

## Seattle’s Metropolitan Park District Cycle 2 - Mayor Harrell’s Proposed Budget

Mayor Harrell has proposed a Parks District budget with a focus on the essentials – keeping parks safe, clean, open, and accessible – and at the same time advancing key priorities focused on climate, equity, and youth. We know the benefits parks deliver toward thriving, healthy communities, and with nearly 500 unique and vibrant Seattle parks, playfields, and community centers, this is the level of investment needed to maintain and enhance these special places in our city.

Informed by parks stakeholders and community voices, the mayor’s budget proposes an investment of approximately \$114.8 million for the first two years with increases for inflation and other costs incorporated in later years. Annually, this includes \$58 million to continue Parks District Cycle 1 commitments, \$10 million toward major capital projects, and over \$40 million in needed new programs and projects. **Highlights include:**

### Clean, Open, and Accessible Parks

COST	INVESTMENT AREA
\$580K	Make all 129 public restrooms available for year-round use through winterization
\$2.4M	Expand community center hours to evenings and weekends for a total increase of operating hours of 8%
\$1.2M	Add “second shift” and weekend grounds maintenance year-round to increase daily maintenance, especially of restrooms

### Safety for All Communities

COST	INVESTMENT AREA
\$3.6M	Reestablish the Park Ranger program and add 26 Park Rangers (for a total of 28)
\$600K	Add new staff team to respond quickly to graffiti and vandalism
\$450K	Increase enforcement of off leash and scoop laws to 7-day coverage

### Advancing Climate Action

COST	INVESTMENT AREA
\$2M	Decarbonize an additional 6 community centers and SPR facilities, and develop One Seattle “resilience hub” strategy to combat growing impacts of climate change
\$970K	Strengthen Green Seattle Partnership funding, an innovative approach to restoring urban natural areas

<b>\$400K</b>	Plant and maintain 100 additional trees (600 total) to increase urban canopy and mitigate “heat islands”
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### Driving Equity Through Improvement

<b>COST</b>	<b>INVESTMENT AREA</b>
<b>\$600K</b>	Double Community Engagement Ambassador hours to 6,000 hours in up to 15 languages
<b>\$2M</b>	Double Equity Grant Fund (from \$1M to \$2M) to support community-driven park improvement projects in under-resourced neighborhoods
<b>\$900K</b>	Increase Seattle Conservation Corps (a job training program for adults experiencing homelessness) capacity to serve 10 additional members (total of 60 annually)

### Enhancing Youth Mentorship Opportunities

<b>COST</b>	<b>INVESTMENT AREA</b>
<b>\$820K</b>	Add 20,000 hours of youth employment opportunities per year serving 80 youth

### Cycle 1 Services

<b>COST</b>	<b>INVESTMENT AREA</b>
<b>\$23.8M</b>	Major and regular maintenance, cleaning, and other services to keep parks clean and open
<b>\$5M+</b>	Regular tree planting and maintenance work
<b>\$4.4M</b>	Community Center operations and programs
<b>\$4.3M</b>	Programs for teens, older adults, and people with disabilities
<b>\$2.8M</b>	Activation of parks downtown and citywide

### Capital Investments – New Parks and Major Improvements

<b>COST</b>	<b>INVESTMENT AREA</b>
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**\$10M**

Opening 12 new park sites totaling 10+ acres and making major community center renovations at Lake City, Green Lake/Evans Pool and Loyal Heights and more