



Conversation Clusters Demonstration Project 2023

Isleen Glatt, Senior Services Superintendent

11/13/23

GOALS

- Provide outdoor, age-friendly seating for people to gather at a COVID-safe distance
- Encourage conversation and connection in public spaces
- Test three styles of conversational seating in three APCR parks and solicit community feedback

FUNDING

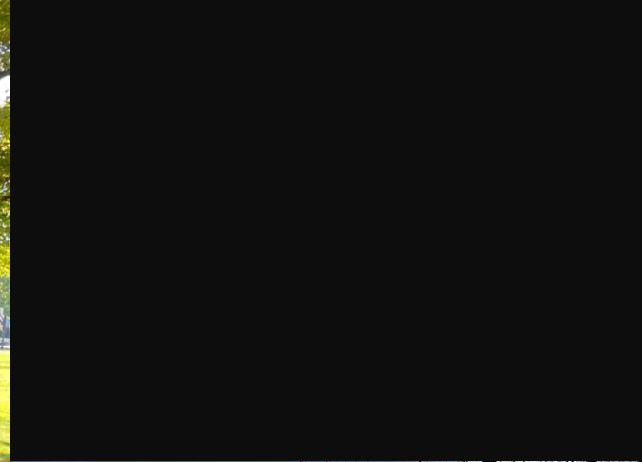
- Applied for AARP Community Challenge Grant, but not funded
- Commission supported funding with \$6000 set aside in APRC CIP budget
- Wooden benches instead of metal to reduce cost



**Chairs stacked
here**

**Lithia Park front green:
20 stacking chairs that users may
position as desired on the green.**





Garfield Park:

3 benches in a semi-circle.

(Rehabbed one existing bench and added two more benches.)





Glenwood Park:
4 benches in a circle
(Former site of picnic table)



PUBLICITY

- A-Frame Signs with QR codes for survey
- Press release October 30
- Facebook



Conversation Clusters Demonstration Project

The Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission, in collaboration with the Livable Ashland Alliance, is piloting new park seating designed to encourage conversation and connection. Seats face each other at a comfortable, COVID-safe distance. Different configurations have been set up in three park locations.

Share your feedback!

Please visit one or more of the sites, test the seating, and then complete a brief survey. **Scan the QR Code**, or visit surveymonkeys.com/r/ConversationClusters. You may take the survey once for each site you visit. To request a paper survey, please call 541-488-5342.

The survey will be open through December 17, 2023. Thank you for participating!



Lithia Park, lawn facing Winburn Way and Skout

A set of 20 stacking chairs that park users may move around on the lawn

Garfield Park, East Main and California St

A semi-circle of three fixed benches facing a view of Grizzly Peak



Glenwood Park, Glenwood Dr and Ashland St

A circle of four fixed benches near the center of Glenwood Park

SURVEY

surveymonkey.com/r/ConversationClusters

- Open through December 17, 2023
- Results will be shared at January 3, 2024, Commission meeting, then with the public
- Livable Ashland Alliance hopes to share with Homeowners' Associations

YOUR HELP

- Test and take the survey
- Send photos of people using the spaces!