



**Commission Members:** Chair Patrizia Bailey, Vice Chair Steve Morgenstein, Kara Wooldrik, Simon Rucker, Andrew Butcher, Jon Kachmar and Councilor Justin Costa.

**City Staff:** Doug Roncarati, Michael Goldman, Ethan Hipple and Alli Carroll

**City of Portland**  
**Land Bank Commission Agenda**  
**November 13, 2019**  
**5:00 PM**  
**Portland, Maine City Hall**  
**389 Congress Street, Council Chambers**

- I. Citizen Comment Period
- II. Agenda Items
  - i. New Business
    - a. Secretary Report
    - b. Treasury Report
    - c. Land Bank Budget - *vote to approve the Land Bank Budget for the 2020 calendar year*
    - d. Outreach Subcommittee Update
  - ii. Old Business
  - iii. Communications/Updates

*The Land Bank Commission is responsible for identifying and protecting open space resources within the City of Portland. The commission seeks to preserve a balance between development and conservation of open space important for wildlife, ecological, environmental, scenic or outdoor recreational values.*



**CITY OF PORTLAND**  
**Parks, Recreation & Facilities Department**  
**Sally DeLuca, Director**

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**Alex Marshall, Acting Parks Director**

**Memorandum**

**TO:** Parks Commission and Land Bank Commission  
**FROM:** Alex Marshall, Acting Parks Director, Parks, Recreation and Facilities Department  
**SUBJECT:** Parks Division Update  
**DATE:** November 2019

**Parks Division Staffing**

We have finalized the hiring of our new Operations Coordinator in Parks. Matt TenEyck, our current Athletic Facilities Supervisor, is being promoted to this position.

We are still in the hiring process for our 3rd Horticulture position  
Project Manager hiring is in progress.

**Franklin Meadow**

The tarps have been placed as you can see driving past the location. These will stay in place throughout the winter. Our hopes are that the grass underneath will have perished so we can plant new wildflower in the spring to blossom throughout the summer months.

**Baxter Trail**

Successful ribbon cutting ceremony with 50 in attendance. 20 folks walked the new route on opening day and it will be featured as a Channel 8 feature in early November.

**Parks Instagram Scavenger Hunt**

2nd Annual instagram parks scavenger hunt in Portland Parks is ongoing. Participants get clues through our Parks, Recreation and Facilities Instagram account, then race to various Parks to retrieve a toy lobster that has been hidden in the landscape. The first to find the lobster receives comp tickets to concerts at Merrill Auditorium. Sign up at <https://www.instagram.com/portlandmeprf/>

**Storm Update**

We had over 275 tree calls for service, of those we had about two dozen trees fail or uproot, we had well over 100 trees damaged and we are still doing assessment on the followup care needed. All of these and more (we tend to see new ones that no one called about) require restoration pruning, removing 'hangers', broken stubs, cracked limbs etc. A good portion of the trees, maybe 30%, will likely be damaged to the point where removal is the best option. The bulk of the trees damaged are trees we no longer plant, Norway Maple, Linden, Callery Pear - trees that tend to be non-native and hold their foliage late into the season.

**CIP**



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We are currently reviewing all department CIP requests for a submission to the City manager's office. More information to come on this as we progress.

### **Deering Oaks Zipline**

After mapping out the location and proceeding with test borings on the upper site, we have been informed by the Engineer that the site is not viable for such a structure. The project is now on hold until further notice.

### **Deering Oaks Pond**

Pond will be drained week of 11/4 and the Duck House, Fountain and Aeration will all be removed for the winter. An evaluation of how the aeration system worked will be conducted and vegetation/leaf removal will begin.

### **Capisic Pond Park**

The storm water project left the park with some taller than desired grass in the meadow areas that seem to have choked out all the beneficial pollinating flowers. This past week the crews have cut down all the meadow areas and we will be working to apply the same technique as the Franklin Meadow Project to plant a different variety of flowers/grass. Our hope is to return the meadows to the state they were before the project.

### **Park Projects Update**

Staff are working on the following funded CIP/Park Improvement projects:

- Lincoln Park Fence Restoration: Staff are waiting on additional CIP and private funds to proceed with Congress Street portion of fence. Complete restoration will take place in phases.
- Portland Landing: Interim Park improvements to be installed Fall Of 2019 and Spring of 2020 after Thames Street construction complete. Improvements include seating areas, trees, shrubs and perennials, and re-routed path along water's edge.
- Western Prom Master Plan still near completion after a few meetings to refine and adjust some pieces. Once the City Manager approves it, we can release it for viewing.
- Riverton School Playground in progress. A Spring installation on this is still in site. Funding is still needed, but is now more clear and a plan is in place.
- Dougherty Field Playground and Soccer Field: on temporary hold due to staffing shortages
- Park Walkways improvements: on temporary hold due to staffing shortages
- Lyman Moore/Riverton/Eastern Prom Tennis Court Resurfacing will be going out to bid again this winter for a Spring completion
- New Playground Rules & regulations signs are being installed
- All our water systems are continually being shut down as time allows

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