



Bend Sustainability Fund
Advisory Council Project Review
August 19, 2021
ZOOM Sessions: 10:30am-12:10pm/12:10pm-1:50pm

In Attendance:

Advisory Council Members: Cliff Elsinger - Restaurant/900 Wall; Garrett Hampton - Outfitter/Wanderlust; Kelly Jamieson - Lodging/Residence Inn; Samuel Johnson - Lodging/Oxford Hotel; David Lenke - Lodging/Riverhouse; Bronwen Lodato - Retailer/Bronwen Jewelry; Josie Norris - At Large/The Conservation Alliance; Mike Schindler - Retailer/Sunnyside Sports; Clara Soh - At Large/Climber, Medical Consultant; Mallory Duncan - At Large/Outdoor Industry Professional; Brent Fenty - At Large/Oregon Desert Land Trust; Jason Randles - Restaurant/Crux; Kevin Max - At Large/Statehood Media

Land Manager Liaisons: Rachel Colton - Bend Parks & Recreation District; Ben Hemson - City of Bend; Lisa Machnik - Forest Service

Visit Bend Staff: Kevney Dugan - President/CEO; Nate Wyeth - Vice President/Marketing; Valerie Warren - Vice President/Policy and Operations; Serena Bishop Gordon - Sustainability Manager

Minutes: Shari Crandall

Absent:

Advisory Council Member: Kirin Stryker - Outfitter/Cog Wild

Land Manager Liaisons: Jeff Kitchens/Nick Weber - BLM

I. Introductory Remarks

Gordon began the two Bend Sustainability Fund Project Zoom sessions at 10:35am. She reported that the minutes of the sessions will be a public record; the meeting will also be recorded and made available to the public upon request. She asked the discussion to remain respectful.

The review discussion will be split into two sessions, Visit Bend will review and compile the Advisory Council (AC) recommendations from both sessions. Gordon will then send an email to the AC for comment and approval of the recommendations.

The Bend Sustainability Fund (BSF) will invest in projects that protect, steward and create sustainable recreational resources and outdoor experiences.

The desired outcomes for the review sessions, include:

- Discussion of the merits and concerns for each project, about five to ten minutes for each project;
- Provide a list of project recommendations for the Community Ballot (Ballot), in which all projects on the Ballot will receive some level of funding; and
- Provide funding recommendations for each project on the Ballot.

While a conflict of interest does not bar AC participation, BSF does require full disclosure for the record. An Advisory Council member has a conflict of interest if s/he has a direct role with the organization or project; is a board member

of the organization; and/or has a financial stake in the organization or project. Those with a conflict of interest can notify those present through the ZOOM chat box.

The four points to keep in mind during the discussion, the project:

- Will protect, steward or create a tourism-related facility or improved real property that has a sustainable purpose of supporting tourism or accommodating tourist activities;
- Will be used substantially by out-of-town visitors;
- Has a clear timeline and measurable outcomes within the next 12 months; and,
- Has community support.

The total requested projects amount for the 2021/2022 BSF grant cycle is \$707,125; the 2022/2023 grant cycle is \$380,000. Currently, the budget is \$500,000 for 2021/2022 and \$750,000 for 2022/2023. However, Visit Bend has been in conversation with other local entities to possibly increase available funds.

The scope of applicants and requests for funds for this first BSF funding cycle was an unknown. This first funding cycle required “shovel ready” projects. Given the abbreviated period between announcement of the fund and the application deadline, many organizations were not positioned to apply for funds. In future cycles, Visit Bend anticipates new innovative ideas. In this current cycle, fund what needs to be done now.

In response to a request for clarity regarding project funding, either partially or fully, and/or whether there would be a case to award more than requested: Applicants were encouraged to request needed funds, not what it would like to receive. In addition, applicants were specifically asked whether the project would go forward if the project was not fully funded.

Reviewers will discuss whether the projects make sense and if funded, at what level. Through their regional knowledge and varied expertise, AC may know whether an organization has capacity to implement the project or its readiness to take next steps, whether there are legal barriers that would obstruct the project, and the potential costs related to complete the project.

As an aid to allocating funds, Gordon has created three potential funding scenarios which she will present after AC has discussed the various projects.

Throughout the two sessions, Dugan raised thoughts to ponder for this review and future grant cycles. The funding budget is not necessarily static. For the current distribution of funds and use of assets, it is important to reflect on what the community and sustainability look like now and what they may look like in five to ten years. With the goal to distribute funds to support substantial use (“enough people doing this activity”), apply the standard: would visitors foreseeably use this? Fund diverse projects and locations that extend the outdoor experience. Whether it makes sense to allocate one-third of next cycle’s budget during this year’s deliberations.

Query was made whether it would be possible to see other reviewer’s note and feedback at time of the initial review. Gordon noted some reviewers provided notes and feedback within the application portal, others did so on spread sheets. To aid AC in future funding cycles, Gordon plans to establish a mechanism for reviewers to see comments/feedback of other reviewers in real time.

There was some concern regarding the applicants who applied for funds, such as COCC and national forest projects, who appear to have other built-in funding resources. Government funding resources for public lands are often not available for specific local recreational projects; further, even if the project were to meet government funding requirements, there is typically a significant gap between the need and the available resources.

It was reported today the State of Oregon Court of Appeals found in favor of Oregon Restaurant and Lodging Association, holding the City of Bend unlawfully redirected restricted Transient Lodging Tax (TLT) revenue. The City will be required to increase spending on tourism and tourism promotion. Dugan stated it is unclear at this time what the monetary amount will be, and how/where that amount will be directed.

II. Advisory Council Project Review Discussion

1. Bend Parks and Recreation District - Big Sky Bike Park

Amount Requested-2 year: 2021-2022 - \$200,000; 2022-2023 - \$200,000; Total \$400,000.

Statement of Success: An inclusive bike experience at Big Sky Park that will meet the needs of visitors and residents, attracting bikers of all ages, abilities, and interests, and provide an opportunity to host cycling events at local, regional, and national levels.

Comments:

This request is part of a larger \$1.7 million infrastructure project in Bend's east side. The master plan was approved with broad community and County support in 2018, with available funding; Covid 19 struck resulting in a loss of funding. Now, a few years later, the bike park will cost a total of \$800,000. This \$400,000 request over two years assures some of the bike park's elements will happen. If unfunded, some of the park's elements may not happen. There appeared to be consensus among the AC - this project has strong merit and need. As noted by several, it "ticked all the boxes." This project creates a new Bend multi-season resource, rather than improve an existing project. It is located, and will generate spending, on the east side rather than the over-used west side. The project will address the needs of a diverse socioeconomic demographic, individuals and families.

The new venue will be a sight for future local, regional, and national races. It will draw skills and pump track riders, a different group of bicyclists than the well-represented dirt/mountain biking community. Further, it will provide ADA access and Adaptive Sports events. It was agreed that while local and regional races may not necessarily increase hotel lodging capacity, past national cyclocross and other bike events held in and around Bend have increased lodging capacity (statistically supported by data gathered by Visit Bend).

2. Central Oregon Community College - Visit Hiking Trail

Amount Requested-1 year: 2021-2022 - \$6,936.

Statement of Success: A 2+ mile trail in the heart of Bend, with interpretive signs and native plants, used by Bend visitors and residents and open to hikers, runners, dog-walkers and mountain bikers.

Comments:

The reviewers had mixed thoughts regarding this project. Many voiced concerns: while they saw the trail used by the COCC community, they were uncertain whether out-of-town visitors would use the trail. Further concerns voiced whether COCC would maintain the trail over a period of years and whether visitors would experience limited on-campus parking (AC was later informed COCC had permit-free parking next to its campus library). On the other hand, some reviewers liked the cost-per-mile breakdown and the educational/natural environmental/signage component. However, the discussion appeared to ultimately come down to hotel capacity, questionable out-of-town visitor use, and the need for a strong marketing push.

On an aside: one reviewer noted that if this project had also included the return of COCC's frisbee golf course, that may have tipped the project in favor of funding, for him.

3. Central Oregon Nordic Club - Todd Lake Cross-country Ski and Snowshoe Trail Bridge

Replacement

Amount Requested-1 year: 2021-2022 \$50,000

Statement of Success: Replacement of the failed bridge (and impeding creek flow) in the meadow on the approach to Todd Lake on the ski and snowshoe trail and restoring the creek to its natural channel.

Comments:

The reviewers had mixed thoughts regarding this project. Todd Lake is one of the few areas for cross country skiing without snow mobile access. Several AC ski Todd Lake themselves. They noted a need to build a new bridge and liked the idea to restore the creek to its natural channel, or to at least move the failed bridge out of the creek's flow. Long term: with climate change and resulting decreased snow levels, Meissner may no longer be as skiable and Todd Lake may see increased activity. However, reviewers voiced several concerns for funding the project: the bridge, located out in the field, does not need be crossed to enter the area; the cost to replace the log bridge seems extremely high; the replacement of the bridge would not draw substantial tourists to the area and/or increase skier use; if replacement would increase skier use, parking would need to be addressed; and, whether there is a better use of BSF project funds.

With respect to cost, Machnik reported this bridge was initially built outside the scope of the US Forest Service. Accordingly, the bridge was not entered into its database, nor was it monitored and maintained. If the bridge is repaired, it will be listed and fall under Forest Service maintenance. Because it is on federal land, the rebuild must meet federal regulations, the plan must go through its engineering shop and federal partners, and the builder cannot use native materials. She will ask for a breakdown of the budget for this project and report back to AC.

4. Oregon Equestrian Trails - Three Creek Meadow Horse Camp Restoration

Amount Requested-1 year: 2021-2022 \$102,978

Statement of Success: Three Creek Meadow Horse Camp's dilapidated lodgepole corrals replaced by sturdy steel rails mounted on pressure-treated posts, campsite accessibility will be improved, surrounding trails will be improved for stability, accessibility and erosion control, and access Road 16 will be graded.

Comments:

Gordon advised that \$60,000 of the \$102,978 is for road grading and improvement, this cost does not meet the funding requirement. Therefore, AC will only be addressing \$42,978 for repair and improvement of the corrals, surrounding trails, and campsite.

Reviewers immediately noted this project would be a narrow benefit to a narrow group of people; it would only improve nine camp sites and visitors would only pay for campsite, groceries and gas; the project, otherwise, would not increase lodging capacity. Wyeth reported that camp sites do collect transient room tax (TRT), but the tax is paid to the county, not the city, for this particular site. Since this only impacts nine campsites, AC looked at the surrounding trail usage and asked how funding would benefit the larger community of users. This project won't benefit winter recreation. One reviewer noted the request for funds was scalable, so it could be possible to fund a smaller amount. However, after further discussion and consideration, consensus appears to be funding this project would not be the best use of tourism dollars and BSF funds can be better spent elsewhere.

5. Oregon Natural Desert Association - Oregon Badlands Wilderness Trail and Trailhead

Improvements

Amount Requested- 1 year: 2021-2022 \$17,000

Statement of Success: An improved visitor experience in the Oregon Badlands Wilderness including enhanced trailheads and signage and an improved and expanded trail network will better distribute visitors throughout the area and result in easier navigation and a better experience.

Comments:

The Badlands provide an excellent hiking experience. In particular, it provides a hiking experience during the shoulder and winter seasons. This trail system is definitely on the out-of-town visitors' radar.

The reviewers were impressed with what ONDA can do with \$17,000. They concurred this is a great use of BSF funds and is a big bang for the buck. Soh reported Search and Rescue has been called several times to rescue out-of-town visitors who are lost and not prepared for the elements; signage will be invaluable. A reviewer stated: What better way for the City of Bend and our community to invest in the building of outdoor infrastructure while stewarding the local wilderness area. AC further voiced complete confidence with ONDA to continue to do an outstanding job and were pleased ONDA has also raised private funds from other sources to help cover the costs of the project. AC agree, this application checks all the boxes; this project has complete support.

One reviewer noted this would have been a project he would have considered awarding more than ODNA had requested; he suggested ONDA be given this feedback if it applies next year.

6. Central Oregon Trail Alliance - Cascade View Trail Construction

Amount Requested-1 year: 2021/2022 \$48,250

Statement of Success: A new trail with beautiful mountain views in a less crowded part of Central Oregon that primarily appeals to mountain bikers but is also open to people on foot and draws locals and visitors to get fit, happy, connect with nature, and experience the beauty of Central Oregon.

Comments:

This new trail is located off Highway 126; the trail will provide additional riding opportunities during the shoulder seasons and can also help disperse users and alleviate use on other trails such on Cline Falls, Maston, and Phil's.

Initial concerns noted by reviewers included the impact on elk and eagle nesting habitat and the overall cost of the project.

Gordon has communicated with BLM regarding the elk/eagle nesting habitat: BLM reported it is working with COTA and has no concerns with this project. In follow up, Gordon asked for clarification whether there would be seasonal limitation of usage, such as Smith Rock/golden eagle nesting. She will report back upon receipt of BLM's response. Regarding parking needs: new parking has been built on the north side of Cline Falls Road.

Reviewers expressed gratitude for COTA and what it has accomplished. They agree BLM needs to provide clarity regarding potential impacts and seasonal closures. If BLM gives the green light, it appears there is consensus in funding this project.

7. Trout Unlimited - Tumalo Falls Trail Restoration Project

Amount Requested- 2 year: 2021/2022 \$22,000; 2022/2023 \$22,000; Total \$44,000

Statement of Success: Creating clear access points for recreating at Tumalo Falls and along the creek for a diverse user groups, and the protection of sections for habitat, water quality and vegetation for wildlife.

8. Trout Unlimited - Rimrock Trail Restoration Project

Amount Requested- 2 year: 2021/2022 \$23,000; 2022-2023 \$23,000; Total \$46,000

Statement of Success: Enhanced recreational access and protection of important sections of habitat along the Deschutes River focused on the Rimrock access of the Deschutes River Trail.

Comments for 7. Trout Unlimited - Tumalo Falls and 8. Rimrock Trail Restoration Projects:

Because Trout Unlimited's two restoration projects are similar in scope, AC chose to discuss both. The projects will be designed to limit social trails, and associated riparian degradation, through the use of established trail access, fencing/permanent structures, and signage. The fencing/permanent structure costs for the two projects are not included in these grant applications.

Dugan cited Trout Unlimited's excellent work on other trails, such as the Metolius River Stewardship Project. He spoke with Oregon Restaurant Lodging Association (ORLA) to determine whether these projects were real or improved property. He didn't get a "no" nor did he receive a hard "yes." Visitors definitely use the trails and degradation is a result. He asked: What does the long term look like? How do we steward and protect these areas? Do these projects go far enough, and will the projects meet the 10 year or more standard?

AC lodging representatives affirmed they send visitors to, or are asked about, Tumalo Falls on a daily basis. They clearly support funding the Tumalo Falls project. They felt Rimrock is more for the locals and their dogs. Dugan reported Visit Bend does send visitors to Rimrock; demographic calculations show 70% are locals, 30% visitors, i.e. a substantial out-of-town use.

Other reviewers concurred: a higher number of tourists currently go to Tumalo Falls; however, Rimrock has heavy traffic, human and dog, and has a greater need. Both trails "are loved to death." The trails experience high use and would benefit from funding to reduce the current environmental impact so the trails may be used for years to come. These projects would address the long term needs through habitat restoration and preservation of the quality of the landscape. It will take time to stabilize the sites, fencing will keep people on the established trails.

One reviewer has seen images taken of Rimrock a decade ago compared to now; he was "blown away" with the degradation in that period - it is significant.

The discussion of these projects led to conversation regarding the improvements: making improvements/development that draw even higher numbers of people to the sites with the potential for increased environmental impact, versus not making the improvements with unquestionably worsening environmental impact. The question arose whether these projects are a "band-aid" approach for larger problems. For example, there are currently so many people going to Tumalo Falls that by mid-morning the parking lot is full and cars are parked all along the access road. There isn't a desire to limit access to the asset, but how can the plan be more environmentally sustainable? Big ideas are needed (one example: parking at Skyliners with shuttles to the site), and BSF funding may help implement the bigger idea, not only at Tumalo Falls but also other areas. In the meantime, the band-aid approach is needed in the short-term to allow rethinking of the master plan which would continue to bring in tourists but also decrease the carbon foot print and other long-term environmental problems.

9. High Desert Museum - Nature Playground

Amount Requested- 1 year: 2021/2022 \$100,000, in which an 8% Visit Bend contingency fund equal to \$24,000 is included

Statement of Success: A new nature-based play area enabling the Museum to better serve our growing visitors and community by enhancing how our educational programming and visitor experiences deepen young learners' connection to our place-based mission.

Comments:

High Desert Museum has received nation-wide awards and is a four-season tourist destination for a diverse demographic. This project has a real, and high quality, educational component catered toward children-of all ages: animal/raptor interaction, plant/vegetation, fire response, forest management. The project is repurposing land, creating something new, while linked to the iconic - done in the Central Oregon way - facility. This new component will see a lot of action. The Museum has an inclusivity focus: it provides free parking, reduced rates, and free days to marginalized populations.

Furthermore, there is a financial incentive to fund this project: the organization has sought and received matches. This project is seen as investing in the future of the community.

The project has full support among the reviewers.

10. Discover Your Forest - Summer Hiking Trails at Mt. Bachelor

Amount Requested-2year: 2021/2022 \$135,000; 2022-2023 \$135,000; Total \$270,000

Statement of Success: The expansion of Mt. Bachelor's summer trail network that offers a 11-mile complete hiking loop from West Village to the summit and back again providing a High Cascades hiking experience and interpretive information for visitors of all skill levels and abilities.

Comments:

When completed the project will expand the summer trail network and provide an alternative to other over-used destinations (e.g. Green Lakes, South Sister, etc.). Mt. Bachelor is committed to creating an interpretive experience with a well-designed trail. Mt. Bachelor has completed the legal work; it has taken all required steps, including obtaining the requisite US Forest Service permit.

Due to the cinder cone terrain and the need to move large quantities of lava rock, development of this new trail system will be expensive. This project goes far beyond the traditional volunteer trail crews and will require professional expertise and experienced crews. The BSF funding request does not cover the entire cost of the project; Mt. Bachelor will also receive funds from Powdr Corp.

The infrastructure - parking, bathrooms, restaurants - is already in place. Confirmed by Mt. Bachelor, hiking and parking will be free; food/drink can be purchased. For a fee, visitors with RVs may spend the night in Mt. Bachelor's parking lot, possibly creating less demand for Cascade Lake campgrounds. Those who wish to take the chair to the top, may still do so for a fee.

Importantly, this trail system will provide a safe and fun hiking experience for all skill levels. Users will not need Forest Service permits and can do the hike without back country gear. In part, it will provide ADA access. Of note, it may pull unskilled hikers from the more technical and difficult back country. Soh addressed the ordeals experienced by Search and Rescue in saving unexperienced, unprepared, visitors who have obtained back-country permits.

After this discussion, reviewers agreed this project is worth funding.

11. Meissner Nordic Ski Club - Lodgepole Loops Access Enhancement

Amount Requested - 1 year: 2021/2022 \$2,972

Statement of Success: To restore safe access to the Lodgepole Loops trail, our only true beginner loop trail, by eliminating the hazards that currently disallow grooming, thus allowing for skiers of all abilities to enjoy the nordic trail system.

Comments:

Upon confirmation from those AC who use Meissner, unless cross country skiers go all the way around, Logdepole Loops trail is the only access to beginner trails. Meissner Nordic Ski Club cannot groom the trail with the stumps. In order to provide an enjoyable recreational experience for new skiers, local and out-of-town visitors, the stumps need to be removed. Meissner Nordic Ski Club is scrappy; it does so much for so little. “This is worth every penny.” One reviewer stated: the environmental footprint burning gas to drive to Mt. Bachelor, the next closest groomed beginner trails, is greater than the cost is to fund this project.

Dugan reminded the group: another conversation is looming - climate change. Will Meissner have snow in another ten years? If not, in what ways can the area be used going forward?

III. Scenarios

Prior to this session Gordon compiled three possible funding scenarios, see below. Based upon today’s feedback, she will compile a fourth scenario and email that to AC for comment.

Scenario 1: All projects are fully funded, except Oregon Equestrian with the road-grade adjustment for a total funding of \$42,000. Scenario 1 would fund \$647,125, \$147,125 more than \$500,000 budget for 2021/2022, and tie-up \$380,000 out of the \$750,000 budget for 2022/2023, leaving \$370,000 for new applications.

	Requested \$ 2021/22	Requested \$ 2022/23	Award \$ 2021/22	Award \$ 2022/23	Differenc e	Note
COTA	48,250		48,250			
High Desert Museum	100,000		100,000			
Bend Parks	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000		
COCC	6,900		6,900			
CO Nordic Club	50,000		50,000			
Discover Your Forest	135,000	135,000	135,000	135,000		
Meissner Nordic	2,975		2,975			
Oregon Equestrian	102,000		42,000		(60,000)	Remove \$ Road Grade
ONDA	17,000		17,000			
TU-Tumalo	22,000	22,000	22,000	22,000		
TU-Rimrock	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000		
Total	707,125	380,000	647,125	380,000		
Budget	500,000	750,000	500,000	750,000		
Difference	(207,125)	370,000	(147,125)	370,000		

Scenario 2: All projects are funded, but some funding amounts adjusted. Scenario 2 would fund \$568,125, \$68,125 more than \$500,000 budgeted for 2021/2022, and tie-up \$325,000 out of the \$750,000 budget for 2022/2023, leaving \$425,000 for new applications.

	Requested \$ 2021/22	Requested \$ 2022/23	Award \$ 2021/22	Award \$ 2022/23	Difference	Note
COTA	48,250		48,250		0	
High Desert Museum	100,000		76,000		(24,000)	Remove contingency
Bend Parks	200,000	200,000	150,000	150,000	(100,000)	Reduction \$50,000/year
COCC	6,900		6,900		0	
CO Nordic Club	50,000		50,000		0	
Discover Your Forest	135,000	135,000	135,000	135,000	0	
Meissner Nordic	2,975		2,975		0	
Oregon Equestrian	102,000		42,000		(60,000)	Remove \$ Road Grade
ONDA	17,000		17,000		0	
TU-Tumalo	22,000	22,000	20,000	20,000	(4,000)	Reduction \$2,000/year
TU-Rimrock	23,000	23,000	20,000	20,000	(6,000)	Reduction \$3,000/year
Total	707,125	380,000	568,125	325,000		
Budget	500,000	750,000	500,000	750,000		
Difference	(207,125)	370,000	(68,125)	425,000		

Scenario 3: All projects funded to a total of \$500,000 for 2021/2022, and \$283,000 for 2022/2023, leaving \$467,000 for new applications

	Requested \$ 2021/22	Requested \$ 2022/23	Award \$ 2021/22	Award \$ 2022/23	Difference	Note
COTA	48,250		40,000		(8,250)	
High Desert Museum	100,000		70,000		(30,000)	Remove contingency + \$6,000
Bend Parks	200,000	200,000	140,000	140,000	(120,000)	Reduction \$60,000/year
COCC	6,900		6,900		0	
CO Nordic Club	50,000		40,000		(10,000)	
Discover Your Forest	135,000	135,000	110,000	110,000	(50,000)	Reduction \$25,000/year
Meissner Nordic	2,975		2,975		0	
Oregon Equestrian	102,000		40,000		(62,000)	Remove \$ Road Grade + \$2,000
ONDA	17,000		17,000		0	
TU-Tumalo	22,000	22,000	16,000	16,000	(12,000)	Reduction \$6,000/year

TU-Rimrock	23,000	23,000	17,000	17,000	(12,000)	Reduction \$6,000/year
Total	707,125	380,000	499,875	283,000		
Budget	500,000	750,000	500,000	750,000		
Difference	(207,125)	370,000	125	467,000		

IV. Next Steps

- Recommendations from both sessions will be reviewed and compiled, Scenario 4 will be created;
- These will be sent to AC for review and comment;
- If AC does not have consensus, another meeting will be called;
- August 24-September 8: Community Ballot will be distributed to the community in English and Spanish;
- September 21: AC recommendations will be presented to Visit Bend Board of Directors;
- TBD, five random people will be selected to each win \$500, for a total of \$2,500, to be applied to the projects of their choice.
- October 1 -15: Grants awarded.

Gordon thanked the AC. She appreciates this first year of the BSF and hopes the process will incentivize bigger picture thinking for future cycles. Dugan, also thanked the group. As the community becomes more aware of BSF and as projects are funded, these will trigger future projects.

AC thanked Gordon, Dugan, others at Visit Bend for the hard work involved.



Bend Sustainability Fund
 Advisory Council Project Review
 August 21-24, 2021
 Addendum

On August 21, 2021, Gordon sent an email to those who participated in the August 19 Advisory Council Project Review sessions. She asked for comments regarding the following information no later than EOD Monday, August 23, 2021.

Pursuant to feedback provided during the BSF Advisory Council Project Review on August 19, 2021, the projects to be funded include: Bend Park and Rec District - Big Sky Park; Discover Your Forest - Mt. Bachelor Summer Trails; Meissner Nordic - Lodgepole Loops Stump Removal; Oregon Natural Desert Association - Badlands Trail Enhancements; Trout Unlimited - Tumalo Falls; Trout Unlimited - Rimrock; Central Oregon Trail Alliance - Cascade View Trail Project; High Desert Museum - Natural Playground.

The projects not to be funded include: Central Oregon Community College - Vista Hiking Trail; Central Oregon Nordic Club - Todd Lake Bridge.

Finally, Gordon asked the reviewers to provide additional feedback regarding funding for Oregon Equestrian - Three Creeks Meadow.

Visit Bend created the following three scenarios which will be refined, if necessary, upon the reviewers' feedback.

Scenario A: Reduce Oregon Equestrian to fund only trail maintenance and corrals (green); reduce TU-Rimrock by \$16,000 over 2 years (green); do not fund COCC or CO Nordic Club (orange); fund all other projects in full (blue)

SCENARIO A	Requested \$ 2021/22	Requested \$ 2022/23	Award \$ 2021/22	Award \$ 2022/23	Difference	Note
COTA	48,250		48,250		0	
High Desert Museum	100,000		100,000		0	
Bend Parks	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	0	
COCC	6,900		0	0	(6,900)	
CO Nordic Club	50,000		0	0	(50,000)	
Discover Your Forest	135,000	135,000	135,000	135,000	0	
Meissner Nordic	2,975		2,975		0	
Oregon Equestrian	102,000		33,000	0	(69,000)	Remove \$ Road Grade + \$9,000
ONDA	17,000		17,000	0	0	
TU-Tumalo	22,000	22,000	22,000	22,000	0	

TU-Rimrock	23,000	23,000	15,000	15,000	(16,000)	Reduction \$8,000/year
Total	707,125	380,000	573,225	372,000		
Budget	500,000	750,000	500,000	775,000		
Difference	(207,125)	370,000	(73,225)	403,000		

Scenario B: Reduce year 2 funding for Discover Your Forest and Bend Park and Rec (green); reduce TU-Rimrock by \$16,000 over 2 years (green); do not fund COCC, CO Nordic Club, and Oregon Equestrian (green); fund all other projects in full (blue). Visit Bend's preferred option.

SCENARIO B	Requested \$ 2021/22	Requested \$ 2022/23	Award \$ 2021/22	Award \$ 2022/23	Difference	Note
COTA	48,250		48,250	0	0	
High Desert Museum	100,000		100,000	0	0	
Bend Parks	200,000	200,000	200,000	150,000	(50,000)	Reduction \$50,000/year
COCC	6,900		0	0	(6,900)	
CO Nordic Club	50,000		0	0	(50,000)	
Discover Your Forest	135,000	135,000	135,000	110,000	(25,000)	
Meissner Nordic	2,975		2,975	0	0	
Oregon Equestrian	102,000		0	0	(120,000)	
ONDA	17,000		17,000	0	0	
TU-Tumalo	22,000	22,000	22,000	22,000	0	
TU-Rimrock	23,000	23,000	15,000	15,000	(16,000)	Reduction \$8,000/year
Total	707,125	380,000	540,225	297,000		
Budget	500,000	750,000	500,000	775,000		
Difference	(207,125)	370,000	(40,225)	478,000		

Scenario C: Total funding for 2021-2022 is \$500,000. Reduce funding for Discover Your Forest and Bend Parks and Rec in years 1 and 2 (green); reduce TU- Rimrock by \$16,000 over 2 years (green); do not fund COCC, CO Nordic, and Oregon Equestrian (orange); fund all other projects in full (blue).

SCENARIO C	Requested \$ 2021/22	Requested \$ 2022/23	Award \$ 2021/22	Award \$ 2022/23	Difference	Note
COTA	48,250		48,250	0	0	
High Desert Museum	100,000		80,000	0	(20,000)	Reduction \$20,000

Bend Parks	200,000	200,000	190,000	150,000	(60,000)	Reduction yr 1: \$10,000; yr 2: \$50,000
COCC	6,900		0	0	(6,900)	
CO Nordic Club	50,000		0	0	(50,000)	
Discover Your Forest	135,000	135,000	125,000	110,000	(35,000)	Reduction yr 1: \$10,000; yr 2: \$25,000
Meissner Nordic	2,975		2,975	0	0	
Oregon Equestrian	102,000		0	0	(102,000)	
ONDA	17,000		17,000	0	0	
TU-Tumalo	22,000	22,000	22,000	22,000	0	
TU-Rimrock	23,000	23,000	15,000	15,000	(16,000)	Reduction \$8,000/year
Total	707,125	380,000	500,225	297,000		
Budget	500,000	750,000	500,000	775,000		
Difference	(207,125)	370,000	(225)	478,000		

On August 24, 2021, following receipt of the reviewers' comments and conversation with ORLA, Gordon notified the AC that the following eight projects will be on the Community Ballot and will receive some level of BSF funding:

- Bend Park and Rec District - Big Sky Park
- Discover Your Forest - Mt. Bachelor Summer Trails
- Meissner Nordic - Lodgepole Loops Stump Removal
- Oregon Natural Desert Association - Badlands Trail Enhancements
- Trout Unlimited - Tumalo Falls
- Trout Unlimited - Rimrock
- Central Oregon Trail Alliance - Cascade View Trail Project
- High Desert Museum - Nature Playground

The Ballot, in English and Spanish, will be distributed to the community via www.bendsustainabilityfund.com on August 25 and will remain open until September 8. Visit Bend will promote the Ballot in both English and Spanish on BRG stations, online and in print through the Bend Bulletin and The Source Weekly, on Facebook and Instagram with paid media.

Gordon encouraged AC to also share the Ballot on their social channels, if they feel comfortable doing so.

On September 21, 2021, the results of the Ballot will be presented to the Visit Bend Board of Directors for approval.