



## 2022 Park Bond Projects FAQ

In February 2022, Shoreline voters approved Proposition 1 authorizing the City to make improvements to eight parks, including playgrounds, a fully accessible play area, splash-pads, multi-sports courts, walking and sensory trails, picnic shelters, off-leash dog areas, and sports fields; purchase and install new public art throughout the city; acquire and improve new park land; issue up to \$38,500,000 of general obligation bonds; and levy annual excess property taxes to repay such bonds. For more information, go to [shorelinewa.gov/2022parkbondprojects](http://shorelinewa.gov/2022parkbondprojects).

### 1. Which parks will see significant improvements?

The following five parks will receive significant improvements:

| PARK                               | PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Briarcrest Community (east Hamlin) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhanced entrance from 25<sup>th</sup> Ave.</li> <li>• New play area</li> <li>• New splash pad</li> <li>• New picnic shelter</li> <li>• New perimeter trail</li> <li>• Conversion of one of two ballfields into lawn</li> </ul> |
| Brugger’s Bog                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relocated playground with swing set</li> <li>• New multi-sports court</li> <li>• New picnic shelter</li> <li>• New restroom</li> <li>• Additional landscaping</li> <li>• New perimeter trail</li> <li>• Sidewalk</li> </ul>     |
| Hillwood                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace the multi-sport court</li> <li>• Expand the playground with adventure features</li> <li>• New splash pad</li> <li>• New picnic shelter</li> <li>• Additional landscaping</li> <li>• New perimeter trail</li> </ul>      |

|                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| James Keough       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New off-leash dog area</li> <li>• Replace existing play area</li> <li>• New picnic shelter</li> <li>• New perimeter trail</li> <li>• New restroom</li> <li>• New parking</li> </ul>                                                                                          |
| Richmond Highlands | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace existing playground with fully accessible all-ages playground</li> <li>• New multi-sport court</li> <li>• New picnic shelter</li> <li>• New perimeter and sensory trails</li> <li>• Additional sidewalks</li> <li>• Convert one of two ballfields to lawn</li> </ul> |

**2. Which parks will see park amenity improvements?**

In addition to the significant improvements made to the five parks mentioned above, the City will also make amenity improvements to three other parks listed below:

- Ridgecrest Park – Construct a new off-leash dog area and a new play area.
- Shoreview Park – Upgrade the off-leash dog area and convert the dirt soccer field to grass.
- Kruckeberg Botanic Garden – Make the education center and children’s garden accessible to people of all abilities.

**3. How did the City decide on the designs for the park improvements?**

Over the course of three years, beginning with outreach during development of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan in 2016, the City engaged with residents and asked what they wanted to see in park improvements. Outreach included surveys, open houses, community meetings, focus groups, dot exercises, and online comment forms. The park improvement designs reflect the public’s comments over this three-year period.

**4. Does funding include money for public art?**

Proceeds from the park bond will allow the City to invest in public art throughout the city. Art installations will be directed by the Public Arts and Cultural Services Plan and community engagement, with guidance from the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services/Tree Board.

**5. Where will park land acquisitions occur?**

The City has bought or plans to buy land and make improvements to expand Paramount Open Space, Brugger’s Bog Park, and Rotary Park. In 2020, the City issued \$25 million in Bond Anticipation Notes to support property acquisitions named in the PROS Plan. The City has already used these funds to buy property for a potential community and aquatics center, and the expansion of Brugger’s Bog Park, Rotary Park, and

Paramount Open Space. The City will use revenue from the 2022 park bond to repay the Bond Anticipation Notes for the property already bought to expand Paramount Open Space, Brugger's Bog Park, and Rotary Park. We are paying back the money used to buy land for a potential community and aquatics center using rental fees collected through the storage unit business currently on the site.

"Bond Anticipation Notes" are a short-term financing tool we used to bridge the time-period between when we bought the properties and when the voters approved the bond measure. Purchasing the properties in this way helped ensure a developer or other interested party didn't buy them first; we bought them before the cost of the land escalated further; and we bought them at a time when there were willing sellers.

The City will also look to buy more park land in the light rail station areas and other parts of the city.

## **6. How much will the park improvements and park land acquisitions cost and how will the City pay for them?**

Current estimates show construction of the park improvements and park land acquisitions to total \$38.5 million. The City will issue general obligation bonds with a length of 20 years. The City will pay the debt service on those bonds with an increase in property taxes over the next 20 years.

## **7. Are the design concepts found on the City's website the final designs? Will there be any more public process in designing the parks?**

The pictures you see on [shorelinewa.gov/2022parkbondprojects](http://shorelinewa.gov/2022parkbondprojects) are modifications of the design concepts put together in 2018 as part of the planning process. These reflect the priorities from public feedback about the types of park features wanted and are meant to provide a general idea of how the park improvements may look. As we enter the next phase and work towards final designs for each park, there will be opportunities for public input. What won't change in the final design are the features that are going into each park and the general location of the features.

## **8. What happened to some of the features that were included in the original 2018 park concept designs but aren't listed as features in the 2022 park bond projects?**

The 2018 designs found on the City's website were the aspirational concept designs decided on by the public through several open houses. However, when it came time to creating a budget for the bond measure, we were unable to include all features found in the concept designs. After reviewing suggestions from the Park, Recreation, and Cultural Services/Tree Board and staff about features most desired by residents, City Council decided on the improvements named in questions two and three above. The City always looks for ways to leverage taxpayer money, such as through grants or partnerships. In the future, there may be opportunities to include some of the features we weren't able to include in the bond measure.

## **9. What are the next steps?**

We have hired an internal project manager who will handle overseeing the Parks Bond Project. The City also recently selected FORMA as the Progressive Design Build team that will be conducting the design and construction of park improvements. The Bond Project will officially kick off at the end of July 2022. Over the next 6 months FORMA will work with the City to design and plan park improvements. We expect construction to begin in the summer/fall of 2023 with completion in fall 2024.

**10. Will our two newest parks, Westminster Park (709 N 150th Street) and Edwin Pratt Memorial Park (1341 N 185th Street), receive funding for park design and improvements through the 2022 park bond?**

No. Funding for the design and improvement of these two parks was not part of the 2022 park bond. The City bought both properties in 2020 using funds from Conservation Futures Tax grants and Park Impact Fees paid through new development. We will look for other funding sources, including grant funding, to help pay for the design and development of these two new parks. Once we have secured funding, we will open a separate community outreach effort to help with park designs of these two new neighborhood parks.

**11. Will the City remove trees as part of the improvements?**

Our goal is to protect as many trees as possible for all the City's improvement projects, especially any significant trees, while also providing outdoor recreation opportunities for the Shoreline community. It is possible that the City will need to remove some trees; however, tree planting and revegetation will play a part in the improvement projects. The City intends to add conifer and deciduous trees to some of the parks undergoing improvements, in addition to accent trees. We expect to plant approximately 100 new trees, in addition to accent and buffer plantings and rain gardens.