpose of the program is to enhance the area around eligible solid waste facilities in the Metro region. The program was established by Metro Council in 1986. Since then, Metro has collected and re-invested millions of dollars in communities across the greater Portland area. More information on the program is available on Metro's website, www.oregonmetro.gov/tools-partners/grants-and-resources/community-enhancement-grants.

Community Enhancement and Investment Fees

Metro's solid waste authority, including the authority to collect an enhancement fee to establish and implement a solid waste community enhancement program, is established under the Oregon Constitution, Oregon Revised Statutes Chapters 268 and 459, and the Metro Charter. The program is guided by Metro Code Chapter 5.06, Solid Waste Community Enhancement Program.

Solid waste facilities in the Metro region that operate as disposal sites, transfer stations, reload facilities, food waste compost facilities, and energy recovery facilities collect an enhancement fee of \$1.00 on each ton of putrescible solid waste delivered to the facility. Yard debris reload or composting facilities are not subject to this requirement unless the facility also accepts food waste with yard debris.

Solid waste facilities in the Metro region also have the option to collect an additional Community Investment Fee of either an \$0.50 per ton on putrescible waste in addition to existing community enhancement fees, or \$1.00 per ton on all types of waste received that are not currently subject to any enhancement fee. The fees are then granted to local communities as part of the Community Enhancement Program.

A system map of solid waste facilities in the Metro region, including those that participate in the Community Enhancement Program, can be found here:

<https://www.oregonmetro.gov/solid-waste-facilities-map>

Administration

The program is administered by Metro directly, through an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the city or county government where the facility is located or through a contract with a non-profit organization. Participating facilities remit enhancement fees to Metro on a monthly basis, which in turn, remits payment to local governments on a quarterly basis.

A Community Enhancement Program Advisory Committee is responsible for implementation of each of the local programs. Each committee establishes the enhancement area boundary, creates committee bylaws, reviews program budgets, develops a process for soliciting and selecting projects, and makes grant funding decisions. The Metro Councilor for the district where the facility is located has the option to serve on the community enhancement committee as co-chair, voting member, or non-voting member of the

committee. Each committee submits a report of accounts and expenses to Metro for the previous fiscal year by October 1 of each calendar year for tracking purposes.

Active Programs

In FY 23-24 funds from eight facilities were awarded back into local communities: Forest Grove, Oregon City, Wilsonville, Sherwood, Gresham, Troutdale, Fairview, Wood Village, North Portland and NE Portland.

Grant Program Administrator	Solid Waste Facility Collecting Enhancement Fees	Year Program Established	Metro District and Councilor
City of Oregon City	Metro South Transfer Station	1988	District 2 Christine Lewis
City of Forest Grove	Forest Grove Transfer Station, Waste Management	1989	District 4 Juan Carlos González
Metro	Metro Central Transfer Station	1991	District 5 Mary Nolan
City of Sherwood	Pride Disposal & Recycling	2015	District 3 Gerritt Rosenthal
City of Wilsonville	Willamette Resources, Inc. (WRI), Republic Services	2015	District 3 Gerritt Rosenthal
East County Rising Community Project/Metro	Troutdale Transfer Station, Waste Management	2015	District 1 Ashton Simpson
City of Gresham	Gresham Sanitary Service Transfer Station	2016	District 1 Ashton Simpson
Elevate Oregon	City of Roses	2019	District 1 Ashton Simpson

Each of the enhancement grant programs award funds in a different geographical target area surrounding the facility where funds are generated. Individual grant review committees of local residents and elected officials solicit and select on their own grant timelines. To learn more about any of the individual grant program boundaries and timelines, go to <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/tools-partners/grants-and-resources/community-enhancement-grants>.

Program Goals

To be considered for Community Enhancement Program funding, projects must be located in the solid waste community enhancement area boundary, as specified by the solid waste community enhancement committee, or the project must benefit individuals or programs located inside the solid waste community enhancement area boundary. Projects must meet at least one of the Program Goals listed below:

- Provide programs, training or services that benefit underserved populations.
- Increase reuse and recycling opportunities; reduce the toxicity of waste.
- Improve the environmental quality of the area.
- Preserve or improve natural areas; increase public access.
- Improve or increase recreational areas and programs.
- Rehabilitate and upgrade property owned or operated by non-profits.
- Improve the safety, appearance or cleanliness of neighborhoods.

Summary of Revenue and Grants FY23-24

Enhancement Program	\$ Awarded to Nonprofits FY23-24	\$ Awarded to Local Govt./Commission FY23-24	Total
City of Roses	\$119,900	\$3,600	\$123,500
Forest Grove	\$45,000	\$0	\$45,000
Gresham	\$59,700	\$0	\$59,700
Metro Central	\$294,500	\$32,500	\$326,574
Oregon City	\$385,100	\$49,750	\$434,211
Rise Up	\$132,050	\$20,000	\$152,050
Sherwood	\$73,463	\$0	\$80,995
Wilsonville	\$44,376	\$68,429	\$112,805
Total	\$ 1,154,089	\$ 174,279	\$1,334,835

Grantee Spotlights

CITY OF ROSES ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM



Columbia Slough Watershed Council hosted 14 naturalist events, including seven trash cleanups and six birding events at sites along the slough. Seven events were community-specific events for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, and one event for LGBTQIA2S+ folks. Five cleanup events were open to the entire public.

Grantees	Description	Award	Primarily helps underserved communities?
Columbia Slough Watershed Council	Supports 13 naturalist events, including seven trash cleanups and six birding events	\$27,301.67	Yes
David Douglas High School, Student Presidential Council	Project reducing food waste and installing recycling bins school-wide	\$3,600	Yes
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon	Provide home food delivery services to residents using electric vehicles	\$25,000	Yes
Friends of Baseball	Expand Full Count Girls Lead Softball Institute	\$25,000	Yes
Mental Health & Addiction Association of Oregon	Construct no-barrier peer support center: the MHA AO Recovery Campus	\$35,000	Yes
Parkrose LEAP	Increase access to community recreation centers for students with developmental delays	\$3,500	Yes
Project 48 Inc	Build skills for 50+ youth in budgeting, financial literacy, career preparation, and community resources to prepare them for adulthood and to successfully enter the workforce	\$25,000	Yes
The Pathfinder Network	Arts-based support club for high school-aged youth who have been impacted by incarceration, detention, and deportation	\$10,000	Yes

FOREST GROVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM



Foodways by Nana Cardoon provides specialty programs to youth, seniors, low-income individuals and the houseless community, with a focus on sustainable foodways and environmental preservation. This grant was utilized to create a year-round outdoor shelter for a classroom and kitchen and develop a curriculum to teach outdoor cooking skills to the houseless community. This engaging and informational curriculum will empower individuals with skills to prepare meals in an outdoor setting.

Grantees	Description	Award	Primarily helps underserved communities?
Foodways by Nana Cardoon	Building outdoor event structure for educational cooking classes	\$10,000	Yes
Forest Grove Elks #2440	Backpack weekend food program	\$10,000	Yes
Hope Community Network	House manager for homeless shelter	\$15,000	Yes
Rebuilding Together WA County	Community Alliance Program	\$10,000	Yes

GRESHAM ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM



The Portland Columbia Symphony Orchestra provided 162 free tickets to community members who may not have access to experiences like the orchestra. They connected with new partners in the Gresham community to build a broader audience. Audience feedback indicates they are meeting their goals to be welcoming, accessible and friendly: “Reasonable ticket cost makes great music accessible to ALL!” and “The willingness of the orchestra to engage with the audience is one of the reasons why I love PCSO.”

Grantees	Description	Award	Primarily helps underserved communities?
ARISE and Shine	Program to develop community amongst teens from different backgrounds	\$4,475	Yes
Boxes of Love	Provides new clothes and other essential supplies for children entering foster care	\$2,500	Yes
CASA for Children	Advocacy for children whose parents are engaged in the court system	\$4,000	Yes
Center for the Arts Foundation	Music series that supports diverse musicians and increases community use of local parks	\$10,000	Yes
Family of Friends	Recruit and train new mentors for students in local schools	\$3,750	Yes
Gresham Butte Neighborhood Assoc.	Japanese Garden peace sculpture	\$8,900	
Gresham Historical Society	Update to grounds around the historical society to increase sustainability and attractiveness	\$4,000	
Growing Gardens	Update gardens and provide educational activities at Gresham Senior Center	\$2,000	Yes
Historic Downtown Gresham Business Assoc.	Downtown Gresham music and artist series	\$5,833	
MetroEast Community Media	Provide summer educational activities centering around media development and use	\$4,642	Yes
Micro Enterprise Services of Oregon	Classes to help historically underserved entrepreneurs to develop their businesses	\$2,100	Yes
Mount Hood Community College Foundation	Support for the jazz festival, a free event open to youth and community members	\$5,000	Yes
Portland Columbia Symphony Orchestra	Audience development program to provide tickets to community members	\$2,500	Yes

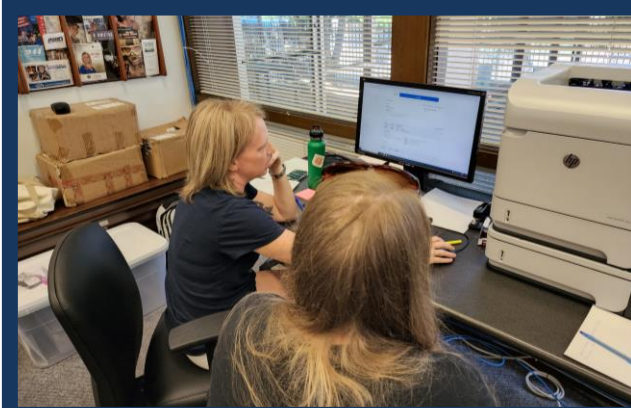
METRO CENTRAL ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM



Trailkeepers of Oregon hosted 32 trail stewardship events with 225 volunteers and a combined 1,136 hours of volunteer service in the Bird Alliance of Oregon wild sanctuary to realign trails and improve hiker accessibility. Trailkeepers built 34 stairs, constructed 75 feet of rock wall, developed 500 feet of new trail, and decommissioned 200 feet of old trail, while revegetating the affected area with native plants. Trail parties included three women's events and two LGBTQ+ events.

Grantees	Description	Award	Primarily helps underserved communities?
Chapman Elementary School	Reading Results program that provides reading interventions for 1st-3rd graders	\$21,000	Yes
Friendly House	Senior services and a community center that offers fitness programs, volunteer opportunities, showers and internet access	\$40,000	Yes
Friends of Trees	Volunteers and youth interns will prune and assess street trees and gain skills in tree identification, care and pruning	\$24,686	
Lift Urban Portland	Replace and upgrade a food pantry refrigeration and freezer system	\$22,000	Yes
Linnton Community Center	Caulking and exterior coatings to weatherize the community center	\$53,405	Yes
Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership	Eight on-river trips and education in 29-foot canoes	\$25,938	
Re:Solve	In-person event and online education connecting people with agencies committed to responding to the potential magnitude 9 Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake	\$21,700	
Skyline School	Reading Results program that provides reading interventions for 1st-3rd graders	\$11,500	Yes
SOLVE	Series of trash, debris and biohazard cleanup events in the Northwest Industrial District	\$23,875	Yes
St. Johns Food Share	Ventilation fans, 400 amp electrical circuit box and new energy efficient refrigerators and freezers	\$19,000	Yes
Store to Door	Volunteer-based grocery shopping and free food box deliveries and referrals to services for homebound seniors	\$25,000	Yes
Trailkeepers of Oregon	Improvements to three trails in the Portland Bird Alliance Wildlife Sanctuary	\$38,470	

OREGON CITY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM



Clean Slate Clackamas helps community members in Oregon City and throughout Clackamas County overcome barriers to employment, housing and education, and achieve personal and economic stability. Participants who receive this service describe the life-changing benefits of criminal record expungement. The program increases access to justice, education, and career training services, and addresses the lasting impacts of incarceration and experiences with the legal system.

Grantees	Description	Award	Primarily helps underserved communities?
Clackamas County Arts Alliance	Training and network support for Oregon City and Clackamas County Artists	\$50,000	
Clackamas County Historical Society	Development of new museum exhibit	\$25,200	
Clackamas River Basin Council	Environmental remediation and youth training	\$43,526	Yes
Clackamas Womens' Services	Directly supports youth at risk for domestic abuse and other trauma	\$50,000	Yes
Clackamas Workforce Partnership	Provides expungement services and support resources for people with a criminal record	\$50,000	Yes
Friends of Trees	Community-based tree planting and care	\$50,000	
Home Orchard Education Center	Community orchard facility	\$27,875	
Mary Rose Foundation	Community mentoring project	\$41,700	Yes
McLoughlin Memorial Association	Landscape and accessibility improvements	\$14,960	
Oregon City Arts Commission	Public art design and installation on Seventh St.	\$15,900	
Oregon City Farmers Market	SNAP Match program	\$18,200	Yes
Oregon City Together	Fentanyl awareness	\$13,000	Yes
Park Place Neighborhood Association	Trail improvement project	\$33,850	

RISE UP ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM



Corbett Fire District purchased 600 life jackets and created two new life jacket stands at Dabney and Lewis and Clark swimming areas on the Sandy River for a total of five life jacket stands. Life jacket stands are continuously restocked, serviced and cleaned and there were no recorded drownings on the Sandy River in summer 2024. The Sandy River Life Jacket Program also provides water safety education in English, Spanish and Russian at popular recreation sites along the river.

Grantees	Description	Award	Primarily helps underserved communities?
Boxes of Love	Provides totes with new clothing, pajamas, shoes, toys, books, toiletries and other comfort items to infants and children transitioning into foster care	\$10,000	Yes
Cascadia Arts Association	Supports Music at the Farmers Market	\$7,500	
City of Wood Village	Removal of invasive species and native plant restoration at a 4.7-acres wetland and future wetland park	\$20,000	
Columbia Slough Watershed Council	Education, habitat restoration and a native garden at Woodland Elementary School	\$11,440	
Corbett Fire District	Free life jackets and bilingual water safety information at 2 additional popular recreation areas along the Sandy River	\$9,212	Yes
Eastside Timbers	Free recreational soccer for 50 soccer players	\$7,675	Yes
Free Arts NW	Design and implementation of a youth-led art installation	\$15,823	
Hmong American Community of Oregon	Preservation of Hmong culture and tradition through dance	\$20,000	Yes
Next Up	Supports a youth leadership academy and year-round youth action team for education on social justice issues	\$15,000	Yes
Sistas Empowerment	Educational arts and cultural projects, musical events for underserved communities	\$20,000	Yes
Trash for Peace	After-school sustainability activities including litter collection and design of a youth garden	\$15,400	Yes

SHERWOOD ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM



American Legion Argonne Post 56 used grant funds to replace their event sign with a digital sign. The non-profit organization notifies the community of Legion and community events. Their original sign had poor visibility and was limited in the number characters available to write a message. The new sign allows the Legion to communicate more effectively to encourage community participation in Legion and community events.

Grantees	Description	Award	Primarily helps underserved communities?
American Legion Post 56	Replace event sign	\$4,185	
American Legion Post 56	Kitchen storage and food service project	\$9,977.60	
American Legion Post 56	Painting the main building and backyard storage building	\$9,600	
American Legion Post 56	Replacing front yard sign	\$550	
City of Sherwood	Community access to life saving services	\$4,000	
Knights Of Columbus	Replace BBQ equipment	\$8,500	
Sherwood Foundation for the Arts	Capital equipment	\$4,368	
Sherwood Historical Society	Windows for Morback House	\$21,433	
Sherwood Library Advisory Board	Start-up costs for Library Foundation	\$3,531	
Sherwood Main Street	Reimagine Sherwood Main Street	\$14,850	

WILSONVILLE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM



Heart of the City serves low-income individuals or families in the Wilsonville area experiencing housing instability with services such as rent assistance, counseling, food distribution and advocacy. The front office serves as a welcome area for visitors, a place of rest for the physically and emotionally exhausted, and a refuge for vulnerable individuals seeking safety and support. Grant funds improved service provided with updated computers, tablets and a waiting area to better serve clients with dignity and respect.

Grantees	Description	Award	Primarily helps underserved communities?
City of Wilsonville Natural Resource Dept.	Local Field Guide	\$19,500	
City of Wilsonville Parks Department	Outdoor instruments to enhance recreation options	\$19,929	
Friends of Trees	Stewardship and restoration	\$19,929	
Grace Chapel/Heart of the City	Equipment to improve client services	\$13,260	Yes
Portland State University	Art Class for Coffee Creek AICs using reusable materials	\$11,187	Yes
Wilsonville Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee	Public art project to be installed at city parks	\$29,000	

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