



Chiloquin Elementary Schoolyard Project 2022

Oregon Rural Community Schoolyards

The Rural Schoolyards program partners with students, teachers, and community members to transform outdated schoolyards into vibrant green spaces providing daily access to nature, outdoor learning, and gathering places that advance the community's goals and reflect local cultures.

The Trust for Public Land is working with the Madras and Ontario School Districts to improve two schoolyards. We are seeking general funds during the 2023 -2025 budget cycle to be used toward capital funding for both projects.

What community schoolyards can achieve:

EDUCATION

- Teachers report that attendance, behavior, and test scores improve following TPL's schoolyard renovations.
- Renovated schoolyards include outdoor classrooms to give students more time outside during the school day.

HEALTH

- Access to nature can relieve symptoms of depression and anxiety, lower blood pressure and stress hormones, and increase physical activity.

EQUITY

- Across Oregon, we're prioritizing rural communities experiencing the largest health, environmental, and socioeconomic inequities.

COMMUNITY

- We work with local leaders, parents, and especially students to design schoolyards that address the community's priorities and reflect local cultures.

Madras Elementary – Madras, Oregon

Jefferson County

With Madras Elementary School students as the designers, we will transform well-worn fields and outdated play equipment into a vibrant green space brimming with art by local artists, interactive play equipment chosen by students, and useful amenities for neighbors. Including; outdoor education space, community gathering space, and recreation equipment accessible to all types of abilities.

Access: 70% of Madras residents live within a 10-minute walk of Madras Elementary School, meaning thousands (5,300) of people will enjoy this renovated schoolyard as a local park open after school hours.

Demographics: 405 children in kindergarten through 5th grade attend Madras Elementary. 58% of students identify as people of color and/or multi-racial and 100% of Madras Elementary students qualify for free and reduced lunch.

Madras is the ancestral homeland of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs, and Madras Elementary School serves members of the Tribes. 5.7% of Students enrolled at Madras Elementary School Identify as Native American.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Latino Community Association
Family Access Network
Jefferson County SNAP-ED
Madras Elementary School

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
Jefferson County Public Health
Jefferson County School District
Madras Faith-Based Network

Parents Club
City of Madras
Vamonos Outside
St. Charles Hospital

Alameda Elementary – Ontario, Oregon

Malheur County

Alameda Elementary School students are excited to design a new schoolyard that will include interactive play equipment, landscape, artwork, and recreation amenities that will provide a safe, healthy, and fun space the entire community can enjoy. Including; outdoor education space, shade structures, and community gathering space.

Residents from all over Malheur County visit the schoolyard and the adjacent Alameda Park for youth sports and recreation. New play features at the schoolyard will meet a growing demand for a safe community gathering place.

Demographics: 351 students in kindergarten through 6th grade attend Alameda Elementary School. 67% of students identify as students of color and/or multi-racial. 100% of Alameda Elementary students qualify for free and reduced lunch.

Access: More than 1,000 residents live within a 10-minute walk of the schoolyard.

Ontario is the ancestral homeland of the Burns Paiute Tribes and 0.3% of Alameda Elementary students identify as Native American.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Alameda Elementary School
Ontario School District 8c
OSU Extension
St. Alphonsus Medical

Four Rivers Community Health
Ontario Faith Based Networks
TV Boys & Girls Club
EVALUCREE

City of Ontario
Ontario Recreation District
Malheur ESD
Malheur County Health Dept.



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