

**METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
OF TACOMA**



AGENDA

July 25, 2022

6:00 P.M.

Metro Parks Headquarters

4702 S 19th St.

Tacoma, WA 98405

Or

Join Remotely

Via Telephone: 1-253-215-8782

Enter Meeting ID: 871 2522 2425

Participant ID: no ID needed just press #

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87125222425>

MEETINGS ARE RECORDED
AND MAY BE HEARD UPON REQUEST

COMMISSIONERS

ANDREA SMITH, PRESIDENT

AARON POINTER, CLERK

TIM REID

ROSIE AYALA

MICHAEL LIANG

5:30 P.M. **STUDY SESSION** QUARTERLY CAPITAL UPDATE

6:00 P.M. **CALL TO ORDER**

ROLL CALL

FLAG SALUTE

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

STANDING COMMITTEE & COMMISSION REPORTS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

"Park District meeting sites are accessible to people who require special accommodations, please contact 305-1091 48 hours prior to the meeting time."



REGULAR MEETING

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Community comment is encouraged to be submitted in advance of the meeting in written form. Please submit written comments to the Board by 4 p.m. on July 25, 2022 by e-mailing them to Jennifer Bowman at jenniferb@tacomaparks.com. Comments will be compiled and sent to Board members in advance of the meeting. Comments may also be left on voicemail at 253-305-1091 by 4 p.m. on July 25, 2022. Verbal comments will also be allowed during the meeting both in-person and remotely. To request to speak during community comments, please press the Raise Hand button near the bottom of your Zoom window or *9 on your phone. All speakers will have up to three minutes to speak.

MINUTES

- (5-10) MINUTES OF THE JULY 11, 2022 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

CONSENT AGENDA

- (11-14) **RESOLUTION NO. R54-22:** POINT DEFIANCE MARINA COMPLEX IMPROVEMENTS PIER PILING REPLACEMENT & BOATHOUSE REPAIR PROJECT NO. J2021-24 FINAL ACCEPTANCE TO AMERICAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC.

REGULAR AGENDA

PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS

(Requiring one reading for adoption)

PUBLIC WORKS PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS

(Requiring one reading for adoption)

SINGLE READING RESOLUTIONS

(Requiring one reading for adoption)

- (15-16) **RESOLUTION NO. R55-22:** ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$50,000 FROM PIERCE COUNTY FOR THE MELANIE LAPLANT DRESSEL PARK PROJECT (Contact: Debbie Russell, Director of Business Administration & Planning)
- (17-18) **RESOLUTION NO. R56-22:** ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$750,000 FROM THE CITY OF TACOMA FOR THE MELANIE LAPLANT DRESSEL PARK PROJECT (Contact: Debbie Russell, Director of Business Administration & Planning)
- (19-22) **RESOLUTION NO. R57-22:** ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING WASHINGTON STATE COMMERCE FUNDS FOR GAS STATION PARK IMPROVEMENTS AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT (Contact: Debbie Russell, Director of Business Administration & Planning)

SECOND READING RESOLUTIONS

(Requiring two readings for adoption)

- (23-32) **RESOLUTION NO. RR53-22:** A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON, PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022, OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT TO LIFT THE PROPERTY TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN RCW 84.55.010 TO FUND THE RESTORATION, PRESERVATION, MAINTENANCE, OPERATION AND SECURITY OF PARK, RECREATION AND ZOOLOGICAL FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS (Contact: Hunter George, Policy and Government Relations Officer)

FIRST READINGS:

(Requiring two readings for adoption)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

BOARD COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

July 27, 2022	Capital Improvement Committee	4:45 PM	Park Headquarters
July 27, 2022	Committee of the Whole Meeting	5:30 PM	Park Headquarters
August 8, 2022	Regular Park Board Meeting	6:00 PM	Park Headquarters
August 15, 2022	Committee of the Whole	5:30 PM	Park Headquarters
August 22, 2022	Regular Park Board Meeting	6:00 PM	Park Headquarters
August 24, 2022	Capital Improvement Committee	5:00 PM	Park Headquarters

*Remote Option meeting details can be found on the Metro Parks Website www.metroparkstacoma.org

*Committee Meetings are subject to change - please check the Metro Parks Website, www.metroparkstacoma.org for the most up to date meeting schedules.





**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
JULY 11, 2022**

PRESENT: Tim Reid
Michael Liang
REMOTE: Andrea Smith, President
Rosie Ayala

EXCUSED: Aaron Pointer

IN THE CHAIR: Tim Reid

PLACE: MPT Headquarters, 4702 S. 19th St. Tacoma, WA

STUDY SESSION

Sheryl Blessing and Julian McGilvery who supervise the District's Beyond the Bell and Club Beyond Programs were introduced by Hollie Rogge.

Ms. Blessing informed the Board that the Beyond the Bell program helps to build a comprehensive system that can be easily navigated by families that brings a network of service providers together who offer equitable and affordable arts, enrichment, science, nature, fitness, and sports programming as well as childcare for Tacoma students. Staff stated that the Youth Services unit at Metro Parks Tacoma has key goals in mind with every youth service program that is offered including: safety, strength-based principles, diversity and inclusion, accountability, and quality. Mr. McGilvery then commented on the areas that make up the Whole Child initiative including the Beyond the Bell program, childcare, field trips and summer programming. Staff then reviewed an organizational chart that highlighted locations of all the youth services program offerings occurring at schools, community centers and park locations. Staff then discussed the collective impact model being used to run these programs and articulated the roles and responsibilities of the agencies that are currently involved including Tacoma Public Schools, Metro Parks Tacoma and Greentrike.

Ms. Blessing and Mr. McGilvery then highlighted the session schedules as well as the daily schedules for Club Beyond. Ms. Blessing continued the conversation by noting the importance of social emotional learning that is addressed through the programs that are being offered via the Whole Child initiatives. Several graphs noting attendance data and registrations of these programs were then reviewed.

The presentation concluded with staff noting the successes and opportunities moving forward as the Beyond the Bell program continues, including improving training and hiring more staff, standing up childcare as it relates to organizational licensing, offering successful field trip experiences, and creating consistency with delivery practices.

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Metropolitan Park District Board of Park Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Reid at 6:05 p.m.

A motion was made to excuse Commissioner Pointer; seconded and passed unanimously.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH PROCLAMATION

Mark Knowlden began the presentation by noting the significant value parks and recreation play in the community. Commissioner Ayala then read a proclamation recognizing July as Parks and Recreation Month in Tacoma.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT None

STANDING COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Commissioner Liang stated he recently toured Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium with staff. He also commented positively on the Pride event he attended last weekend with other local elected officials.

Nature & Environment Advisory Council

Commissioner Ayala reported that the council is scheduled to meet on July 12th.

Joint Municipal Action Committee

Commissioner Ayala and President Smith reported they attended JMAC last Friday. They reported that Tacoma Police Chief Avery Moore was present and shared details of the department’s strategic plan to reduce crime in the city. President Smith also stated that each agency had an opportunity to report out on safety challenges their respective agencies are facing.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Debbie Russell acting on behalf of Executive Director Shon Sylvia commented on the following:

- New District employees Tania Wink and Amy Wilson were introduced.
- Congratulations were extended to the staff at Fort Nisqually Living History Museum as they are one of two Washington organizations to win the prestigious 2022 AASLH Award of Excellence, awarded for the online Puget Sound Treaty War Panel series.
- Metro Parks Tacoma and City of Tacoma partnered together to bring a great, family friendly July 4th event to the Waterfront for the 2022 Summer Blast. Attendance numbers will be available soon. There was a great presence by the Tacoma Police Department and Fire Department in helping assist in pulling off a safe, family friendly event.
- This weekend marks the first paid concert at Dune Peninsula with Island Empire Festival on Saturday followed by a free, community Pride event on Sunday.

- Mosaic, Tacoma’s Arts and Culture Festival, returns to Wright Park on July 23rd and 24th after a two-year hiatus. The event is from 12-7p.m. and is free to attend.
- There is a Capital Improvement Committee meeting this Wednesday, July 13th at 5p.m.
- Staff is planning for a Board Committee of the Whole Meeting on Monday, July 18th.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS None

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 27, 2022 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Commissioner Liang moved to adopt the minutes as presented; seconded by Commissioner Ayala and passed on a vote of 4-0 (Commissioner Pointer being excused).

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. C48-22: APPROVAL OF WARRANTS CLAIM FUND FOR JUNE 2022

RESOLUTION NO. C49-22: W.W. SEYMOUR CONSERVATORY REHABILITATION PROJECT NO. J2021-01 FINAL ACCEPTANCE TO PEASE CONSTRUCTION

Commissioner Liang moved to adopt the consent agenda as presented; seconded by Commissioner Ayala and passed on a vote of 4-0 (Commissioner Pointer being excused).

PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS None

PUBLIC WORKS PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. PW50-22: PDZA POLAR BEAR MINOR EXHIBIT IMPROVEMENTS A/E CONTRACT AWARD TO BCRA DESIGN

Commissioner Liang moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Ayala.

Debbie Russell stated that this item was discussed at the June 29th CIC meeting.

Ms. Russell commented that PDZA is planning for minor improvements to the nearly 40-year-old Polar Bear Exhibit that can be accomplished in the next 11 months with a goal of having it ready to receive a new Polar Bear ahead of the 2023 peak visitor season. She further stated that

the design work will be completed by BCRA and that some of the improvement work will be completed by PDZA staff.

Being no additional comments, the question was called, and the resolution passed on a vote of 4-0 (Commissioner Pointer being excused).

SINGLE READING RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. R51-22: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO NEGOTIATE A CONTRACT WITH EVENT NETWORK FOR OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE RETAIL OPERATIONS AT POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM AND NORTHWEST TREK WILDLIFE PARK

Commissioner Liang moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Ayala.

Alan Varsik commented that in January 2021, after challenges and business impacts associated with COVID closures, Wildlife Trading Company announced an upcoming change in their retail operations and informed Metro Parks that Event Network, LLC would assume the retail operations and purchasing. He noted that staff is familiar with Event Network and commented positively on their product line and business practices as they support many of the objectives that are in line with the Zoo’s strategic plan.

Being no additional comments, the question was called, and the resolution passed on a vote of 4-0 (Commissioner Pointer being excused).

RESOLUTION NO. R52-22: ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$490,000 FROM THE STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOR THE MELANIE LAPLANT DRESSEL PARK PROJECT

Commissioner Liang moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Ayala.

Debbie Russell commented that this funding has resulted from a request from Representative Jake Fey. She further noted that this resolution accepts and appropriates a \$490,000 grant from the Washington State Department of Commerce for the Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park Project and authorizes the Executive Director to enter into a contract agreement for the awarded grant.

Being no additional comments, the question was called, and the resolution passed on a vote of 4-0 (Commissioner Pointer being excused).

SECOND READINGS RESOLUTIONS None

FIRST READING RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. RR53-22: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON, PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022, OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT TO LIFT THE PROPERTY TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN RCW 84.55.010 TO FUND THE RESTORATION, PRESERVATION, MAINTENANCE, OPERATION AND SECURITY OF PARK, RECREATION AND ZOOLOGICAL FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS

Commissioner Liang moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Ayala.

Hunter George stated that under state law, a taxing jurisdiction can only increase its regular property tax levy by 1% above the amount of revenue collected the previous year (not including new construction). He further stated that 1% limit does not keep up with inflationary and operational costs. Additionally, Mr. George commented that pro-rationing occurs when one or more taxing districts have the same statutory right to levy for taxes. The Board members were reminded that levy rates are limited by either the \$5.90 / \$1,000 maximum (combined levies for senior and junior taxing districts) or the 1% constitutional limit.

Mr. George continued by stating that the combination of rising assessed values and the state-mandated cap on revenue collection substantially reduces the District's levy rate. He also indicated that while state law authorizes park districts to collect \$0.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value, the state's property tax cap has eroded Metro Parks' rate to \$0.46 due to consistently increasing property values.

Mr. George commented that the only way to restore the rate to the legal limit of \$0.75 per \$1,000 is to ask voters to consider what is known as a "levy lid lift." Board members were reminded that MPT last had a levy lid lift on the ballot in April 2010, which voters approved 68 percent to 32 percent. MPT received the full amount of funding for the next six years.

Mr. George stated that the Board asked staff to monitor the erosion of property tax revenues under the state-mandated cap and to consider a potential lid-lift between 2017-2020. Once the pandemic struck, however, staff recommended to wait and re-evaluate the situation after 2021 and focus on the financial needs of the district moving into the next biennium.

Staff noted that MPT has spent the past two years seeking community input on the types of programs and services needed and operational improvements that would better serve residents. It was noted that this engagement has come through customer service surveys; meeting with ethnic and cultural partners, program focus groups, and advisory councils; and hosting "Co-create to Recreate" events. Mr. George noted that additionally, the nonprofit Trust for Public Lands (TPL), which works with communities across the nation to increase public access to parks, programs and open space, says its own community survey shows Tacoma residents want

the District to address key needs, including basic maintenance and operations to support out-of-school recreation programming and access to clean and secure facilities, parks, and open spaces. Mr. George stated that MPT’s levy rate has eroded from \$0.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2016 to \$0.46 today. He commented that the average Tacoma home value for tax year 2022 is \$415,000, according to the Assessor-Treasurer’s Office. The Board was informed that restoring the rate to \$0.75 via a levy lid lift would increase the rate 29 cents per \$1,000, which amounts to a little over \$10 per month for the average home.

Mr. George commented that if voters agree to restore to the full authorization of \$0.75, the District would receive an estimated \$10 million annually for the restoration, preservation, maintenance, and operation of park, recreation and zoological facilities and programs.

Mr. George stated that staff has been working with Pacifica Law and Key Banc on this issue.

Commissioner Ayala requested additional information on the modal value of homes in Tacoma. Commissioners stated that it is important for the community to be aware of the loss of revenue during COVID and that much of the funding over the past 2 years has been one-time funding from COVID relief dollars and will not continue.

Doug Andreassen representing the District’s Business & Responsive Agency Advisory Council stated that he has looked over the District’s financials and is supportive of the Board placing this issue on the ballot in November.

Being no additional comments, the resolution moves to second reading at the July 25th Regular Park Board meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS None

BOARD COMMENTS

ADJOURN

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

President

Submitted by: Jennifer Bowman, Board Secretary

Clerk



MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Park Commissioners

THROUGH: Shon Sylvia, Executive Director

FROM: Debbie Russell, Director of Business, Administration and Planning

**SUBJECT: Point Defiance Marina Complex Pier Pile Replacement & Boathouse Repairs
Project No. J2021-24
Final Acceptance to American Construction Company, Inc.**

DATE: July 20, 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: This resolution authorizes final acceptance for the Point Defiance Marina Complex Pier Pile Replacement & Boathouse Repairs to American Construction Company, Inc.

BACKGROUND: The scope of work for the pier piling replacement & boathouse repairs provided the following components:

The pile replacement & boathouse repairs project addressed repairs to the old timber boathouse and the old concrete boathouse at the Point Defiance Marina. Repairs to the old timber boathouse included the replacement of 16 timber piles with steel piles/posts, installation of steel pile to cap connections, timber stringer repairs and select replacement of timber decking/rail components at the old timber boat house. A new FRP grate was installed at the transition between the old timber boathouse and the old concrete boathouse. Finally, the project included the removal of all the broken piles laying on the sea floor under the old timber boathouse.

The project was inspected by staff and was completed as specified. The final contract amount was \$598,681.12 with sales tax.

FISCAL IMPACT: The project funding includes:

Funding:	
2014 UTGO Bond Funds (Point Defiance Marina)	\$1,397,957
2014 UTGO Bond Funds (Regional: Point Defiance Park)	\$1,000,000
General Fund (F349 District Wide)	\$750,000
Point Defiance Marina Operations	\$300,000
1 % for Art	-\$24,137
Total	\$3,423,820

Budget:	
Planning & Design	\$286,942
Construction including tax: Pier Work (American Construction)	\$598,681
Construction including tax: Building Work (Westmark Construction)	\$2,070,640
Other	\$37,139
<u>Construction Contingency</u>	<u>\$430,418</u>
Total	\$3,423,820

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: For additional information, please contact Debbie Russell, Director of Business, Administration and Planning at 253-305-1086 or Debbie.Russell@tacomaparks.com.

METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF TACOMA

RESOLUTION NO. C54-22

**POINT DEFIANCE MARINA COMPLEX IMPROVEMENTS
PIER PILING REPLACEMENT & BOATHOUSE REPAIRS
PROJECT NO. J2021-24**

FINAL ACCEPTANCE TO AMERICAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC.

WHEREAS, the Board of Park Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma desired to make improvements to the Marina Complex at Point Defiance Park; and

WHEREAS, at the meeting of September 27, 2021, the Board of Park Commissioners approved the contract with American Construction Company, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, American Construction Company, Inc., has completed the project as specified and inspected by staff; Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma that: Acceptance of the Point Defiance Marina Complex Improvements Pier Piling Replacement Project No. J2021-24;

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma at a regular meeting held on _____2022.

President

ATTEST:

Secretary

Clerk





MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Park Commissioners

THROUGH: Shon Sylvia, Executive Director

FROM: Debbie Russell, Director of Business, Administration and Planning

SUBJECT: Accepting and Appropriating \$50,000 from Pierce County for The Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park Project

DATE: July 20, 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: This resolution accepts and appropriates a \$50,000 grant from Pierce County for the Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park Project and authorizes the Executive Director to enter into a contract agreement.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: This resolution was reviewed by the Capital Improvement Committee at their meeting on July 13, 2022 with a recommendation to forward the action on to the full Board for approval.

BACKGROUND: Metro Parks, with the assistance of The Foss Waterway Development Authority, submitted a 2018 Youth Prevention Services Project Form to Pierce County. Pierce County Budget subsequently appropriated \$50,000 for the “Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park Project” to construct a ¾ acre children’s play park along the shoreline of Tacoma’s downtown Thea Foss Waterway. Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park’s unique features are designed to attract residents and visitors from all walks of life to this waterfront setting. Easily accessible by auto from I-5/I-705 & transit service, it is also within walking distance of the recently completed Prairie Line Trail and several Tacoma neighborhoods and institutions such as the Tacoma Children’s Museum who plans to utilize this park for its activities.

FISCAL IMPACT: The project funding includes:

Funding:	
2014 UTGO Bond Fund	\$ 465,000
Foss Waterway Development	\$ 29,315
City of Tacoma	\$ 750,000
Pierce County	\$ 50,000
State Commerce	\$ 490,000
Donations* (at this time)	\$ 1,343,154
1% For Art To District Art Fund	\$ (20,320)
Total	\$ 3,107,149

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: For additional information, please contact Debbie Russell, Director of Business, Administration and Planning at 253-305-1086 or Debbie.Russell@tacomaparks.com.

METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF TACOMA

RESOLUTION NO. R55-22

**ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$50,000 FROM PIERCE COUNTY FOR THE
MELANIE LAPLANT DRESSEL PARK PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Board of Park Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma desires to make improvements to Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park on the Foss Waterway; and

WHEREAS, Metro Parks has worked with interested citizens, a steering committee and potential partners to develop a final design for Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park; and

WHEREAS, included in the Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park are multiple play structures, a community space and restrooms; and

WHEREAS, Pierce County includes an appropriation of \$50,000 as listed in their Amendment Proposal No. 2017-73s for the Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park Project; Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Park Commissioners accept and appropriate \$50,000 from Pierce County for the Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park Project; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director is authorized to execute a contract for the \$50,000 contribution to the Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park with Pierce County.

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma at a regular meeting held on _____2022.

President

ATTEST:

Secretary

Clerk



MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Park Commissioners

THROUGH: Shon Sylvia, Executive Director

FROM: Debbie Russell, Director of Business, Administration and Planning

SUBJECT: Accepting and Appropriating \$750,000 from the City of Tacoma for the Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park Project

DATE: July 20, 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: This resolution accepts and appropriates a \$750,000 grant from the City of Tacoma for the Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park Project and authorizes the Executive Director to enter into a contract agreement.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: This resolution was reviewed by the Capital Improvement Committee at their meeting on July 13, 2022 with a recommendation to forward the action on to the full Board for approval.

BACKGROUND: The Metro Parks and the City of Tacoma Agreement for Transfer of Foss Waterway Parks Dated 12-18-2020 identifies a REET 1 Budget appropriation of \$750,000 for the “Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park Project.” This is to construct a ¾ acre children’s play park along the shoreline of Tacoma’s downtown Thea Foss Waterway. Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park’s unique features are designed to attract residents and visitors from all walks of life to this waterfront setting. Easily accessible by auto from I-5/I-705 & transit service, it is also within walking distance of the recently completed Prairie Line Trail and several Tacoma neighborhoods and institutions such as the Tacoma Children’s Museum who plans to utilize this park for its activities.

FISCAL IMPACT: The project funding includes:

Funding:	
2014 UTGO Bond Fund	\$ 465,000
Foss Waterway Development	\$ 29,315
City of Tacoma	\$ 750,000
Pierce County	\$ 50,000
State Commerce	\$ 490,000
Donations* (at this time)	\$ 1,343,154
<u>1% For Art To District Art Fund</u>	<u>\$ (20,320)</u>
Total	\$ 3,107,149

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: For additional information, please contact Debbie Russell, Director of Business, Administration and Planning at 253-305-1086 or Debbie.Russell@tacomaparks.com.

METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF TACOMA

RESOLUTION NO. R56-22

**ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$750,000 FROM THE CITY OF TACOMA FOR
THE MELANIE LAPLANT DRESSEL PARK PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Board of Park Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma desires to make improvements to Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park on the Foss Waterway; and

WHEREAS, Metro Parks has worked with interested citizens, a steering committee and potential partners to develop a final design for Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park; and

WHEREAS, included in the Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park are multiple play structures, a community space and restrooms; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement for Transfer of Foss Waterway Parks Dated 12-18-2020 identifies a REET 1 Budget appropriation of \$750,000 for the Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park Project; Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Park Commissioners accept and appropriate \$750,000 from the City of Tacoma for the Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park Project; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director is authorized to execute a contract for the \$750,000 contribution to the Melanie LaPlant Dressel Park with the City of Tacoma.

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma at a regular meeting held on _____2022.

President

ATTEST:

Secretary

Clerk



MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Park Commissioners

THROUGH: Shon Sylvia, Executive Director

FROM: Debbie Russell, Director of Business Administration and Planning

SUBJECT: **Accepting and Appropriating Washington State Commerce Funds for Gas Station Park Improvements and Authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an Agreement**

DATE: July 20, 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: This resolution accepts and appropriates a \$504,700 grant (\$515,000 less State Administrative Fees) from the Washington State Department of Commerce for Gas Station Park and authorizes the Executive Director to enter into a contract agreement for the awarded grant.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: This resolution was reviewed by the Capital Improvement Committee at their meeting on July 13, 2022 with a recommendation to forward the action on to the full Board for approval.

BACKGROUND: Metro Parks and the City of Tacoma have worked jointly to coordinate planning and development of City-owned properties throughout Tacoma. Gas Station Park, located at 4801 and 4807 South Park Avenue, is currently being transferred to Metro Parks, and will be renovated with funding assistance from various sources. The park dates back to the 1920's, and previously served as a neighborhood gas station. The City of Tacoma completed a full remediation of the site in 2005.

The MPT 2018 Strategic Plan Update adopted a 10-minute walk level of service standard. This neighborhood park will help achieve that goal by filling a current gap in service.

Currently the park provides on-street parking, fencing, landscape berms, bench and several play structures. New improvements will include improved access, signage, new children's play equipment, walking paths, tricycle track, play lawn and general landscape improvements. The proposed improvements are informed by feedback received from the community during the schematic design phase of the project.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The project funding includes:

Funding:

2014 UTGO Bond Neighborhood Parks	\$	50,000
Open Space Fees	\$	2,224
City of Tacoma	\$	320,000
State Commerce	\$	504,700
<u>1% For Art To District Art Fund</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>
Total	\$	871,924

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: For additional information, please contact Debbie Russell, Director of Business Administration and Planning, debbie.russell@tacomaparks.com or 253-305-1086.

METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF TACOMA

RESOLUTION NO. R57-22

**ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING WASHINGTON STATE COMMERCE FUNDS
FOR GAS STATION PARK IMPROVEMENTS AND AUTHORIZING THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, the Board of Park Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma desires to make improvements to Gas Station Park; and

WHEREAS, Metro Parks has worked with interested citizens, a steering committee and partners to develop a final design for Gas Station Park; and

WHEREAS, included in Gas Station Park are multiple play structures, a small shelter and a tricycle track; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 State Capital Budget includes an appropriation of \$504,700 (\$515,000 less State Administrative Fees) for the Gas Station Park Improvements; Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Park Commissioners accept and appropriate \$504,700 from the Washington State Department of Commerce for the Gas Station Park Improvements; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director is authorized to execute a contract for the \$504,700 contribution to the Gas Station Park Improvements with the Washington State Department Commerce.

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma at a regular meeting held on _____, 2022.

ATTEST:

President

Secretary

Clerk





MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Park Commissioners

FROM: Hunter T. George, Policy and Government Relations Officer

THROUGH: Shon Sylvia, Executive Director

SUBJECT: RR53-22 – A Resolution of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma, Washington, providing for the submission to the qualified electors of the district at an election to be held on November 8, 2022, of a proposition authorizing the District to lift the property tax levy limit established in RCW 84.55.010 to fund the restoration, preservation, maintenance, operation and security of park, recreation and zoological facilities and programs.

DATE: July 7, 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Staff requests that the Board of Park commissioners approve the attached Resolution No. RR53-22 which will place a proposition on the November 8, 2022 ballot for consideration by the voters of Metro Parks Tacoma (MPT). The Washington State Constitution requires that levy lid lift issues receive a “simple majority” (50% + 1) “YES” vote in order to be approved by voters.

BACKGROUND: Under state law, a taxing jurisdiction can only increase its regular property tax levy by 1% above the amount of revenue collected the previous year (not including new construction). That 1% limit does not keep up with inflationary and operational costs. Additionally, pro-rationing occurs when one or more taxing districts have the same statutory right to levy for taxes. Levy rates are limited by either the \$5.90 / \$1,000 maximum (combined levies for senior and junior taxing districts) or the 1% constitutional limit.

The combination of rising assessed values and the state-mandated cap on revenue collection substantially reduces the district’s levy rate. While state law authorizes park districts to collect \$0.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value, the state’s property tax cap has eroded Metro Parks’ rate to \$0.46 due to consistently increasing property values.

The only way to restore the rate to the legal limit of \$0.75 per \$1,000 is to ask voters to consider what is known as a “levy lid lift.” MPT last had a levy lid lift on the ballot in April 2010, which voters approved 68 percent to 32 percent. MPT received the full amount of funding for next six years. The board asked staff to monitor the erosion of property tax revenues under the state-mandated cap and to consider a potential lid-lift between 2017-2020. Once the pandemic struck, however, staff recommended to wait and re-evaluate the situation after 2021 and focus on the financial needs of the district moving into the next biennium.

MPT has spent the past two years seeking community input on the types of programs and services needed and operational improvements that would better serve residents. This engagement has come through customer service surveys; meeting with ethnic and cultural partners, program focus groups, and advisory councils; hosting “Co-create to Recreate” events, etc. Additionally, the nonprofit Trust for Public Lands (TPL), which works with communities across the nation to increase public access to parks, programs and open space, says its own community survey shows Tacoma residents want the district to address key needs, including basic maintenance and operations to support out-of-school recreation programming and access to clean and secure facilities, parks, and open spaces.

Results from these efforts provide strong evidence that the community values MPT’s parks, recreation, and zoological system and understands the challenges of maintaining and increasing levels of service where necessary to meet the area’s growing needs.

According to Pierce County Election Office procedures, an operations and maintenance levy must be filed by August 2 for a measure to appear on the November 8, 2022 General Election ballot.

RR53-22 was prepared with the legal assistance of Pacifica Law Group and advisers in the public finance section at KeyBanc.

Voter-Approved Bond Issues and Property Tax Ballot Measures History:

MPT has sought voter approval for numerous tax initiatives and ballot propositions in our history. Since 1999, MPT has had six measures on the ballot for voter consideration:

Year	Proposition	Amount	Total Votes	YES %	Outcome
2014	UTGO Park/Zoo Bond	\$198m	29,005	66%	PASSED
2010	Levy Lid Lift	\$5.5m/year	31,750	68%	PASSED
2005	UTGO Park Bond	\$84m	42,037	62%	PASSED
2004	UTGO Park Bond	\$60m	78,796	58%	FAILED
2000	Park/Zoo Sales Tax	1/10 of 1%	139,350	59%	PASSED
1999	UTGO Zoo Bond	\$35m	41,230	66%	PASSED

FISCAL IMPACT: MPT’s levy rate has eroded from \$0.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2016 to \$0.46 today. The average Tacoma home value for tax year 2022 is \$415,000, according to the Assessor-Treasurer’s Office. Restoring the rate to \$0.75 via a levy lid lift would increase the rate 29 cents per \$1,000 – which amounts to a little over \$10 per month for the average home.

If voters agree to restore to the full authorization of \$0.75, the district would receive an estimated \$10 million annually for the restoration, preservation, maintenance, and operation of park, recreation and zoological facilities and programs.

In planning for a potential levy, staff considered the impact to property taxpayers in the District. They reviewed current property tax levels and confirmed that no other jurisdictions in MPT's service area have tax measures on the November 2022 ballot at this time.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact Hunter George at hunterg@tacomaparks.com or (253) 686-9553.

METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. RR53-22

- A RESOLUTION of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma, Washington, providing for the submission to the qualified electors of the District at an election to be held on November 8, 2022, of a proposition authorizing the District to lift the property tax levy limit established in RCW 84.55.010 to fund the restoration, preservation, maintenance, operation and security of park, recreation and zoological facilities and programs.

PASSED: July 25, 2022

PREPARED BY:

PACIFICA LAW GROUP LLP
Seattle, Washington

METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. RR53-22

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma, Washington, providing for the submission to the qualified electors of the District at an election to be held on November 8, 2022, of a proposition authorizing the District to lift the property tax levy limit established in RCW 84.55.010 to fund the restoration, preservation, maintenance, operation and security of park, recreation and zoological facilities and programs.

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma, Washington (the “District”) operates park, recreation and zoological facilities and programs, which require maintenance and operating funds; and

WHEREAS, RCW 35.61.210 authorizes an annual tax levy of up to \$0.75 per \$1,000 to provide operating revenues for metropolitan park districts; and

WHEREAS, the regular property taxes imposed in support of the District at a uniform rate throughout the District for the years 2010 through 2016 equaled \$0.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value; and

WHEREAS, the taxes levied in support of the District have decreased to the current rate of \$0.46 per \$1,000 of assessed value due to the combination of rising property values and the limits imposed by RCW 84.55.010; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Park Commissioners of the District (the “Board”) and District staff foresee increased demand for park, recreation and zoological services and programs which cannot be adequately met with projected revenues for the years 2023 and thereafter; and

WHEREAS, in the judgment of the Board it is essential and necessary to avoid further limitations in park and recreation service in the District resulting from inadequate revenues, and

the Board hereby finds a substantial need to restore the levy rate to maintain park and recreation facilities, programs and services at their current level; and

WHEREAS, RCW 84.55.050 authorizes the voters in the District to authorize an increase above the levy limitations established in RCW 84.55.010; and

WHEREAS, the conditions here and above set forth require the holding of a special election in the District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON, as follows:

Section 1. Findings. The Board hereby finds that it is in the best interests of the residents of the District to provide additional funds to support park, recreation and zoological facilities, services and programs, including without limitation restoring, preserving, maintaining and operating children's playgrounds, neighborhood parks, community centers, restrooms, recreational facilities, and Point Defiance Park/Zoo; addressing park safety and security; providing sports and recreation programs; and preserving lakes, waterfront access, trails, and greenspaces (the "Operations").

The Board shall determine, or provide for the determination of, the scope, timing, order and manner of funding the Operations. The cost of all compensation, benefits, training, support services, equipment, vehicles, infrastructure, facilities, appraisals, negotiation, closing, architectural, engineering, financial, legal and other consulting services, inspection and testing, administrative and relocation expenses and/or administrative expenses and other costs incurred in connection with the Operations shall be deemed a part of the costs of such Operations.

The Board may alter, make substitutions to and amend the description of any of the Operations as it determines is in the best interests of the District and consistent with the general park, recreation and zoological purposes provided herein. If the Board shall determine that it has become impractical to acquire, improve, develop, operate or maintain all or any portion of the Operations by reason of changed conditions, incompatible development, costs substantially in excess of the amount of tax levies and other District funds estimated to be available, or acquisition by a superior governmental authority, the District shall not be required to acquire, improve, develop, operate or maintain such portions.

Section 2. Maintenance and Operations Levy. It is hereby found and declared that the best interests of the District require the submission to the qualified electors of the District of the proposition whether the District shall levy regular property taxes above the levy limitations established in RCW 84.55.010 for their ratification or rejection at an election to be held on November 8, 2022. For the purpose of providing funds to support costs of Operations, the Pierce County Auditor, as *ex officio* supervisor of elections in Pierce County, Washington, is hereby requested to assume jurisdiction of and to call and conduct such election and to submit to the qualified electors of the District for their approval or rejection the proposition set forth below. Upon approval of the voters of the proposition hereinafter set forth, the District may use proceeds of such levy for the purpose of paying costs of Operations as provided herein. The Secretary of the Board is hereby authorized and directed to certify the following proposition to the Pierce County Auditor, as *ex officio* supervisor of elections in Pierce County, Washington, in the following form:

METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON
PROPOSITION NO. 1

PARK AND RECREATION MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS LEVY

The Board of Park Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma, Washington adopted Resolution No. RR53-22 concerning ongoing parks, recreation and zoological maintenance, operations and security. This proposition would provide basic safety, maintenance and cleanliness of neighborhood parks, fields, restrooms, playgrounds, and family community centers; preserve open space; make safety improvements; fund wildfire prevention; and expand recreation programs for teens and youth, especially in historically underserved areas. This proposition increases the District's regular property tax rate to \$0.75/\$1,000 of assessed valuation for collection in 2023, as allowed by RCW 84.55. The 2023 levy amount would be used to calculate subsequent levies.

Should this proposition be:

APPROVED?.....

REJECTED?

Section 3. Minor Adjustments. For purposes of receiving notice of the exact language of the ballot proposition required by RCW 29A.36.080, the Board hereby designates (a) the Executive Director and (b) Bond Counsel to the District as the designated representatives of the District to whom such notice should be provided. The Executive Director is authorized to approve changes to the ballot title, if any, deemed necessary by the Pierce County Auditor.

The Board Secretary is authorized to make necessary clerical corrections to this resolution including, but not limited to, the correction of scrivener's or clerical errors, references, numbering, section/subsection numbers, and any reference thereto.

The proper District officials are authorized to perform such duties as are necessary or required by law to submit the question of whether the regular property tax shall be increased, as provided in this resolution, to the electors at the November 8, 2022 election.

Section 4. Local Voters’ Pamphlet Authorized. The preparation and distribution of a local voters’ pamphlet providing information on the foregoing ballot measure is hereby authorized. The pamphlet shall include an explanatory statement and arguments advocating approval and disapproval of the ballot measure, if any, in accordance with RCW 29A.32.280.

Section 5. Severability. The recitals stated above (i.e., the “Whereas” clauses) constitute specific findings by the Board in support of the passage of this resolution. If any provision of this resolution is declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, then such provision shall be null and void and shall be separable from the remaining provisions of this resolution and shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions of this resolution or of any other resolution, or of the levy or collection of the taxes authorized herein.

Section 6. Effective Date. This resolution shall be in full force and effective from and after its adoption and approval.

ADOPTED by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma, Washington, at a regular meeting thereof held this 25th day of July, 2022.

METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF
TACOMA, WASHINGTON

President, Board of Park Commissioners

Clerk, Board of Park Commissioners

ATTEST:

Secretary, Board of Park Commissioners

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, Secretary of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma, Washington, (the “District”) and keeper of the records of the Board of Park Commissioners (herein called the “Board”), DO HEREBY CERTIFY:

1. That the attached resolution is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. RR53-22 of the Board (herein called the “Resolution”), duly adopted at a regular meeting thereof held on the 25th day of July, 2022.

2. That said meeting was duly convened and held in all respects in accordance with law, and to the extent required by law, due and proper notice of such meeting was given; that a legal quorum was present throughout the meeting and a legally sufficient number of members of the Board voted in the proper manner for the adoption of the Resolution; that all other requirements and proceedings incident to the proper adoption of the Resolution have been duly fulfilled, carried out and otherwise observed; and that I am authorized to execute this certificate.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 25th day of July, 2022.

Secretary, Board of Park Commissioners