

Parks Tacoma 2026 Bond Proposal

Special Election: April 28, 2026

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What 2026 Bond Would Fund

If approved by voters, Proposition 1:

Invests up to \$155 million in 100+ projects at 40+ parks, community centers and zoos to fund critical needs with no increase in current taxes for parks.

- Makes vital improvements in every neighborhood
- Takes care of existing system while investing in growth
- Capitalizes on retirement of prior debt to keep tax rate the same

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Capital Bonds

- Large, long-term capital projects
- Long-term repayment: usually 20 years
- Fund multiple projects
- Leverage funds to match grants
- Annual budget is not large enough to fund construction projects
- Tax amount is based on valuation of owner's property



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Last Parks Tacoma Bond - 2014



- Neighborhood Parks & Zoo Improvements and Safety Upgrades Bond
- \$198 million
- Leveraged additional \$79 million
- Hundreds of capital projects in every neighborhood

ParksTacoma.gov/2014-bond-update

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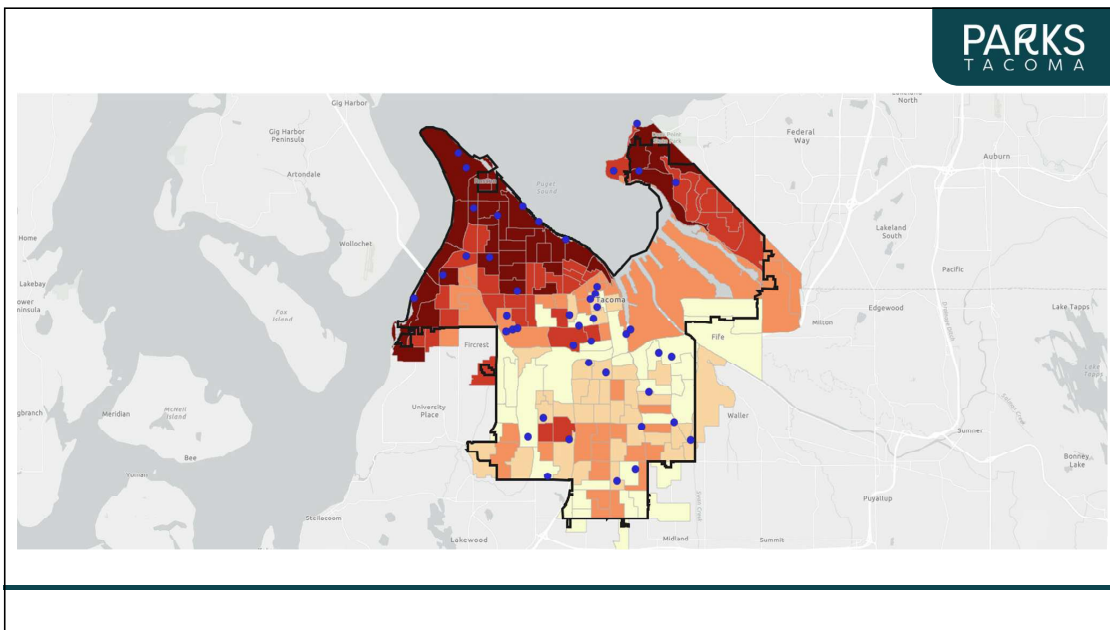
2014 Bond Highlights

- People’s Center pool
- Eastside Community Center
- Dune Peninsula
- Melanie Jan LaPlant Dressel Park
- Peck Community Sports Park
- Catherine Ushka’s Gas Station Park
- Pacific Seas Aquarium
- Tropical Reef Aquarium
- Northwest Trek tram tour station
- Northwest Trek Kids’ Trek playground
- Point Defiance Loop Trail phase 2
- Fort Nisqually Clerk’s House
- Point Defiance Marina
- Swan Creek Park
- W. W. Seymour Botanical Conservatory
- Playground upgrades

How 2026 Bond Was Shaped



- More than a year of internal analysis of needs
- **Park Bond Advisory Committee:** 28 community members representing interest and geographic areas of the city
 - Advisory councils
 - Local governments
 - Nonprofits
 - Businesses
 - User groups



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PARKS TACOMA

Recommendations

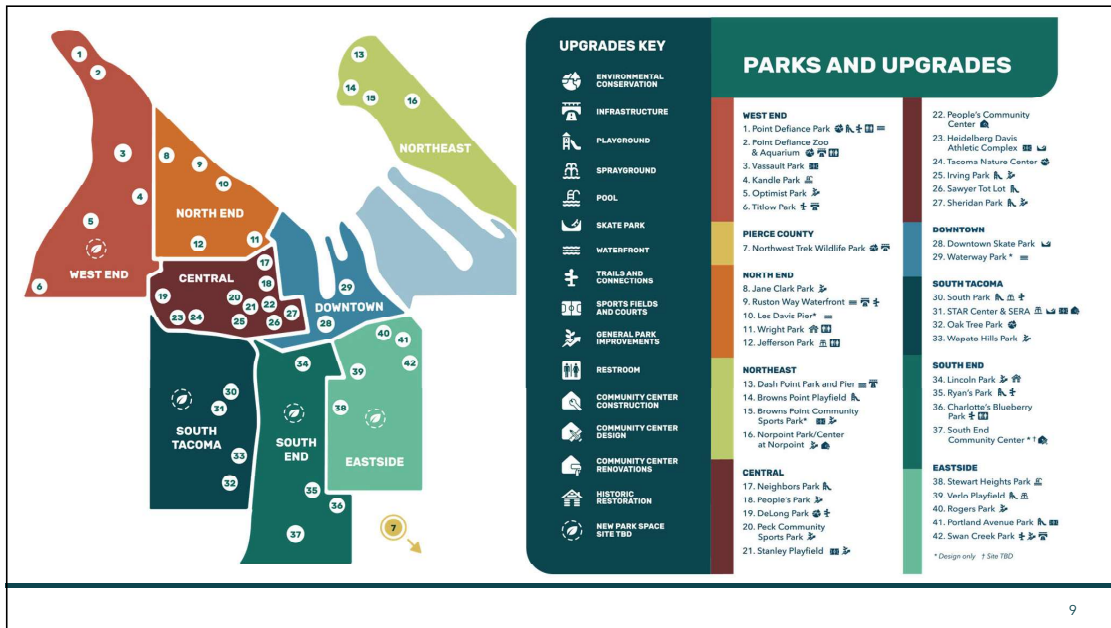
- No tax increase, given economic uncertainty
- Equitable investments across Tacoma
- Project categories:
 - Neighborhood identity, local parks
 - Connections to parks
 - Land acquisition to address growing population

The photograph shows a community meeting in progress. Several people are seated at round tables in a well-lit room with wood-paneled walls. A man in a dark shirt is standing at the front of the room, presenting to the audience. A large screen at the front displays a presentation slide. The atmosphere appears to be a public consultation or town hall meeting.

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Financial Details

Ballot measure would invest up to \$155 million in 40+ parks and community centers with no increase in current taxes.

The bond-supported projects would cost property owners the same \$0.45 per \$1,000 in assessed home value that they're paying now, which translates to \$249 per year, based on Tacoma's average \$553,000 house value.

**PARKS
TACOMA**

Special Election: April 28, 2026

Proposition 1

- Approval requires 60%+1
- Validation requires 40% of previous General Election (approx. 20,000 total voters)

Ballots mailed week of April 10

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3/24/2026

**PARKS
TACOMA**

WE ARE HERE.



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