



**DRAFT Grants Committee Meeting Agenda**  
**East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District**  
 Thursday, October 12, 2020; 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM  
 Meeting to be Conducted via GoToMeeting

## AGENDA

Item #	Time	Agenda Item	Purpose	Presenter	Packet <i>* please read</i>
1	5:00	Welcome, Introductions	Information	Committee	N/A
2	5:05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selection of Committee Chair</li> <li>• Review/revise agenda</li> <li>• Review of previous action items</li> <li>• Approval of last minutes: 9/12/18</li> </ul>	Information/ Decision	Chair	<a href="#">a. 9/12/18 meeting minutes</a>
3	5:10	Time reserved for public comment	Information	Public	N/A
4	5:15	<b>Expenditure/Status Reports – Grants Programs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PIC, SPACE, SPA, SCI, CLIP</li> </ul>	Information	Easton	<a href="#">a. Summary Report</a> <a href="#">b. Status 2019 PIC grants</a> <a href="#">c. Outstanding 2018 and prior PIC grants</a> <a href="#">d. SPACE Overview FY19-20</a>
5	5:30	<b>CLIP:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year in review</li> </ul>	Information	DiLeone	<a href="#">a. CLIP Overview FY19-20</a>
<u>Overview:</u> Staff will present an overview of expenditures and the status of grants from the 2019/20 fiscal year. Current program activities will be shared briefly.					
6	5:45	<b>Strategic Issues:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2021 PIC Cycle</li> <li>• Urban Forestry Initiative</li> <li>• Technical Assistance Pilot</li> </ul>	Discussion/ Decision	Easton Brown	<a href="#">a. Proposed 2021 PIC options</a>
<u>Overview:</u> Considering COVID, PCEF funding, and internal DEI work, a one-time suspension of the PIC cycle for FY21/22 could offer program benefits in community engagement, planning and evaluation. A preliminary concept was presented at the 9/16/20 Board meeting. The Board granted authority to the Grants Committee to decide on the matter. Staff will present options for the Committee's consideration and decision. Staff will also report on plans for an urban forestry initiative and technical assistance for grantees.					
7	6:15	<b>SPA: Evaluation Plan and Future</b>	Discussion	Easton Brown	<a href="#">a. Plan outline</a>
<u>Overview:</u> After 5-years of a Strategic Partnership Agreement with the three watershed councils in the District (JCWC, CSWC, SRWC), the SPA is set to expire at the end of FY20-21. Staff will present a draft plan to evaluate the 5-year SPA and consider options for future funding in 2021.					
8	6:30	<b>Equity Plan – Grants Program</b>	Information	Easton	<a href="#">a. Plan Concept</a>
<u>Overview:</u> Staff will present preliminary plans to develop a Grants Program Equity Plan.					



10/5/2020

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9	6:55	<b>Closing items:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Announcements, Other Business</li> <li>• Action Items</li> <li>• Next Meeting</li> <li>• Adjourn</li> </ul>	Information	Chair/ Easton	N/A
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**EMSWCD Board Members, Officers and Meeting Dates:**

EMSWCD Board			Grants Committee	Year	FY20-21 Schedule	Board	Grants Committee
Members	Positions	Officers					
Gabrielle Rossi	Zone 1 Director	Treasurer		2020	July	6 <sup>th</sup>	
Laura Masterson	Zone 2 Director	Vice-Chair			August	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
Mike Guebert	Zone 3 Director		X		September	16 <sup>th</sup>	
Rick Till	At-Large 1 Director	Secretary	X		October	5 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
Carrie Sanneman	At-Large 2 Director	Chair	X		November	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
Dianna Pope	Director Emeritus				December	7 <sup>th</sup>	
				2021	January	4 <sup>th</sup>	TBD
					February	1 <sup>st</sup>	
					March	1 <sup>st</sup>	
					April	5 <sup>th</sup>	
					May	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
					June	7 <sup>th</sup>	



**DRAFT Grants Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, September 12, 2018; 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM**  
**Held at: EMSWCD Office, 5211 North Williams Ave, Portland OR**

<b>Attendees</b>	
<b>Committee Members</b>	Mike Gerel (Chair) Rick Till
<b>Committee Members Not attending</b>	
<b>Staff</b>	Jay Udelhoven, Executive Director Andrew Brown, Conservation Legacy Program Supervisor Suzanne Easton, Grants Program Manager Lindsay Nelson, Office Manager Angela Previdelli, Urban Lands Outreach & Education Specialist Julie DiLeone, Rural Lands Program Supervisor
<b>Guests</b>	Carrie Sanneman, Board member

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Packet * please read</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>4:10</b>	<b>Welcome, Introductions</b>	Information	Till	N/A
Meeting called to order at 4:10pm					
Mike Gerel was selected as Chair of the Grants Committee					
<b>2</b>	<b>4:10</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review/revise agenda</li> <li>• Review of previous action items</li> <li>• Approval of last minutes: 10/05/17</li> </ul>	<b>Decision</b>	Gerel	a. 10/5/17 meeting minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easton provided an update on a previous action item. A list of private and public funders had been developed in fall of 2017 to help inform strategic planning for the grants program. The list was provided at the meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>MOTION: Till moved to approve the October 5, 2017 minutes</b> <b>Gerel 2nds</b> <b>All in favor – motion passes unanimously</b></p>					
<b>3</b>	<b>4:14</b>	<b>Time reserved for public comment</b>	Information	Public	N/A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were no comments made by the public.</li> </ul>					
<b>4</b>	<b>4:14</b>	<b>Expenditure/Status Reports – Grants Programs – FY17-18, FY18-19:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PIC, SPACE, SPA, ODS, SCI, CLIP</li> </ul>	Information	Easton	a. Summary Report b. 2018 PIC Overview c. Outstanding prior year PIC grants
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easton presented the PIC, SPACE, SPA, ODS, SCI and CLIP Grants program summary reports and expenditures for FY17-18 and FY18-19.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Easton announced that an award column had been added to the report in response to Mitten's input.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Easton shared that 17 grants were awarded this year.</li> <li>• Easton reminded the Committee that the board had withdrawn NAYA's 2018 PIC grant award due to staff changes at NAYA. Easton will work with NAYA staff to re-submit in the 2019 PIC grant cycle.</li> </ul>					



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Easton also shared that the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership's contract is still pending. They are waiting to hear from OWEB about matching funds.</li> </ul>					
5	4:22	<b>PIC 2018 Survey Results:</b>	Information	Easton	N/A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Easton presented the results from a survey of 2018 PIC applicants.</li> </ul>					
6	4:34	<b>SPACE:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year in review</li> <li>Plans FY18/19</li> </ul>	Information	Previdelli	a. FY17-18 SPACE Grants b. FY17-18 SPACE Overview
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Previdelli presented a review of the SPACE grants for FY17-18.</li> <li>Previdelli shared plans for SPACE grants for FY18-19.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Previdelli announced that the SPACE grants have transitioned into ZoomGrants as of July 1, 2018.</li> </ul> </li> <li>A brief discussion was held on challenges with applying for SPACE grants since the migration online to ZoomGrants.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Previdelli stated that there were a few applicants that needed assistance with the application process; however, she was able to offer support and walk them through it over the phone.</li> <li>A discussion was held on revisiting past grantees and their projects to assess status and sustainable outcomes.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>					
7	4:46	<b>CLIP:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year in review</li> <li>Plans FY18-19</li> </ul>	Information	DiLeone	N/A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DiLeone presented a review of the CLIP grants for FY17/18.</li> <li>DiLeone shared plans for the CLIP grants for FY18/19.</li> </ul>					
8	4:59	<b>Strategic Issues:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PIC 2019 Funding levels, structure</li> <li>PIC Funding areas</li> <li>Regular grantees</li> </ul>	Decision	Easton Brown	a. PIC Funding level options b. Priority Funding Areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Easton presented five different options for reduced PIC funding, providing pros and cons for each option.</li> <li>Easton shared that the EMSWCD Staff's recommendation is option #4, eliminate PIC plus and allow up to 2 years for project completion with a maximum PIC award amount of \$100,000.</li> <li>Easton discussed prioritizing funding areas.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Easton outlined the current categories and presented decision options.</li> <li>Easton reported that EMSWCD Staff recommended to continue with current categories for now, and explore the new funding categories and the potential contribution and impact from EMSWCD funding support (option #1 and #4 in presentation).</li> <li>Gerel suggested requesting feedback from current grantees on funding categories and priority issues.</li> <li>A brief discussion was held on exploring urban tree planting in underserved areas as a strategy to address climate change.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>MOTION: Till moved to recommend to the Board approval of the Staff's recommendations regarding strategic issues related to PIC implementation.</b></p> <p><b>Gerel 2nds</b></p> <p><b>All in favor – motion passes unanimously</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A brief discussion was held on the use of the equity lens as an analysis of funding areas that Easton included in the packet.</li> </ul>					
9	5:41	<b>Closing items:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Announcements, Other Business</li> <li>Action Items</li> <li>Next Meeting</li> <li>Adjourn</li> </ul>	Information	Till Easton	N/A



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- Brown asked for other ways to keep the Committee informed on what's going on with the Grants Program.
  - It was suggested to have grantees present their project outcomes at future meetings.
- Udelhoven reintroduced the Committee to Mitten, the new CFO.
- The next Grant Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 4:00pm.

**Meeting adjourned at 5:50pm**

<u>Date Generated</u>	<u>Action Items</u>	<u>Responsible Parties</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Current Status as of Date of Draft Minutes</u>
09/12/18	Check policy on applying for PIC grants to verify if a grantee can apply for a PIC grant if they have an active PIC Plus.	Easton	ASAP	Complete
9/12/18	Meet to discuss CCC.	Easton/Udelhoven	ASAP	Pending
9/12/18	Send out calendar invite for next Grant Committee meeting.	Nelson	ASAP	Complete

**Grants Committee Meeting Dates:**

September 12, 2018

January 16, 2019

**Board Members:**Zone 1: *Vacant*

Zone 2: Director Laura Masterson

Zone 3: Director Mike Guebert

At-Large 1: Director Rick Till, Chair

At-Large 2: Director Allison Hensey

Associate/Emeritus Director – Dianna Pope

**EMSWCD Grants Committee Members:**

Directors: Mike Gerel (Chair), Rick Till

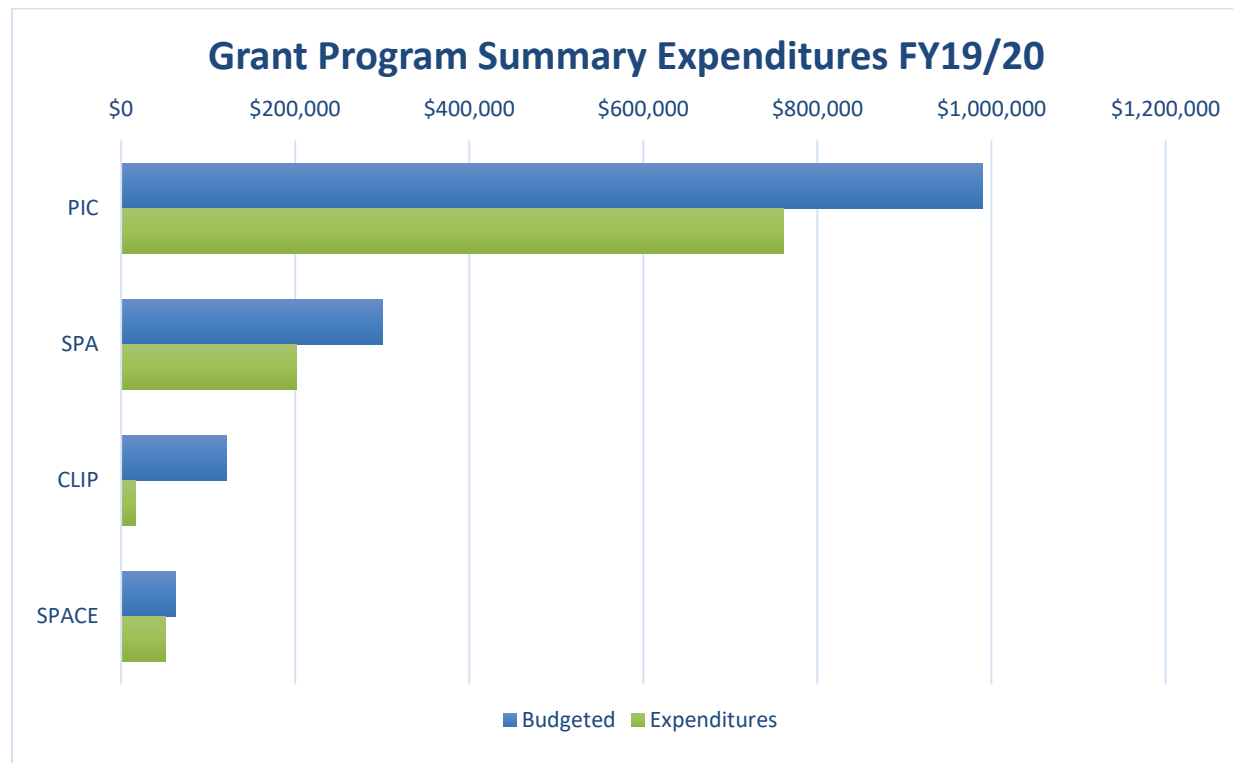
Staff: E.D., Conservation Legacy Program Supervisor,  
Grants Program Manager



## Grants Program Expenditures FY 2019/20 and FY 2020/21

Grant Type	2019/2020			2020/2021 – as of 9/30		
	Budgeted	Awarded	Expended	Budgeted	Awarded YTD	Expended YTD
PIC	\$989,362*	\$622,362	\$760,682	\$892,020*	\$599,819	\$109,065
SPA	\$300,000	\$230,000	\$202,031	\$253,332*	\$230,000	\$56,489
CLIP	\$121,000*	\$78,081	\$16,772	\$175,000*	\$39,126	\$5,533
SPACE	\$62,000	\$42,360	\$51,209	\$62,000	\$9,000	\$2000
SCI	\$0	\$0	\$8,663	\$0	\$0	\$0

\* Includes amount for prior years' commitments not yet reimbursed.



Status: 2019 PIC Grants - As of 9/28/20						
PIC Number	Organization/Agency	Project Title	Grant Amount	Amount Paid To Date	Unpaid Balance	Status / Planned Completion Date
PIC-19-001	Adventures Without Limits	Equity in the Outdoors	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0	Complete
PIC-19-002	Audubon Society of Portland/Columbia Land Trust	Backyard Habitat Certification Program - East Multnomah County Engagement and Equity	\$70,000	\$39,648	\$30,352	2-year project, Sept. 2021
PIC-19-003	Camp E.L.S.O. Inc.	Camp ELSO Expansion Project	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$0	Complete
PIC-19-004	Columbia Riverkeeper	Columbia River Monitoring and Outreach Project	\$45,000	\$18,846	\$26,154	1.5-year project, Dec. 2020
PIC-19-006	Depave	Depave 2019 - Centennial School District	\$33,902	\$33,902	\$0	Complete
PIC-19-007	Ecology in Classrooms and Outdoors	Ecology Enrichment in Elementary Schools	\$20,500	\$20,500	\$0	Complete
PIC-19-008	Ecotrust	Green Workforce Collaborative	\$40,000	\$7,191	\$32,809	Exended timeline due to COVID. Dec. 2020
PIC-19-009	Friends of Nadaka Nature Park	Community Restoration and Workforce Project	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	Complete
PIC-19-011	Grow Portland	Glenhaven Community Garden	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0	Complete
PIC-19-012	Janus Youth Programs, Inc.	Growing Deeper: Intergenerational Community Organizing Through Food and Farming	\$43,989	\$22,339	\$21,650	2-year project, June 2021
PIC-19-013	Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership	Feasibility Assessment of Pilot Cold Water Refuge Enhancement Technique	\$30,000	\$12,120	\$17,880	1.5-year project, Dec 2020
PIC-19-014	Northwest Youth Corps	East Multnomah Youth Stewardship Program	\$20,000	\$19,080	\$0	Complete
PIC-19-016	Outgrowing Hunger	Gardens for Health	\$50,000	\$13,359	\$36,641	2-year project, June 2021
PIC-19-017	Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center Inc.	Student Crew Leadership Training Program	\$25,000	\$24,118	\$882	Complete
PIC-19-019	Sauvie Island Center	DEI on the Farm & in the Classroom	\$20,393	\$20,389	\$4	Complete
PIC-19-021	The Wetlands Conservancy	Healing Habitats	\$20,706	\$11,933	\$8,773	1.5-year project, Dec 2020
PIC-19-022	Tucker Maxon School	SE 28th Place Parklet	\$20,350	\$12,759	\$7,591	Exended timeline due to COVID. June 2021
PIC-19-025	Verde	Verde Landscape Training Program	\$40,000	\$30,899	\$9,101	Program dissolved 3/20 - COVID. Remaining funds?
PIC-19-026	Wisdom of the Elders, Inc.	Wisdom Workforce Development Capacity Project	\$38,680	\$15,002	\$23,678	1.5-year project, Dec 2020
PIC-19-028	World Salmon Council	Salmon Watch	\$18,842	\$15,975	\$2,867	Covid-related delays, Dec 2020

**Outstanding 2018 (and prior) PIC/PIC Plus Grants - As of 9/24/20**

<b>PIC Number</b>	<b>Organization/ Agency</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>	<b>Amount Paid To Date</b>	<b>Unpaid Balance</b>	<b>Status / Planned Completion Date</b>
18-025	Reynolds School District	Multnomah Youth Cooperative	\$25,537	\$7,797	\$17,740	Timeline extension June 2020
<b>PIC Plus</b>						
16-020	Multnomah County	North Fork Johnson Creek Fish Passage Restoration	\$150,000	\$50,000	\$100,000	In process of transferring funds to JCWC for retrofit
17-012	Multnomah County	Green Gresham / Healthy Gresham	\$143,000	\$102,376	\$40,624	Delays due to COVID, Dec 2020
18-010	Friends of Trees	Urban Forestry and Restoration Adult Training Program	\$114,919	\$81,587	\$33,332	Delays due to COVID, Dec 2020
18-011	Zenger Farm	Reducing Barriers: Developing Future Farmers and Relevant Youth Programming	\$100,036	\$83,870	\$16,166	Delays due to COVID, Dec 2020
18-012	Green Lents	Lents Green Ring	\$75,000	\$44,318	\$30,682	Dec 2020





## SPACE Grant Applications for FY19-20

### 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

Application Number	Organization	Project Description	Request Amount	Decision	Award Amount
SPACE-20-001	Pollinator Parkways	PP will convert 2,000 square feet of parking strips into pollinator habitat that beautifies neighborhoods and educates about the importance of pollinators.	\$2,000	Approved	\$2,000
SPACE-20-002	Vanport Placemarking Project	The project creates a 12'x7' fabric banner depicting before and after photos of the Vanport flood and provides outreach materials to inform the public of the Vanport Placemarking Project.	\$1,995	Approved	\$1,995
SPACE-20-003	FolkTime Inc.	The Bliss Garden provides sustainable, organic, and local produce while also providing a space for those with mental health barriers, community members, and neighbors to relax, reflect, heal, and gain knowledge of urban farming.	\$2,000	Approved	\$2,000
SPACE 20-004	Urban Greenspaces Institute,	UGI will lead native oak naturesscaping workshops for the Portland metropolitan region, focused on landscape and environmental professionals who work with private landowners.	\$2,000	Cancelled	\$0
SPACE-20-005	Oregon State University	The Sagra/Fill Your Pantry strives to support local sustainable farmers by creating a market for winter vegetables and other products. It is both a one-day sale and a celebration and marketing event, held on 12/8/2019.	\$2,000	Approved	\$2,000
SPACE-20-006	Lent School PTA	This project will install drip irrigation in the pollinator, rain, and native plant shade gardens and connect it to an irrigation controller so that all areas are watered efficiently.	\$481	Approved	\$481
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$10,476</b>		<b>\$8,476</b>



### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

Application Number	Organization/Project Name	Project Description	Request Amount	Decision	Award Amount
SPACE-20-007	Beach Elementary School	Ongoing funding to support school's garden coordinator to implement garden lessons for all grade levels and maintain the garden. <i>Note: Declined because we do not fund permanent staff positions through SPACE.</i>	\$1,930	Declined	\$0
SPACE-20-008	Human Access Project	Current website developed seven years ago, need for upgrade, including Spanish and Russian translation and expanded educational information.	\$1,995	Approved	\$1,995
SPACE-20-009	Mercy Corps Community Investment Trust	The project will add green infrastructure to Plaza 122, a property owned by community members. It will prevent runoff pollution, beautify space, and minimize maintenance costs for neighbor-investors. <i>Note: Cancelled due to inability of Mercy Corps to accept funds on behalf of LLC.</i>	\$2,000	Cancelled	\$0
SPACE-20-010	Voz Workers' Rights Education Project	Project creates paid opportunities for Voz day laborers to improve the June Key Delta Community Center garden with native planting, winter bed preparation, and mulching paths.	\$1,991	Approved	\$1,991
SPACE-20-011	Grow Portland	Program serves all students in partner schools, including Special Education students. Funding will support staff training and development to better serve SPED students.	\$2,000	Approved	\$2,000
SPACE-20-012	Urban Greenspaces Institute – for Siletz Tribe	PSU Indigenous Nations Studies will work with students, Siletz Tribe staff, youth, elders, and Depave to re-nature the Siletz Tribe's Portland office with cultural learning, healing, and native plants.	\$1,760	Approved	\$1,760
SPACE-20-013	Metropolitan Family Services	Parklane SUN Environmental Education Class will provide environmental education for 1st-6th graders and help restore and maintain the community garden at Parklane Elementary School. <i>Note: Declined because we do not fund permanent staff positions through SPACE.</i>	\$2,000	Declined	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$13,676</b>		<b>\$7,746</b>



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

Application Number	Organization/Project Name	Project Description	Request Amount	Decision	Award Amount
SPACE-20-014	Access Academy	Project will provide environmental education to middle school students while also conducting a habitat improvement project, which includes pollinator plants, increased accessibility, and community building. <i>Note: Declined based on change of plans.</i>	\$1,000	Declined	
SPACE-20-015	Beach Elementary	Community guest teachers with a diversity of intersectional identities will be invited and paid to lead culturally relevant outdoor/garden education lessons with support from the Garden Coordinator.	\$1,930	Approved	\$1,930
SPACE-20-016	Lloyd Ecodistrict	Peace Memorial Park will serve as a beautiful and educational waterfront open space to reflect on the meaning of peace, to learn about pollinators, and to discover the connection to climate change for both.	\$2,000	Approved	\$2,000
SPACE-20-017	Oregon State University – Integrated Plan Protection Center	A hands-on conference presenting conservation practices that farmers currently use, how and why they implement them, and the benefits associated with them. This is a follow-up to the 2017 conference.	\$1,000	Approved	\$1,000
SPACE-20-018	Save First Financial, Catholic Charities	Save First will build a community garden for the residents of Multnomah Manor, providing organic produce and creating a foundation for curriculum about a healthy, sustainable, and budget friendly life.	\$1,820	Approved	\$1,820
SPACE-20-019	Woodland Elementary	Woodland students have been learning about how to transform their playground into 3 habitats by removing blackberry and planting native flowers, shrubs, and grasses, and wish to continue the project. <i>Note: Declined due to alternative funding from CSWC.</i>	\$750	Declined	\$0
SPACE-20-020	Portland Area CSA Coalition	The annual CSA Share Fair connects community to local small farmers through education about Community Supported Agriculture and its environmental, health, and economic benefits.	\$2000	Approved	\$2000



**FY19-20 SPACE Grant Applications and Awards**  
East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District

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SPACE-20-021	Astor Elementary School	Funds support the transportation of 40 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade students to Columbia Slough Watershed Council's "Slough School." Students learn about the importance of water in the area.	\$250	Approved	\$250
SPACE-20-022	Whitman Elementary School	This project plants additional trees for playground shade, adds native plants to flower beds, and installs picnic tables so garden classes can have a firm surface to write on when they are in the garden.	\$1383	Approved	\$1383
SPACE-20-023	Woodstock School PTA	Students will plant native plants to demarcate the school garden and to attract beneficial insects.	\$1860	Approved	\$1860
SPACE-20-024	James John Elementary PTA	This project will ensure that all students receive garden education by expanding the current garden site and beginning a garden ed partnership with Grow Portland.	\$2000	Approved	\$2000
SPACE-20-025	North Portland Parks Advisory Group	Funds will be used for website development to build a larger community of participants, and to share information about parks, wetlands, and trails in N/NE Portland.	\$1740	Approved	\$1740
SPACE-20-026	Richmond Elementary PTA	This project will transform a packed dirt hill into a boulder amphitheater, remove pavement, amend soil, and plant the back slope with native plants. <i>Note: Declined due to 1-year delay in project due to COVID – will re-apply next year.</i>	\$2000	Declined	\$0
SPACE-20-027	Wild Lilac CDC	Supporting infant/toddler ecological identity development through a new food plot and rain garden in infant/toddler yard and supporting school main garden with new tools, equipment, and native plants.	\$650	Approved	\$650
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$16,633</b>		<b>\$12,883</b>



### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter

Application Number	Organization/Project Name	Project Description	Request Amount	Decision	Award Amount
SPACE-20-028	Sauvie Island Center	SIC will establish a teaching garden at its new location, Topaz Farm. The garden will feature culturally varied plantings and provide better support for diverse students.	\$2000	Approved	\$2000
SPACE-20-029	Slow Food Portland	Market Scouts is a youth educational program located at the Lents International Farmers Market. Market Scouts participants learn about local food and sustainable agriculture and receive vouchers to spend in the market.	\$2000	Approved	\$2000
SPACE-20-030	Cascade Pacific RC&D	Wheels Not Weeds is an education and prevention campaign related to invasive species that focuses on mountain bike (MTB) trail users in the Columbia Gorge, Portland Metro and beyond.	\$1500	Approved	\$1500
SPACE-20-031	Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides	Through virtual demonstration of alternative techniques, this project will increase knowledge and commitment to improve water quality and protect pollinators through reducing pesticide use.	\$2000	Approved	\$2000
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$7,500</b>		<b>\$7,500</b>

- **SPACE Budget for FY19/20: \$62,000**
- **24 grants approved for funding**
- **7 applications declined or cancelled**
- **\$42,360 awarded, 68% of budget**



## Summary of CLIP grants from fiscal year 19-20

**CLIP-20-001 Columbia Grange:** Awarded \$2,934 to install a demonstration pollinator planting. This project is almost complete.

**CLIP-20-002 Dragon Palace:** Awarded \$6,300 to hire a firm to design options to manage stormwater. Unfortunately, they decided to switch firms and they have been unresponsive to our requests to sign the CLIP agreement.

**CLIP-20-003 Kern:** Awarded \$7,710 to address mud and reduce likelihood of runoff in areas used by horses. They had to scale back the project due to economic hardships brought on by the pandemic but were able to install one heavy use area. Fencing installation is pending.

**CLIP-20-004 Holmqvist:** Awarded \$406 to create and plant a raingarden to infiltrate stormwater from their roof. This project is in progress.

**CLIP-20-005 Verna Jean Nursery:** Awarded \$5,879 to repair a farm road and an area used to store harvested plants to reduce the potential for erosion and sediment reaching nearby Johnson Creek. Due to smoky air, the work was delayed and the agreement was amended to change the end date from November 1, 2020 to November 1, 2021.

**CLIP-20-006 Ekstrom Schmidt:** Awarded \$30,242 to convert the irrigation of nursery stock in pots on 3 acres from overhead sprinkler to microirrigation in each pot. The conversion is in progress.

**CLIP-20-007 Hadsell:** Awarded \$8,000 to remove English ivy, blackberry, and other invasive weeds on a slope above Johnson Creek. The project is almost complete.

**CLIP-20-008 Eppley:** Awarded \$16,610 to improve livestock manure management and address muddy areas where livestock congregate. This project is also receiving EQIP funding from NRCS. Work has been delayed due to the effects of the pandemic.

In addition, a payment of \$2,000 was made as the first of three annual payments for maintenance of practices funded under the CLIP-19-001 Schmidt grant.



## PIC 2021 “Strategic Pause” – Background and Decision Options

### *Background:*

EMSWCD’s Partners in Conservation Program began in 2007 when sufficient funds became available to support external organization projects that aligned with the District’s mission. Since that time, over \$8 million dollars has been awarded to non-profits, schools, and local government. During this period of nearly 14 years, while many improvements have been made to the program, there has been little in the way of significant change to its basic structure, timing and focus of the PIC program. With one staff person responsible for all the management and administration of the grants program, limited time has been available for program evaluation, strategic initiatives, or consideration of alternative, possibly more effective, approaches to supporting conservation efforts in the region.

This has been a year full of upheaval, to say the least. Ironically, it is in these extraordinary times that we are presented with the rare opportunity to consider how EMSWCD may want to do things differently, move in a direction that responds to the weight of this historic moment, and attempt to methodically apply what we have learned.

EMSWCD’s Grants Program staff are proposing a “strategic pause” for the 2021 PIC cycle – a suspension of the program for one year. The pause would mean that we forgo the normal competitive PIC cycle this coming fiscal year, but still budget in the spring (FY21/22) for extensions and non-competitive “new grants” for regular grantees.

The primary motivations for this proposal are as follows:

- With COVID and federal payroll protection funding, many current grantees have experienced delays in their projects and are likely to need extensions for active PIC grants. There are also likely to be challenges and timing issues with initiating new projects given the current unknowns under COVID.
- The broader regional funding arena and local priorities could also be affected by COVID related financial impacts on local city and regional agencies. The implication for issues we support will become more apparent in the coming year and how it might inform our grantmaking.
- With the Portland Clean Energy Fund (PCEF), we will see a major change in the Portland funding landscape around funding for green workforce development, green infrastructure, and regenerative agriculture. We need to carefully examine the implications for our grant program and consider changes in how, when, and what we fund.
- EMSWCD’s equity work would also benefit from thoughtful planning about how to incorporate what we have learned and what this means for the direction of the grant program.
- With one staff member, we cannot expect that this evaluative work can be done within the current work plan. A “pause” would free up some of Suzanne’s time that is normally occupied with PIC for 5-6 months of the year.
- As long as a certain level of funding is assured, having not to reapply could benefit grantees burdened with everything going on.
- This presents a rare opportunity for EMSWCD to take a “strategic pause” as many funders have done, to re-evaluate processes, outcomes, and grantmaking strategies. EMSWCD has not done that since the inception of the program in 2007.



## Proposed Suspension of PIC for FY21/22

East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District

9/28/2020

### *Proposal Details:*

Staff would notify the public immediately that the PIC 2021 grant opportunity will be suspended this year, but that we will make every effort to provide a yet to be determined level of support to those organizations that have received regular funding from us in recent years. By January 1, 2021, we will develop specific criteria and a process for this continued funding. In some cases, this may be the extension of a current grant, in others it may be a new grant. Extensions and any new contracts would be designed to coincide with the 21/22 fiscal year (as PIC 2021 would be budgeted). One possible criterion could be having received funding two out of the last four years. Funding amounts could be approached in various ways: provide a flat amount, base levels on past funding amounts, based upon the budget of the organization, or look at the requirements of the project. The criterion and final awards to grantees would be brought to the Board for their approval.

Grant Program staff would use the time made available to do the following:

- 1) Consider the impact of PCEF on EMSWCD's grant program and the possible impact on partner funders resulting from economic fallout from COVID.
- 2) Engage with the community and grantees to evaluate the current structure and focus of the grant program and recommend changes and improvements.
- 3) Develop a Grants Program Equity Plan that serves as a model for other program areas (work with an advisory committee).
- 4) Potentially catalyze a major initiative in Urban Forestry for East County.

### *Options:*

Options
1) Option 1: Approve staff proposal for "strategic pause" of PIC Program for FY2021
2) Option 2: Approve a modified version of the recommendation.
3) Option 3: Continue with PIC FY20/21 cycle as originally planned.

### *STAFF RECOMMENDATION:*

Staff recommends Option 1





## DRAFT SPA Evaluation Plan

**Goal:** To assess the success of the SPA 5-year program with the watershed councils and make a recommendation on whether the program should be continued.

**Key Questions:**

- Did the SPA program achieve its intended goals?
- What are the key outcomes from the 5-year investment?
- What criteria should be used to decide on continuation of the program?

**Methods:**

- 1) Staff will survey/interview all key participants in the program, including Executive Directors of the Watershed Councils, the EMSWCD Management Team, and past participants as needed and available (prior EDs).
- 2) A summary of the initial rationale and goals of the program will be provided.
- 3) Through interviews and review of SPA reports, staff will summarize major achievements, outcomes, unfulfilled objectives, and relevant organizational changes.
- 4) Staff, in consultation with the Management Team and Board Grants Committee, will consider the financial and equity implications of fully funding, not funding, or an alternative level/method of funding the SPA after FY20-21.
- 5) Staff will consult with the management team to develop a staff recommendation for future funding to be reviewed with the Grants Committee and submitted to the Board for decision.

**Outline:**

- I. **Background – relevant decisions/dates, establishment of SPA, key players**
- II. **Purpose/Objectives of Assessment**
- III. **Findings – successes, deficiencies, outcomes, etc.**
- IV. **Financial/Equity Considerations**
- V. **Options for Decision/Recommendation**

**Timeline:** January/February 2021 completion.



## **Concept: EMSWCD Grants Program Equity Plan**

Low income populations and communities of color have been disproportionately impacted by unhealthy environmental conditions and must often reside in areas comparatively lacking in natural amenities such as parks and tree cover. EMSWCD aims to respond more effectively to this historic and current reality. We value the diversity of all our residents as an integral part of the future success of our programs and organization, and of conservation efforts in the region. Moreover, we are committed to establishing meaningful and productive relationships with communities to learn how best to ensure equitable conservation outcomes and benefits. Through our Grants Program, we look to support projects that further the opportunities for our region's diverse populations to participate and help shape conservation efforts.

In our grant application review and decision-making process, EMSWCD is committed to the following:

- Ensuring that our PIC Review Committee includes representatives of diverse communities.
- Prioritizing projects in our ranking criteria that are led by, involve or benefit low income communities and communities of color in all areas of funding.
- Working to address inequities in the local conservation sector through systemic change.
- Working to remove barriers to successful participation in grant projects.
- Continuing to engage our grantees, partners and communities to better understand how we can improve our grantmaking process to address bias, institutional racism and cultural relevancy.

### **Goals:**

1. Embed equity in all grants and grantmaking processes.
2. Increase investments in low-income and historically marginalized communities and neighborhoods.
3. Strengthen cross-sector collaborations to address big issues and enhance knowledge across sectors.
4. Challenge traditional grantmaking processes that exclude and create barriers to participation.
5. Increase capacity and strengthen organizational structures needed to advance equitable conservation outcomes.
6. Increase conservation benefits for communities and populations experiencing disparities in environmental health, environmental education, and natural amenities.

### **For Each Goal:**

Actions:

Partners:

Timeline:

Outcomes:

**DRAFT Grants Equity Plan Concept**

East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District

9/28/2020

**Proposed process for developing Grants Equity Plan –**

- 1) Conduct a review of program outcomes and organizations funded over past five years, using an equity lens. Draw some conclusions about progress in equity, strengths and weaknesses.
- 2) Survey grantees and key partners on DEI involvement, progress to date, EMSWCD role and contributions, how we can improve, what to do differently.
- 3) Create advisory group, similar to PIC review committee (possibly including some or all members), to help review evaluation and survey results, and guide plan development.
- 4) Assess, with consultant and advisory group input, status of key DEI/Conservation issues in our region (e.g. urban forestry, green workforce development, food sovereignty), along with demographics, to determine our best funding niche and potential for maximum impact.
- 5) Work with EMSWCD Equity Team, as well as program supervisor and ED as needed, to ensure consistency with organization-wide equity plan and to obtain feedback on structure and content of plan.
- 6) Provide drafts to Grants Committee for review.