

**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**  
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

<b>AGENDA TITLE:</b>	Discussing Park Improvements and Property Acquisition Priorities and Funding
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	City Manager's Office
<b>PRESENTED BY:</b>	Christina Arcidy, Management Analyst
<b>ACTION:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion

**PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:**

In July 2017, following an 18-month community engagement process, the City Council adopted the 2017-2023 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan (PROS Plan) via Resolution No. 412. The PROS Plan identifies a 20-year vision and framework for Shoreline's recreation and cultural programs, and for maintenance and investment in park, recreation, and open space facilities. Strategic Action Initiative (SAI) #3 in the PROS Plan established a goal to "expand recreation facility opportunities" and SAI #7 established a goal to "ensure adequate parkland for future generations." Since the adoption of the PROS Plan, staff have developed concept designs for selected parks and reviewed opportunities for property acquisition to achieve those goals.

At its Strategic Planning Workshop on February 28, 2020, the Council asked staff to prepare a proposal and recommendations for placing a bond measure before the voters in 2020 for priority park improvements and property acquisition. The Council Strategic Planning Workshop was held prior to the Declaration of Health Emergency for COVID-19, and due to the public health emergency, Council decided not to place the item on the ballot until the April 2021 Special Election. While the April 2021 measure was supported by voters, it failed to validate, so Council subsequently directed staff to place the measure on the November 2021 General Election. However, staff failed to file the necessary paperwork by the deadline and therefore the item will not appear on the November 2021 General Election ballot.

The City Council's Goals for 2021-2023 includes an Action Step to "Continue to Implement the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan, including implementation of the 2021 Park Bond if approved by voters." Tonight, staff will be asking Council for guidance on next steps towards potentially placing a bond measure before the voters. Several policy questions are presented for Council discussion.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

While there is no direct financial impact to this staff report, it recommends that Council place a \$38.5M bond measure for park improvements and property acquisition on a future ballot. It also recommends using \$3.4M from the City's unreserved, unrestricted

fund balance for the same purpose. A detailed analysis of the financial impact on taxpayers is included in the Discussion section of this report.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that Council direct staff to prepare legislation and other materials necessary for placing a funding measure on the February 2022 Special Election ballot for \$38,500,000 for park improvements and park land acquisition and restrict \$3,400,000 of the City's unreserved, unrestricted fund balance for the same purpose.

Approved By:           City Manager ***DT***   City Attorney ***MK***

## INTRODUCTION

The [2017-2023 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan](#) (PROS Plan), adopted by the City Council on July 31, 2017, establishes a 20-year vision and framework for Shoreline's recreation and cultural programs, and guides maintenance and investments in park, recreation and open space facilities. The PROS Plan includes a series of Strategic Action Initiatives with goals and objectives, including:

- Strategic Action Initiative #3 established the objective to “Expand recreation facility opportunities by adding at least one community garden, two basketball courts, two multi-purpose/pickleball courts, one playground, one swing set, one paved loop path, one spray park, and one adventure playground.”
- Strategic Action Initiative #7 established the objective to “Ensure adequate parkland for future generations by adding five acres of new parkland by 2023 and 20 additional acres by 2030.”

The City Council re-emphasized the importance of park improvements and land acquisition in its 2021-2023 City Council Goals and Workplan:

- Goal 2: Continue to deliver highly valued public services through management of the City's infrastructure and stewardship of the natural environment.
  - Action Step 2: Continue to Implement the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan, including implementation of the 2021 Park Bond if approved by voters

The City Council's guidance from its February 28, 2020, Strategic Planning Workshop was for staff to develop a proposal for a voter approved bond measure to fund improvements to parks and park land acquisition. After initially postponing action due to the COVID-19 emergency, Council placed a bond measure on the April 2021 Special Election. While the measure received 72% votes approving the measure, it failed to reach the 60% validation requirement for a bond measure. Council subsequently directed staff to place the measure on the November 2021 General Election, however staff failed to file the necessary paperwork by the deadline and therefore the item will not appear on the November 2021 General Election ballot.

If Council is interested in moving forward with a ballot measure in 2022, staff would like guidance on these additional policy questions:

1. Should the City move forward with the ballot measure for park improvements and park land acquisition, and if so, when?
2. What is the overall bond measure cost?

There are staff recommendations associated with each of these policy questions outlined in the Discussion section below.

## **BACKGROUND**

### **2006 Park Bond Measure**

In May 2006, Shoreline voters approved a \$18.8M parks and open space ballot measure. This was a 15-year measure, which provided funding for a number of park and recreational facility improvements and the acquisition of open space properties, including South Woods and the Kruckeberg Botanical Garden. The final year of property tax collections for this bond measure is 2021, as the bonds will be completely repaid by the end of 2021. A property owner of a median valued home has paid an average of \$76 per year in property tax to pay for this bond measure.

### **2019 Proposition 1**

The City Council adopted the 2017-2023 Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan on July 31, 2017. It establishes a 20-year vision and framework for Shoreline's recreation and cultural programs, and guides maintenance and investments in park, recreation and open space facilities. The PROS Plan includes a series of Strategic Action Initiatives with goals and objectives, including:

- Strategic Action Initiative #3 established the objective to "Expand recreation facility opportunities by adding at least one community garden, two basketball courts, two multi-purpose/pickleball courts, one playground, one swing set, one paved loop path, one spray park, and one adventure playground."
- Strategic Action Initiative #7 established the objective to "Ensure adequate parkland for future generations by adding five acres on new parkland by 2023 and 20 additional acres by 2030."

The PROS Plan also includes a recommendation for a new Community and Aquatics Center (CAC) to replace the Shoreline Pool and Spartan Recreation Center and strategies to make sure Shoreline's park and urban forest system keeps pace with growth in the City.

The City Manager appointed Shoreline residents to serve on the Parks Funding Advisory Committee (PFAC) to explore funding options and prioritize projects for park improvements and the CAC based on the PROS Plan vision and framework. Using the Committee's input, the City Manager made a recommendation on park funding to the City Council.

On July 29, 2019, the City Council approved placing Shoreline Proposition 1 on the November 5, 2019, general election ballot. Approval of Proposition 1 would have funded the construction of the new Shoreline Aquatics, Recreation, and Community Center (ShARCC) as well as improvements to four community parks. With an approval vote of 54% (60% approval is needed for a bond measure), Shoreline Proposition 1 failed.

### **2020 Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services/Tree Board Recommendation**

After Proposition 1 failed and Council postponed the placement of a different bond measure on the August 2020 Primary and November 2020 General Election ballots, the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services/Tree (PRCS) Board's Parks Sub-Committee focused their attention on reviewing the prior recommendations for funding park

improvements and park acquisitions for a potential April 2021 Special Election bond measure.

The Parks Sub-Committee met 14 times between July 2020 and September 2020, which included four meetings with City staff. The sub-committee, which was comprised of three board members who had all served on PFAC, used five criteria to craft their recommendation to the PRCS/Tree Board:

- Community Engagement – prioritize input from the Shoreline Community (PFAC and PROS Plan)
- Equity-Based Investment – Considered underfunded parks and underserved groups
- Invest Across the Shoreline Community
- Balance Investment in Current Parks with Acquisition – Consider improving existing property with the need for future park development
- Bond Size – Renewal level at \$26M versus increased at \$38.5M

The Parks Sub-Committee presented their recommendation to the full PRCS/Tree Board on September 24, 2020. The PRCS/Tree Board voted unanimously to endorse the Sub-Committee's recommendation. Staff considered the PRCS/Tree Board Recommendation as part of the staff recommendation presented to Council tonight.

### **Council Discussions**

The City Council's Goals for 2020-2022 includes an Action Step to "Implement the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan, including priority park improvements and acquisition of additional park properties." At its Strategic Planning Workshop on February 28, 2020, the Council asked staff to prepare a proposal and recommendations for placing a bond measure before the voters in 2020 for priority park improvements and property acquisition. The Strategic Planning Workshop agenda and white papers can be found here: [Strategic Planning Workshop Packet, February 28-29, 2020](#).

The Council's Strategic Planning Workshop was held prior to the Declaration of Health Emergency for COVID-19. On March 30, 2020, the City Council discussed whether to place a bond measure, ranging from \$21.1M to \$38.5M, for park property acquisition and park improvements, on the August 2020 primary ballot. The Council determined then that the timing was not appropriate for the measure to appear on the August ballot given the COVID-19 Health Emergency. Council directed staff to bring this item back for further discussion to determine if a measure should be placed on the November 2020 General Election ballot or a future election. The staff report from the March 30 discussion can be found here: [Discussing Park Improvements and Property Acquisition Priorities and Funding](#).

This was discussed again at the June 15, 2020, Council meeting, where the Council again determined the time was not appropriate given the continued impacts of COVID-19. The Council directed staff to bring this item back for further discussion to determine if a measure should be placed on the April 2021 Special Election. The staff report from the June 15 discussion can be found here: [Discussing a Potential General Election Bond Measure for Park Improvements and Acquisition](#).

Council discussed the potential for a bond measure again at the November 2, 2020, Council meeting. Of the four policy questions discussed that evening, Council only gave direction on the bond measure length, which they agreed could be 20 years. Given the expected record-breaking returns for the 2020 November General Election, Council determined that they wanted to know the validation requirements for the 2021 elections before they gave further direction on the other three policy questions. The staff report from the November 2 discussion can be found here: [Discussing Park Improvements and Acquisition Priorities and Funding](#).

During the December 7, 2020, Council meeting, Council gave staff direction to prepare legislation and other materials necessary to place a bond measure on the April 2021 Special Election ballot. Council gave direction that the bond measure should be for \$38.5M for a length of 20 years for a mix of park improvement and park acquisitions. The staff report from the December 7 discussion can be found here: [Continued Discussion of Park Improvement and Acquisition Priorities for Potential Bond Measure](#).

After the April 2021 Special Election failed to validate, the Council again gave staff direction to prepare legislation and other materials necessary to place the same bond measure package on the November 2021 General Election. The staff report from the June 14 Council discussion on this action can be found here: [Discussion of Ordinance No. 932 - Authorizing the Placement of a Ballot Measure on the 2021 November General Election Ballot to Authorize a Property Tax Bond Measure for Park Improvements and Park Land Acquisition](#).

Staff failed to file the necessary paperwork with King County Elections by the deadline and therefore the ballot measure will not appear on the November 2021 General Election ballot.

## **DISCUSSION**

Tonight, Council is asked to discuss the following policy questions regarding a possible bond measure for park improvements and park land acquisitions:

1. Should the City move forward with the ballot measure for park improvements and park land acquisition? If so, when?
2. What is the overall bond measure cost?

### **Should the City Move Forward with the Ballot Measure for park improvements and park land acquisition, and if so, when?**

As previously stated, the April 2021 Special Election Ballot to authorize a property tax bond measure for park improvements and park land acquisition failed. While the measure had support from 72% of the ballots counted, the measure failed to validate because less than 40% of the votes cast in the November 2020 General Election were cast in the April 2021 Special Election. Given the strong community support for the April 2021 ballot measure and previous support through the previous public processes noted above, Council will be discussing whether to direct staff to prepare legislation to place a ballot measure for park improvements and park land acquisition on a future ballot.

## Upcoming Ballot Measures

When the City considers placing a bond measure on the ballot, it takes into account the other potential measures likely in front of voters around the same time. The following table presents a list of anticipated ballot measures between 2022 and 2024.

### Potential Ballot Measures 2022-2024

Election	Potential Measure
2022	City of Shoreline Property Tax Levy Lid Lift
2022	Shoreline School District O&M Levy Replacement/Renewal
2022	Shoreline School District Technology Levy Replacement/Renewal
2023	King County Puget Sound Emergency Radio
2023	King County Veteran and Human Services Levy
2024	King County Automated Fingerprinting

The City Manager has discussed the potential for the Park Bond to be placed on the February 2022 Special Election Ballot, the same election in which two School District levies will be on the ballot, with the Shoreline School District Superintendent. The City Manager is sensitive to the fact that traditionally, the City and the School District have not placed measures on the same ballot. To date, the Superintendent has not shared any concerns about the possibility of the City having a measure on the same ballot.

The City is also exploring whether to place a Property Tax Levy Lid Lift on the November 2022 General Election Ballot. Staff plans to convene a community advisory committee in Spring 2022 to make a recommendation to the City Manager for what should be included in the Levy Lid Lift. The City Manager anticipates making a recommendation to City Council by Summer 2022 in order to meet the August deadline for potential inclusion in the November 2022 General Election.

### Approval and Validation Requirements

As noted above, a bond measure requires a minimum 60% 'yes' vote to pass. Special and primary elections require that in order for the ballot measure to 'validate,' that at least 40% of the number of votes cast in the previous general election need to be cast in the special or primary election. It is expected that the number of active registered voters who vote in the off-cycle November 2021 General Election will be lower than the November 2020 General Election based on prior year ballot return statistics. In the table below, if there is an "N/A" under the Active Registered Voters and Ballots Returned columns, that means there were no ballots mailed to Shoreline precincts.

### Ballot Return Statistics 2016-2021

Year		Feb	Apr	Aug	Nov	Year		Feb	Apr	Aug	Nov
2016	Active Registered Voters	N/A	N/A	N/A	37,993	2019	Active Registered Voters	N/A	N/A	38,427	38,359
	Ballots Returned	N/A	N/A	N/A	31,231		Ballots Returned	N/A	N/A	13,431	19,606
	Ballots Ready for Counting	N/A	N/A	N/A	30,863		Ballots Ready for Counting	N/A	N/A	13,238	19,418
2017	Active Registered Voters	37,865	N/A	37,801	37,451	2020	Active Registered Voters	N/A	N/A	N/A	40,569
	Ballots Returned	14,526	N/A	12,205	14,632		Ballots Returned	N/A	N/A	22,038	35,321
	Ballots Ready for Counting	N/A	N/A	12,056	14,459		Ballots Ready for Counting	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018	Active Registered Voters	37,264	N/A	37,430	37,633	2021	Active Registered Voters	N/A	40,105	40,161	-
	Ballots Returned	11,743	N/A	16,987	28,978		Ballots Returned	N/A	14,108	13,661	-
	Ballots Ready for Counting	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		Ballots Ready for Counting	N/A	13,970	13,865	-

For Special and Primary Elections for 2016-2021, ballot returns have fluctuated between 11,743 and 22,038, with an average of 15,005 ballots returned. Off-cycle election years had an average of 13,567. Because the November 2021 General Election has not yet happened, we do not know how this would impact validation for 2022 elections.

**Election Costs**

Election costs are based upon a jurisdiction’s proportionate share. Each jurisdiction’s cost is determined by taking the total number of registered voters in the jurisdiction and dividing it by the total number of all registered voters in all participating jurisdictions in the election. Election costs vary from one election to the next, depending on a variety of factors. Special elections in February and April are often shared by a smaller number of jurisdictions, thus the proportional share is often greater. In the case of a single jurisdiction election, the cost would be 100%.

The cost of participating in a local voters’ pamphlet is no longer processed separately from election costs. King County Elections is now required to produce a local voters’ pamphlet for all elections ([RCW 29A.32.210](#)). This is a change from past years where districts had to request that King County Elections publish a local voters’ pamphlet for a special election in February or April. Now, a local voters’ pamphlet will be published for all districts in an election automatically for the February, April, August and November elections.

King County Elections estimates the cost of the February 2022 Special Election to be between \$91,181 and \$103,923, which includes the cost of the election and voter pamphlet. There will be at least one other special purpose district (Shoreline School District) on the ballot with whom the City would share the election costs.

**What Should the Overall Bond Measure Cost?**

The current parks and open spaces bond measure (approved by voters in 2006) is set to retire this year and be removed from property tax bills in 2022. A property owner of a median priced home is paying approximately \$76 in 2020 in property tax towards the repayment of the 2006 bonds.

**Parks Improvement and Land Acquisition Package Cost**

The April 2021 Special Election bond measure package was for a total of \$38.5 million for park improvements and property acquisition, which are outlined in the table below.

***April 2021 Special Election Bond Measure***

<b>Bond measure component</b>	<b>Cost (millions)</b>
Priority Park Improvements	\$20.6
Priority Park Amenities	\$4.7
Park land Acquisition	\$9.5
Improvement to Acquired Property	\$3.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$38.5</b>



The cost estimate for the April 2021 measure was originally developed in 2018 along with the preliminary designs. In August 2020, the estimates were increased by 2% to account for inflation. Staff recently analyzed inflation of both the cost of materials and construction. The 2021 Construction Cost Index is 8.43%, as opposed to 0.94% in 2020 and 4.79% in 2019. The increase was driven in large part by labor shortages and supply chain issues. Industry experts estimate that such issues will be in place for the foreseeable future and recommend that an inflation factor of at least 8% be used for 2022 and nothing less than 5% for 2023. With this in mind, staff updated the previously recommended bond measure package to account for recent and future inflation, which is outlined in the following table. Staff did not inflate the costs of land acquisition but instead updated the values per property since some properties have already been purchased in anticipation of a future bond measure.

**October 2021 Inflation Estimate for Previous Bond Measure Package**

Bond measure component	Cost (millions)
Priority Park Improvements	\$23.2
Priority Park Amenities	\$5.2
Park Land Acquisition	\$9.5
Improvement to Acquired Property	\$4.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$41.9</b>

Staff is recommending that the park improvement and land acquisition package remain the same and the costs associated with the package be adjusted for inflation. This brings the cost of the package to \$41.9M.

**Funding Options**

Previous Council discussions for funding the park improvements and land acquisition package focused solely on a bond measure. Council previously authorized a \$38.5M bond measure to pay for the costs associated with the package. Staff is recommending that Council consider a mix of funding options if Council would like to place a measure on a future ballot. Staff recommends Council authorize a \$38.5M bond measure and \$3.4M from the City’s unreserved, unrestricted fund balance to pay for these improvements and acquisitions.

The impact of a \$38.5 million bond measure on a median valued home (\$534,000), a home valued at \$750,000 and a home valued at \$1,000,000 is shown in the next table. The net impact, or difference between the current 2006 Parks Bond and the proposed Parks Bond, on the owner of a median valued home would be between \$3 per month for a bond length of 20 years.

**Impacts of an \$38.5 Million Bond Measure Over 20 Years**

	Amount of Bond Issue = \$38,500,000		Cost of Expiring Bond		Net Increase	
	Annual Impact	Monthly Impact	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly
2020 Median Valued Home (\$534,000)	\$107	\$9	\$76	\$6	\$31	\$3
Home Valued at \$750,000	\$150	\$13	\$110	\$9	\$40	\$4
Home Valued at \$1,000,000	\$201	\$17	\$147	\$12	\$54	\$5

Current estimates project that by the end of 2021 the City’s unreserved, unrestricted fund balance to be at between \$16-17M. While staff was expecting an economic downturn due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this has not occurred. Staff recommends that \$3.4M supplement the proposed park improvement and land acquisition bond measure, which will still leave at least \$11-12M in unreserved, unrestricted fund balance.

**Staff Recommendation**

1. *Should the City move forward with the ballot measure for park improvements and park land acquisition? If so, when?* – **Staff recommends yes; staff recommends the February 2022 Special Election.** The Shoreline community has consistently ranked parks and recreation services as a priority. Based on historical responses to resident surveys there has been a high level of satisfaction with parks and an indication that residents want continued investment in park improvements and increased park/open space properties.

Staff also feels that the Shoreline School District levies would generate a high enough turn out to help the City meet the validation requirement, which will be set based on the November 2021 General Election voter turnout. Delaying the ballot measure would also further add to the anticipated costs of construction.

2. *What is the overall bond measure cost?* – **Staff recommends \$38.5M.** The remaining \$3.4M would come from the City’s unreserved, unrestricted fund balance.

**ALTERNATIVES DISCUSSION**

Staff prepared two alternatives to the staff-recommended park investment bond at \$38.5M with an additional \$3.4M from the unreserved, unrestricted fund balance. The two alternatives include a \$38.5M bond with no other City funding, and a \$41.9M bond with no other City funding. Any of these alternatives could be placed on the February 2022 Special Election ballot or delayed to a future election. The alternatives (including the staff-recommended alternative) are as follows:

**Alternative 1: Staff Recommendation - \$38.5M bond plus \$3.4M from reserves**

Alternative 1 would place a 20-year \$38.5M bond measure on the February 2022 Special Election ballot. It additionally would encumber \$3.4M from the City’s current

unreserved, unrestricted fund balance, which is expected to be at about \$16-17M by the end of 2021. As noted above, this alternative includes \$23.2M for five priority parks; \$5.2M for park amenity improvements at Ridgecrest Park, Shoreview Park, Kruckeberg Botanic Garden, and additional funding for public art; \$9.5M for park land acquisition; and \$4.0M in improvements on newly acquired park land.

### **Alternative 2: \$38.5M bond with no other City funds**

Alternative 2 would place a 20-year \$38.5M bond measure on the February 2022 Special Election ballot, and would reduce the scope of the package due to no other City funds being authorized for this package. This alternative would include \$20.8M for the five priority parks; \$4.2M for priority park amenities; \$9.5M for land acquisition; and \$4.0M for improvements on newly acquired park land.

#### *Differences between Alternative 1 and 2:*

- **Hillwood:** Alternative 2 reduces the scope of the project by \$500K, which would likely result in removing the spray park.
- **Richmond Highlands:** Alternative 2 reduces the scope of the project by \$1M, which would likely result in reducing the size of the play area (playground) significantly as well as reducing the improvements to the ballfield.
- **James Keough:** Alternative 2 reduces the scope of the project by \$0.9M, which would likely result in a dog-park only project. This removes the Portland Loo (park restroom), the play equipment, and all picnic shelters and benches. It also removes most of the accent plantings. The staff recommendation of \$3.0M removed certain park amenities or replaced higher cost amenities with a lower cost amenity. Examples include removing the multi-sport court and kids garden; reducing the number of benches and picnic tables; and replacing the play area with a smaller play spot.
- **Public Art:** Alternative 2 removes the \$1M for public art, which would be used to acquire a significant piece or pieces of public art for a public space.

### **Alternative 3: \$41.9M bond**

Alternative 3 would include all the park improvements and land acquisition as described in Alternative 1, but fund it using only the bond measure. Similar to Alternative 1, this alternative would cover the estimated inflationary costs and keep the scope of the former bond package intact. The impact of a \$41.9 million bond measure on a median valued home (\$534,000), a home valued at \$750,000 and a home valued at \$1,000,000 is shown in the next table. The net impact, or difference between the current 2006 Parks Bond and the proposed Parks Bond, on the owner of a median valued home would be between \$4 per month for a bond length of 20 years.

**Impacts of a \$41.9 Million Bond Measure Over 20 Years**

Amount of Bond Issue = \$41,900,000			Cost of Expiring Bond		Net Increase	
	Annual Impact	Monthly Impact	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly
2020 Median Valued Home (\$534,000)	\$117	\$10	\$76	\$6	\$41	\$4
Home Valued at \$750,000	\$164	\$14	\$110	\$9	\$54	\$5
Home Valued at \$1,000,000	\$218	\$18	\$147	\$12	\$71	\$6

The following table summarizes the three alternatives, with Alternative 1 being the Staff Recommendation.

**Bond Measure Alternatives Summary**

	Alternative 1 (Staff Recommendation)	Alternative 2	Alternative 3
<b>Funding Category</b>	<b>Cost (millions)</b>		
Priority Park Improvements	\$23.2	\$20.8	\$23.2
Park Amenities	\$5.2	\$4.2	\$5.2
Land Acquisition	\$9.5	\$9.5	\$9.5
Improvement to Acquired Property	\$4.0	\$4.0	\$4.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$41.9</b>	<b>\$38.5</b>	<b>\$41.9</b>
<b>Bond Funding Total</b>			
Bond Funding Total	\$38.5	\$38.5	\$41.9
Unreserved, Unrestricted Fund Balance Funding Total	\$3.4	-	-
<b>Net Monthly Impact of 20-year bond measure on median valued home compared to current 2006 Park Bond</b>			
	\$3/month	\$3/month	\$4/month

A more detailed table of the investments within each alternative is attached at Attachment A: Parks Investment Bond Measure Alternatives Detail.

**STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH**

After the adoption of the PROS Plan, staff actively engaged the community in development of park concept designs. The PFAC provided a forum for stakeholders to provide input into park improvements. The PRCS/Tree Board has consistently been kept informed and provided input at its monthly meetings.

The PRCS/Tree Board voted at its May 28, 2020, meeting to recommend the City Council move forward with a Bond measure in November 2020 for park improvements and acquisition that would be a renewal (approximately \$26 million) of the expiring parks bond and the Board would like to offer input on the contents of that Bond measure. The PRCS/Tree Board voted at its September 24, 2020, meeting to recommend the City Council move forward with a bond measure in April 2021 for park improvements and acquisition that would be \$38.5M, as opposed to the May 2020 recommendation of a renewal bond. The Board has previously offered their input on the contents of the potential bond measure.

### **NEXT STEPS**

If Council directs staff to move forward with a ballot measure to fund park improvements and park land acquisition for the February 2022 Special Election, the next steps in the process would be as follows:

- Develop a proposed ordinance for Council discussion and potential action at Council's November 1, 2021, meeting, which, if passed, would place the ballot measure on the February 2022 Special Election ballot.
  - Discussing and taking action during the same meeting would require Council to suspend the Council Rules of Procedure 3.5(B), which requires an Ordinance to receive three readings; the first reading is considered when the agenda is posted, the second is during a Council meeting for discussion, and the third is during a Council meeting for review and potential action.
  - Suspending the Council Rules of Procedure 3.5(B) would trigger Council Rules of Procedure 6.1(B), which requires public comment to occur after the staff report presentation but before the Council discussion, review, and action.
  - If Council does not want to suspend its Council Rules and discuss and take action at one meeting, Council could potentially take action on the proposed ordinance at its November 15, 2021, meeting.
- If the proposed ordinance is adopted, staff would solicit interested persons and Council would appoint Pro and Con Committees for the Voters' Pamphlet.
- If approved by Council, staff would submit an adopted Ordinance to King County Elections after the Ordinance is signed, but no later than 4:30 p.m. on December 10, 2021, to notify them of placement on the February 2022 Special Election ballot.
- Staff would then execute the Communication Plan regarding the ballot measure.

### **COUNCIL GOAL ADDRESSED**

This potential bond measure relates to Council Goal 2, Action Step 2:

- Goal 2: Continue to deliver highly valued public services through management of the City's infrastructure and stewardship of the natural environment.
  - Action Step 2: Implement the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan, including priority park improvements and acquisition of additional park properties

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

While there is no direct financial impact to this staff report, it recommends that Council place a \$38.5M bond measure for park improvements and property acquisition on a future ballot. It also recommends using \$3.4M from the City's unreserved, unrestricted fund balance for the same purpose. A detailed analysis of the financial impact on taxpayers is included in the Discussion section of this report.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that Council direct staff to prepare legislation and other materials necessary for placing a funding measure on the February 2022 Special Election ballot for \$38,500,000 for park improvements and park land acquisition and restrict \$3,400,000 of the City's unreserved, unrestricted fund balance for the same purpose.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A – Parks Investment Bond Measure Alternatives Detail

<b>Parks Investments Bond Measure Alternatives Detail</b>			
<b>Cost (millions)</b>			
<b>Item</b>	<b>Alternative 1 (Staff Recommendation)</b>	<b>Alternative 2</b>	<b>Alternative 3</b>
<b><i>Priority Park Improvements</i></b>			
Briarcrest – Hamlin Park	\$5.5	\$5.5	\$5.5
Brugger’s Bog	\$3.8	\$3.8	\$3.8
Hillwood	\$4.5	\$4.0	\$4.5
Richmond Highlands	\$6.5	\$5.5	\$6.5
James Keough	\$2.9	\$2.0	\$2.9
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$23.2</b>	<b>\$20.8</b>	<b>\$23.2</b>
<b><i>Priority Park Amenities</i></b>			
Public Art	\$1.0	\$0.0	\$1.0
Ridgecrest	\$1.5	\$1.5	\$1.5
Shoreview	\$2.1	\$2.1	\$2.1
Kruckeberg	\$0.6	\$0.6	\$0.6
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$5.2</b>	<b>\$4.2</b>	<b>\$5.2</b>
<b>Park Improvements &amp; Park Amenity Sub Total</b>	<b>\$28.4</b>	<b>\$25.0</b>	<b>\$28.4</b>
<b><i>Park Land Acquisition</i></b>			
Match for Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) grant for Paramount Open Space	\$0.6	\$0.6	\$0.6
Westminster Triangle Park	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Brugger’s Bog	\$1.2	\$1.2	\$1.2
Portion of property at Rotary Park	\$2.4	\$2.4	\$2.4
Additional property at Rotary Park, light rail station areas	\$5.3	\$5.3	\$5.3
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$9.5</b>	<b>\$9.5</b>	<b>\$9.5</b>
<b><i>Improvement to Acquired Property</i></b>			
Paramount Open Space, Westminster Triangle	\$0.83	\$0.83	\$0.83
Portion of property at Rotary Park	\$0.79	\$0.79	\$0.79

Additional property at Rotary Park, light rail station areas	\$2.38	\$2.38	\$2.38
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$4.0</b>	<b>\$4.0</b>	<b>\$4.0</b>
<b>Park Acquisitions &amp; Related Improvements Sub Total</b>	<b>\$13.5</b>	<b>\$13.5</b>	<b>\$13.5</b>
<b>Total Proposed for Bond</b>	<b>\$41.9</b>	<b>\$38.5</b>	<b>\$41.9</b>
<b>Taxpayer Amount</b>			
20 Year - Median Home	\$117/year; \$10/month	\$112/year; \$9/month	\$117/year; \$10/month
<b>Over/Under 2006</b>			
	\$41/year; \$4/month	\$36/year; \$3/month	\$41/year; \$4/month