

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF DECLARING ) RESOLUTION NO. 00-2974  
SUPPORT FOR METRO'S OPEN SPACES )  
PROGRAM ) Introduced by Councilor  
) Monroe  
)

WHEREAS, regional voters approved a \$135.6 million Open Spaces bond measure in 1995, which at the time was the largest investment in parks and open spaces in Oregon history; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council has approved a work plan for the implementation of the program, including willing-seller property acquisition; and

WHEREAS, the Open Spaces Acquisition Division has been created within the Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department to implement the work plan, with the assistance of staff from the Office of General Counsel; and

WHEREAS, to-date Metro has purchased over 6,250 acres of open space in 14 target areas, three greenways and two trails; and

WHEREAS, Metro has surpassed the 6,000 acre minimum acquisition goal identified in the bond measure; and

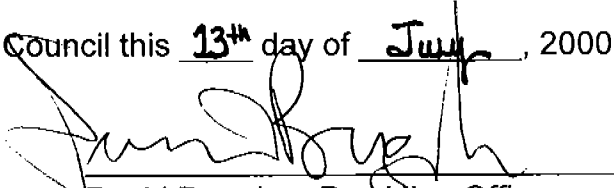
WHEREAS, the open spaces staff has been wise stewards of the public funds by reaching the minimum acquisition acreage goal, and still retaining over \$41 million of bond money enabling Metro to continue to purchase open spaces properties in designated target areas; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED;

1. That the Metro Council finds that the Open Spaces Program has been uniquely successful in carrying out the goals and objectives of the Open Spaces Bond Measure and subsequent Implementation Work Plan.
2. That the staff of the Open Spaces Acquisition Division, the Parks and Greenspaces Department, and the Office of Legal Counsel have operated in a highly professional and successful manner, generating the admiration of the public, local governments and the Metro Council.


3. That the program is encouraged to continue its work for the benefit of the citizens and enhancement the region's livability.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 13<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2000.



David Bragdon, Presiding Officer

Approved as to Form:



Daniel B. Cooper, General Counsel

## **STAFF REPORT**

### CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 00-2974, FOR THE PURPOSE OF DECLARING SUPPORT FOR METRO'S OPEN SPACES PROGRAM

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Date: July 12, 2000

Prepared by: Michael Morrissey

**Proposed Action:** Resolution 00-2974 declares council support for the policy and implementation of the Open Spaces Program, and for the effort and professionalism of staff involved in carrying out the program objectives.

**Factual Background and Analysis:** In 1995 Metro put a \$135.6 million Open Spaces measure on the ballot, that was decisively approved by regional voters. Since that time, the operations of the program to purchase land and otherwise implement the objectives of that program have taken place within the Regional Parks Department—Open Spaces Acquisition Division, and the Office of General Counsel. A milestone was reached earlier this year when Metro surpassed the 6,000 acre minimum acquisition goal, identified in the bond measure. In addition, due to the diligence of staff, and with Council direction, the program has reached this goal with additional funds left to continue Open Spaces purchases.

The program has availed itself of Council direction through the “unusual circumstances” provisions in the council-approved Implementation Work Plan, and through periodic briefings with Council, seeking further policy direction. On several occasions Council has expressed satisfaction with the progress of this program, and is hereby publicly expressing that judgement.