

**BALLOT MEASURE NO. 20-110****BALLOT MEASURE NO. 20-110  
REFERRED BY CITY OF EUGENE****Ballot Title:** BONDS FOR PARKS, ATHLETIC FIELDS AND PRESERVATION OF OPEN SPACE**Question:** Shall City of Eugene acquire parkland, develop parks and athletic fields by issuing up to \$27,490,000 in general obligation bonds? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.**Summary:** If approved, the proceeds from the sale of the bonds will be used for costs related to the purchase of land for parks and open space, and the construction and improvement of park facilities. Projects anticipated to receive funding through the bonds include:

- purchasing land for neighborhood and community parks in the Bethel, River Road/Santa Clara, south Eugene, Willakenzie and Willow Creek areas
- purchasing land to expand Amazon Park and parkland in front of the Shelton-McMurphey-Johnson House
- expanding and constructing park facilities at Golden Gardens Park
- purchasing land for the preservation of natural open spaces near the Ridgeline Trail, the Willamette River and Gillespie Butte
- developing a West Eugene Wetlands Education Center in partnership with other federal and local agencies
- refurbishing existing synthetic-surface ball fields, and developing new fields and related facilities (such as restrooms, lights and bleachers), in partnership with the Eugene 4J and Bethel school districts.

Bond costs are estimated to average about \$0.15 per \$1000 of assessed value per year over the life of the bonds.

**RESOLUTION NO. 4869**

**A RESOLUTION CALLING A CITY ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 7, 2006, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REFERRING TO THE LEGAL ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF EUGENE A MEASURE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A MAXIMUM OF \$27,490,000 OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE PROJECTS.**

The City Council of the City of Eugene finds as follows:

A. Parks and open space provide a place for citizens to enjoy time with family and friends and to meet other community members. Parks provide

opportunities for youth and adult recreation that have a positive relationship to community health and public safety. The preservation of natural areas in and around Eugene provides needed habitat for wildlife and places for citizens to contemplate nature and find tranquility in their daily lives.

B. This bond measure is intended to address the most critical needs in Eugene's parks and natural areas. Acquisition of new park land is important to meet future goals related to parks, recreation and open space and avoid lost opportunities due to development pressures. Land should be acquired for neighborhood parks in the following areas of the City: Bethel, River Road/Santa

## BALLOT MEASURE NO. 20-110

### RESOLUTION NO. 4869 (continued)

Clara, south Eugene, Willakenzie, and Willow Creek. In addition, land should be acquired to create a community park in Santa Clara, expand Amazon Park and park land in front of the Shelton-McMurphey-Johnson House, and expand and begin construction at Golden Gardens Park. It is the City Council's intent that up to \$600,000 of General Fund contribution to the Golden Gardens Park project be reimbursed with bond proceeds if this measure passes. Land also needs to be acquired for natural area parks, including land near the Ridgeline Trail, the Willamette River and Gillespie Butte. Approximately \$20,250,000 from this measure should be used for these purposes.

C. The West Eugene Wetlands Education Center is an opportunity to partner with other organizations including the Bureau of Land Management, Eugene School Districts 4J and Bethel 52, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and the nonprofit organization, Willamette Resources and Educational Network to create and support a world-class education center. The Education Center would focus on celebrating and encouraging stewardship of natural resources through broad-based community involvement and resources. Approximately \$1,750,000 from the measure should be used to help create the Education Center.

D. Joint development of synthetic surface ball fields on school district property and the City park parcel located immediately adjacent to the Meadow View School on Bethel school district property presents another opportunity to partner with other public entities. The City, together with the Bethel and 4J school districts, has a history of working cooperatively with the schools to construct and maintain these facilities in the past. Working together with the 4J and Bethel schools districts would enable the resurfacing of the existing fields as well as the development of new fields on property owned by those districts and on City parkland adjacent to Meadow View School on Bethel school district property. Development of new fields could include auxiliary projects, such as constructing restrooms, lights and bleachers, as well as expanding parking lots. This opportunity is one that may not exist in the future. Approximately \$5 million from the measure should be used for the development of new fields, resurfacing of existing fields and construction of auxiliary projects.

E. The City Council agrees that a measure authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds to finance these parks, recreation and open space projects should be referred to the electors of the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, based upon the above findings,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EUGENE, a Municipal Corporation of the State of Oregon, as follows:**

**Section 1.** A city election is called for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the City a measure authorizing the issuance of a maximum of \$27,490,000 of General Obligation bonds to be used for parks, recreation and open space projects, including purchase of land for parks and preservation of open space, purchase of land and construction of improvements at Golden Gardens Park, construction and resurfacing of all weather sports fields and auxiliary projects on school district property and on City parkland adjacent to Meadow View School, and construction and equipping of the West Eugene Wetlands Environmental Education Center.

**Section 2.** The City Council orders this city election to be held in the City of Eugene, Oregon, concurrently with the general election on the 7th day of November, 2006, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 254 of the Oregon Revised Statutes, and the ballots shall be counted and tabulated and the results certified as provided by law.

**Section 3.** The City Recorder is directed to give not less than ten days' notice of the city election by publication of one notice in the Register Guard, a newspaper published in the City and of general circulation within the City.

**Section 4.** If approved by the electors, the proceeds from the sale of the bonds will be used only for costs related to parks, recreation and open space projects, including purchase of land for parks and preservation of open space, purchase of land and construction of improvements at Golden Gardens Park, construction and resurfacing of all weather sports fields and auxiliary projects on school district property and on City parkland adjacent to Meadow View School, construction and equipping of the West Eugene Wetlands Environmental Education Center, and payment of bond issuance costs.

**Section 5.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

The foregoing Resolution adopted the 22nd day of May, 2006.

/s/ Mary H. Feldman  
City Recorder



# Eugene Parks and Open Space

Ballot Measure 20-110 □ November 7, 2006

The Eugene City Council placed Measure 20-110 on the November 7, 2006, general election ballot to ask voters if the City should sell bonds to purchase land for parks and open space and construct and improve park facilities.

## BALLOT MEASURE 20-110

**CAPTION:** BONDS FOR PARKS, ATHLETIC FIELDS AND PRESERVATION OF OPEN SPACE

**QUESTION:** Shall City of Eugene acquire parkland, develop parks and athletic fields by issuing up to \$27,490,000 in general obligation bonds? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

**SUMMARY:** If approved, the proceeds from the sale of the bonds will be used for costs related to the purchase of land for parks and open space, and the construction and improvement of park facilities. Projects anticipated to receive funding through the bonds include:

- Purchasing land for neighborhood and community parks in the Bethel, River Road/Santa Clara, South Eugene, Willakenzie and Willow Creek areas
- Purchasing land to expand Amazon Park and parkland in front of the Shelton-McMurphy-Johnson House
- Expanding and constructing park facilities at Golden Gardens Park
- Purchasing land for the preservation of natural open spaces near the Ridgeline Trail, Willamette River and Gillespie Butte
- Developing a West Eugene Wetlands Education Center in partnership with other federal and local agencies
- Refurbishing existing synthetic-surface ball fields, and developing new fields and related facilities (such as restrooms, lights and bleachers), in partnership with the Eugene 4J and Bethel school districts.

### What is the financial impact to taxpayers?

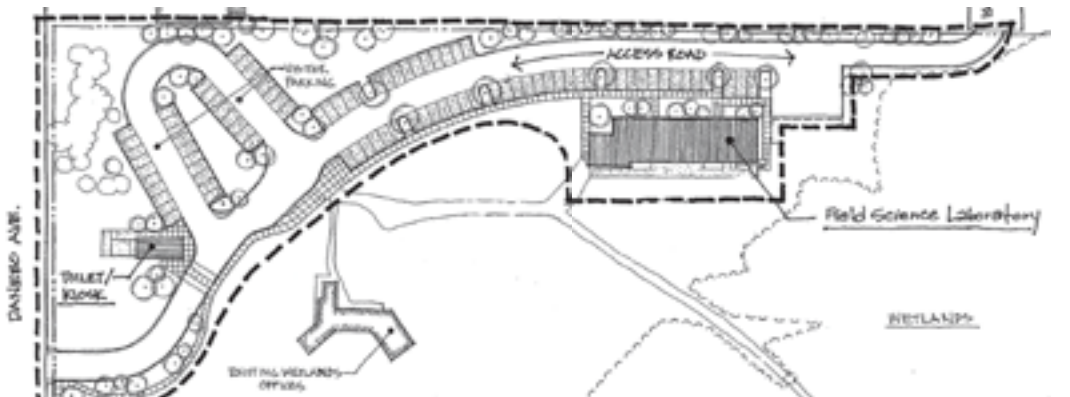
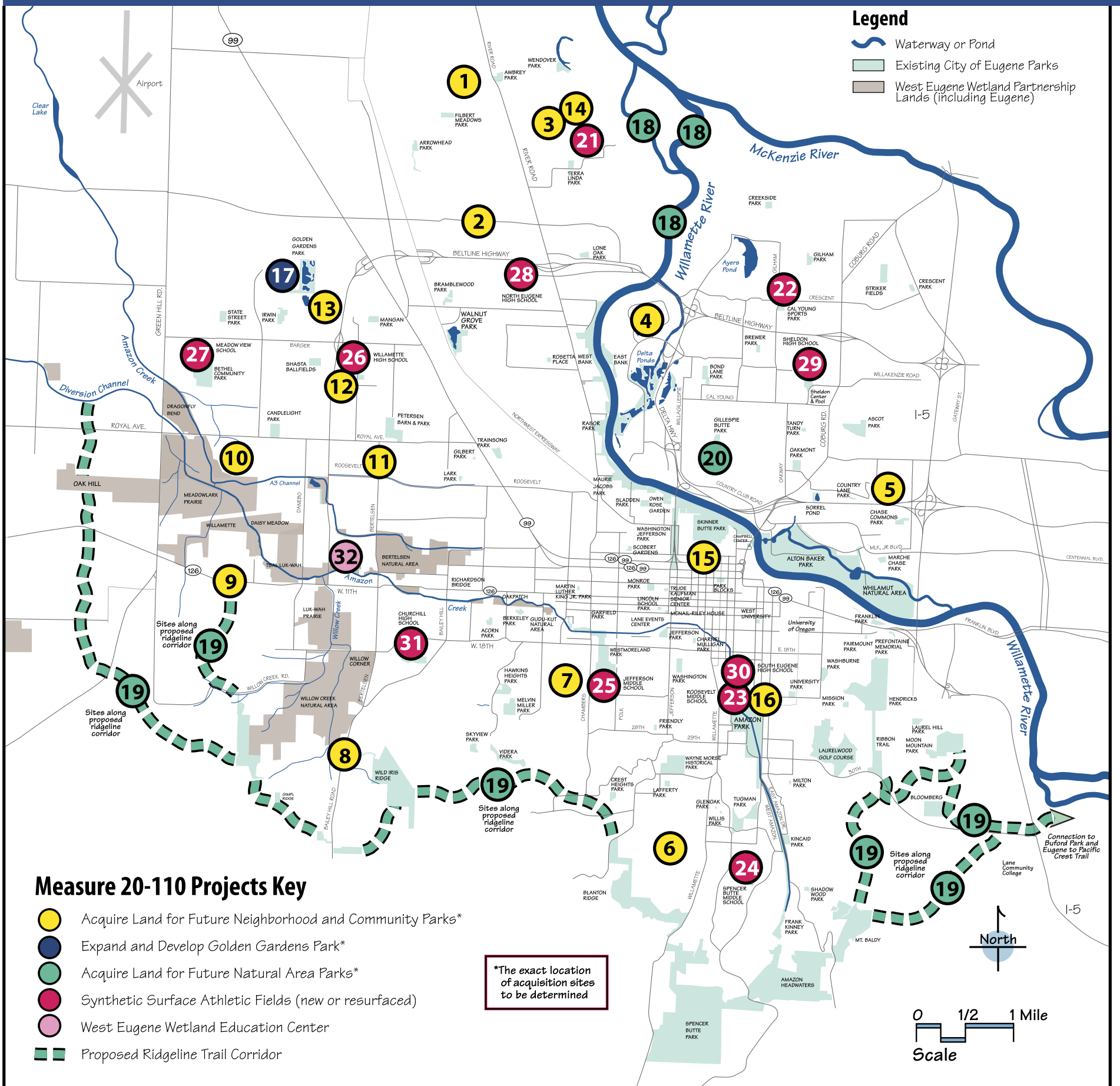
The estimated tax rate for the measure over a 20-year period is 15 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value. This would cost the owner of a home assessed at \$200,000 an average of \$30 per year.

### Why is this measure proposed now?

This measure is primarily intended to fund projects for which the opportunity may be lost if action is not taken. As a result, the majority of funds are specified for property acquisition and partnership opportunities. Obtaining property for future parks is included to maintain pace with development activity in the community. Partnership-oriented projects are included to provide community services by leveraging additional funds from other agencies.



# Eugene Parks and Open Space Projects—Ballot Measure 20-110



All-season synthetic surface athletic field, left, and West Eugene Wetland Education Center, above.

## Acquisitions *(numbers correspond to map items at left)*

<b>●</b>	<b>ACQUIRE LAND FOR NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY PARKS</b>	<b>\$10,500,000</b>
1-13	Neighborhood park sites (13 sites totaling approximately 52 acres)	
14	Santa Clara Community Park site (approximately 40 acres)	
15	Expand Skinner Butte Park to preserve views and access to the Shelton-McMurphy-Johnson House (approximately .3 acres)	
16	Expand Amazon Park north of Hilyard Community Center (approximately .8 acres)	
<b>●</b>	<b>EXPAND AND DEVELOP GOLDEN GARDENS PARK</b>	<b>\$ 2,000,000</b>
17	Acquire additional land at Golden Gardens Park and begin development of park features such as bike paths and walking trails, playground, and natural areas (approximately 100 acres)	
<b>●</b>	<b>ACQUIRE LAND FOR NATURAL AREA PARKS</b>	<b>\$ 7,750,000</b>
18	Willamette River Frontage (approximately 30-45 acres)	
19	Ridgeline Trail Corridor (approximately 60-100 acres)	
20	Improve access to Gillespie Butte (approximately 1.7 acres)	

## Partnerships *(numbers correspond to map items at left)*

<b>●</b>	<b>SYNTHETIC SURFACE ATHLETIC FIELDS</b>	<b>\$ 5,000,000</b>
21-27	Develop all-season synthetic surface athletic fields in partnership with Eugene 4J and Bethel school districts	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Madison Middle School	<input type="checkbox"/> Cal Young Middle School
<input type="checkbox"/>	Roosevelt Middle School	<input type="checkbox"/> Spencer Butte Middle School
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jefferson Middle School	<input type="checkbox"/> Willamette High School
<input type="checkbox"/>	Meadow View Middle School	
	<i>Exact number and locations based on partner funding availability.</i>	
28-31	Replace synthetic surface of existing athletic fields in partnership with Eugene 4J school district at:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	North Eugene High School	<input type="checkbox"/> Sheldon High School
<input type="checkbox"/>	South Eugene High School	<input type="checkbox"/> Churchill High School
<b>●</b>	<b>WEST EUGENE WETLAND EDUCATION CENTER</b>	<b>\$ 1,750,000</b>
32	Develop a West Eugene Wetland Education Center in partnership with other federal and local agencies	

<b>BOND ISSUANCE COSTS</b>	<b>\$ 490,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$27, 490,000</b>

## Partnerships for Community Facilities

\$6,750,000 of bond funds are specifically identified for projects that include partnership opportunities with other local, state and federal agencies. These funds represent the City's share of the following projects:

### All-Season Synthetic Surface Athletic Fields

In partnership with Eugene 4J and Bethel school districts, the construction of new synthetic surface playing fields is proposed. The fields would be constructed on school district property and be available for community use. Field development may include additional amenities such as lighting, parking and restrooms where appropriate. Up to seven new fields are proposed; the exact number and location of fields is contingent on the availability of partner funding from local school districts. Funding for the replacement of synthetic surfaces of four existing athletic fields is also included.

### West Eugene Wetland Education Center

This is an effort of multiple local, state and federal partners to construct a regional education center in the West Eugene Wetlands. The \$1.75 million identified in this bond represents the City of Eugene's share of the funding needed to plan and develop Phase 1 of the project. The conceptual illustration (opposite page) shows the proposed Phase 1 layout of the campus which includes the field science laboratory and classroom. At the field service laboratory, students and community members would apply natural science principles in a field and classroom setting.



## Measure 20-110 At a Glance

<i>Acquire land for neighborhood and community parks</i>	\$10,500,000
<i>Expand and develop Golden Gardens Park</i>	\$ 2,000,000
<i>Acquire land for natural area parks</i>	\$ 7,750,000
<i>Synthetic surface athletic fields</i>	\$ 5,000,000
<i>West Eugene Wetland Education Center</i>	\$ 1,750,000
<i>Bond issuance costs</i>	\$ 490,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,490,000</b>

## Property Acquisition for Parks and Open Space

Approximately \$20 million of bond funds are targeted for acquisition of priority projects as identified in the Parks Recreation and Open Space Project and Priority Plan, adopted by the City Council on May 22, 2006. If this measure passes, the City Council intends to use the funds for the following acquisition projects:

### Neighborhood and Community Park Acquisition

- ▣ 13 new neighborhood park sites across Eugene. Parks site acquisitions would be targeted for the following neighborhoods: Bethel, River Road/Santa Clara, South Eugene, Willakenzie and Willow Creek.\*
- ▣ A new community park in Santa Clara. Existing funds would be supplemented to acquire a 35- to 40-acre site to provide active and passive recreation opportunities.\*
- ▣ Expansion of existing community parks including Skinner Butte Park to preserve access to the Shelton-McMurphy-Johnson House, Amazon Park to address space limitations, and Golden Gardens Park to improve safety and recreation opportunities.

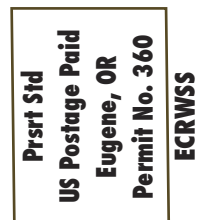
### Open Space Acquisition

- ▣ 60 to 100 acres along the Ridgeline Trail corridor to work towards completion of an open space and trail system connecting Fern Ridge Reservoir to Mt. Pisgah.\*
- ▣ 30 to 45 acres of frontage along the Willamette River to expand the riverfront park and bikepath system.\*
- ▣ Land adjacent to Gillespie Butte to improve access.

\* Specific sites are not currently identified.



Measure 20-110 will appear on vote-by-mail ballots to be mailed to registered voters in Mid-October. The measure would apply only to residents of Eugene, and only City residents may vote on the measure. Ballots must be received at official Lane County Elections locations by 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 7.



## Eugene Parks and Open Space

Ballot Measure 20-110 ▣ November 7, 2006

**For more information:**  
visit the City's website at [www.eugene-or.gov](http://www.eugene-or.gov)  
or call the City Manager's Office at 682-5010

*This informational brochure was authorized and published by the City of Eugene, 777 Pearl Street, Eugene, OR 97401.*

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