

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 23, 2001

Metro Council Chamber

Members present: Councilor Carl Hosticka, Chair, Councilor Bill Atherton

Members absent: Councilor Susan McLain

Also present: Presiding Officer David Bragdon

Chair Hosticka called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

1. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the May 9, 2001 meeting were unanimously approved without revision.

2. Resolution No. 01-3068, For the Purpose of Preparing Recommendations for Updating the Regional Trails and Greenways Map.

Motion: Councilor Atherton moved Resolution 01-3068 to the full Council.

Charles Ciecko, Director of Regional Parks and Greenspaces, introduced the Regional Trails and Greenways map. He reviewed the history of the map. He noted that the Greenspaces Technical Advisory Committee addressed the issue of creating a process and criteria for amending the plan. The Greenspaces Advisory Committee has reviewed and endorsed the process and criteria.

Chair Hosticka asked legal counsel to explain the importance of the map and what parameters would be necessary to change the map. **Larry Shaw**, Senior Assistant Counsel, explained the map has been adopted into most of Metro's plans, i.e., transportation aspects, Regional Framework Plan. Any map changes will become amendments to the plans containing the current maps. At that time, there will be a land use decision for each amendment. Goals and objectives are required to have an interconnected system and the maps indicate Metro's policy. The land then will be purchased or obtained via easement. **Mr. Ciecko** stated that the basis of the 1995 bond measure was the Greenspaces Masterplan. **Councilor Atherton** asked if this map was relevant to MTIP expenditures. **Mr. Shaw** said portions of the suggested map are in the RTP. The trail must be in the RTP for MTIP funding. **Heather Nelson Kent**, Parks and Greenspaces, described the staff work and the process used by the Greenspaces Technical Advisory Committee (GTAC). She explained the composition of the committee. The committee has received approximately 60 citizen comments to the map. She said today they were going to present the criteria and the process by which the map changes would be evaluated. After that review with the GTAC, then the new map would be presented to the Natural Resources Committee, with proposed recommendations for changes to the map, then the legal land use decision would be made. **Chair Hosticka** summarized that at this meeting, we were reviewing the criteria and discussing the process by which proposed amendments would be considered and decided upon. **Councilor Atherton** asked if during this process could more questions result in a change of criteria? **Ms. Kent** said she thought this would be possible but wanted to get some general guidelines from the committee. She referenced a letter from the City of Tigard which will be addressed further along in the meeting. **Mel Huie**, Parks and Greenspaces Department, commented on the trail system. **Chair Hosticka** reviewed the criteria in Exhibit A, Criteria for Determining Regionally Significant Trails and Greenways. **Councilor Bragdon** wanted to stress not making designations that would short-change vital links, but that they be viewed as a part of a larger

network. **Mr. Huie** said this was why they had a 25%/75% split. **Chair Hosticka** reviewed the second part of the resolution; proposed changes would be submitted to Metro staff for presentation to the GTAC during the Fall of 2001, then on to Metro Policy Advisory Committee, and Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation. **Chair Hosticka** asked what the timeline was. **Ms. Kent** said they did not have a specific timeline yet. They felt they could get the staff work done through the Fall and early next year they would put their recommendations together for review by the Council. **Councilor Atherton** responded to Councilor Bragdon's comment, clarifying what Mr. Huie said. **Mr. Huie** indicated it was a partnership, multi-jurisdictional. Currently most of the regional trails are being maintained by the jurisdiction within which it is located.

Chair Hosticka opened a public hearing. He read the City of Tigard's letter from Mr. Duane Roberts, which is attached and incorporated into the permanent record of this meeting.

Robert Bothman, 7365 SW 87th, Beaverton, OR 97223, is familiar with the criteria and supports the resolution.

Ernie Drapela, 1294 SE Laura Dr., Gresham, OR 97080, Chairman of Oregon Trails Council, said he felt this resolution has stood the test and urged committee support of the resolution.

Don Baack 6495 SW Burling Avenue, Portland, OR, spoke of his concern for clarification regarding responsibility. He spoke of Metro's bicycle map, pedestrian map, regional transportation plan, the proposed Willamette to Tualatin trail, and stated that they were all nice additions to the system. He felt there were additions to be made, but the proposed legislation precluded them. The pedestrian map is substantially further apart than the bicycle map, reflecting funding aspects. He suggested a pedestrian map reflecting the choices of those who walk in those communities, rather than non-walkers such as planning department staff. The vision must be identified first, then the funding. **Chair Hosticka** asked if the bicycle map was a land use map. **Mr. Baack** replied that it was a transportation map for bicyclists. He provided a letter which is attached and incorporated into the permanent record of this meeting. **Councilor Bragdon** asked what made something regionally significant. **Mr. Baack** replied that first it was determined where people wanted to walk. The trails were really regional trailways.

Jim Sjulín, City of Portland Parks and Recreation, 1120 SW 5th Avenue, Room 1302, Portland, OR 97204, supported the proposed language in the resolution. He felt that local groups could team up to assure a complete network of trails. **Grace Eberhart**, Landscape Architect, added that she had worked on the Springwater Trail which was a partnership between the Bureau of Transportation and the City of Portland Bureau of Parks. **Chair Hosticka** asked if there was an equivalent pedestrian map equivalent to the bike map. **Ms. Eberhart** responded that it is in a computer format that is no longer being used. She suggested that the data might be able to be transferred. **Chair Hosticka** asked if the City of Portland had done this. **Mr. Sjulín** said he had not seen anything like it. **Councilor Atherton** asked if the City of Portland had a policy regarding abandoning any kinds of rights-of-way. **Mr. Sjulín** said the City of Portland had a full blown process for rights-of-way vacation that the Department of Transportation maintains. It is an arduous process, including a public hearing process.

Leonard Gard, Land Use Specialist, Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc., 7688 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland, OR 97219, supported Mr. Baack's position. He submitted a letter which attached and incorporated into the permanent record of this meeting.

Chair Hosticka closed the public hearing. He said we are talking about two different things: trails, as physical features that governments have a responsibility to manage; and trails being places that people

walk. **Mr. Huie** clarified by noting that in the packet there was an Attachment A to the resolution entitled Glossary of Terms. He suggested some compromise language which could be added to define trails separated from roads, i.e., “trails in public rights-of-way without street improvements.” **Mr. Ciecko** said the basic issue is where will Metro invest its limited resources in the area of trails. **Mr. Huie** added that the bond measure also included funds for local trails through each local partner. **Chair Hosticka** said the map presented to the committee today used the word “trail” to describe a physical feature that is constructed and maintained. Mr. Baack and Mr. Gard have used the word “trail” to describe a place where people walk. Why can’t we have a map that describes what we are going to build and maintain and also have a different map describing where people can safely go. **Councilor Bragdon** said we were dealing with what is regionally significant. One measurement that should be considered that was missing was usage. The issue of regional significance may mean working with local jurisdictions. He wondered whether we were discussing a designation or a facility, since the fiscal implications of each are greatly different. **Chair Hosticka** asked if it would be possible to add “usage” to Exhibit A. **Mr. Huie** did not know if it has ever been done for a trail. **Mr. Ciecko** suggested Councilor Bragdon was referring to a use-level threshold that would be achieved. Anything that GTAC would come up with would be arbitrary because there is no model to go on, as well as the trails business is not as advanced as the transportation business. **Councilor Bragdon** said there must be ways to make a good estimate of usage. **Councilor Atherton** said the Second Criteria Level addresses the distinction of one trail over another, and possibly by adding the trail’s proximity to a transportation facility might better address the issue of usage. **Chair Hosticka** directed staff to work on potential additions to the Second Criteria Level (anticipated usage), determining whether it was regionally significant criteria or ranking criteria. He said he could support the resolution, but consideration should be given to “walkers.” He identified the map provided as a features map, not necessarily a functional map. **Councilor Atherton** closed by saying that these criteria move toward a need for a regional trunk system that you can depend on will be there. The next tier address maintenance of the system.

Vote: **Resolution No. 01-3068** vote was 3/0, motion passed unanimously. **Councilor Atherton** will carry the Resolution to Council.

3. Resolution No. 01-3067, For the Purpose of Authorizing the Executive Officer to Execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation District for the Management of Property in the Fanno Creek Greenway Target Area.

Mr. Ciecko reviewed the resolution. **Chair Hosticka** clarified that the existing Fanno Creek Trail ends at Allen Boulevard. This resolution would extend it further north to link with the Garden Home Trail.

Motion: **Councilor Atherton** moved the Resolution with a do pass recommendation.

Vote: **Resolution No. 01-3067** vote was 3/0, motion passed unanimously. **Councilor Hosticka** will carry the Resolution to Council.

4. Resolution No. 01-3066, For the Purpose of Granting Easements and Right-of-Way for Park Use Through Metro Property East of Northeast 47th Avenue, Near the Columbia Slough.

Motion: **Councilor Bragdon** moved the Resolution with a do pass recommendation. **Mr. Ciecko** explained the resolution. Map description inaudible. **Councilor Bragdon** asked if Metro was going to transfer title of this property to the City of Portland. What was our intent. **Mr. Ciecko** said if part of the property was acquired with Multnomah County Local Share Funds, the title could be transferred to the City of Portland. If Metro maintains the title, it could be held liable. If Metro is not on the title, then the

City of Portland would be responsible for the management of the property, or a deed restriction could be placed on the title. He thought the City was content with the situation as it currently stands. Mr. Ciecko will check into whether or not the title was intended to be transferred. The legislation requests a permanent easement (approximately 1/10 of an acre) for stormwater retention and treatment facility, and 1.749 feet in a temporary easement. Metro would have received fair market compensation, except that the masterplan recognized the need for the bioswales, as well as a kayak launch when it was created, exempting compensation. **Mr. Ciecko** said there was a culvert across Whitaker Slough, and this project was part of an effort to remove the existing culvert and replace it with a bridge providing access to the Columbia Slough. **Councilor Bragdon** supported this action. **Councilor Atherton** said the stormwater detention purpose for the easement was really a transportation expense, and bond funds should not be used. **Larry Shaw**, Legal Counsel, said the masterplan evidence supports this utility usage. **Mr. Ciecko** quoted, “. . . limit the exceptions to this policy to” His department concluded that this usage would be a benefit to the natural resources involved, and that it was consistent with the master management plan that has been adopted for the site. **Councilor Atherton** responded that he was addressing who would pay for it, and that actually Metro was trading the stormwater management issue (a transportation issue) for canoeing, which was definitely in the masterplan. **Mr. Ciecko** said they got the improved access as part of the process. **Chair Hosticka** asked what would happen if the committee did not approve this legislation. **Mr. Ciecko** said negotiation would begin again. He said 1/10 of an acre at this location would not be a significant financial value. **Chair Hosticka** said in the future, more equitable compensation would need to be considered. **Councilor Atherton** said as a business deal, Metro was getting a good deal.

Vote: **Resolution No. 01-3066** vote was 3/0, motion passed unanimously. **Councilor Hosticka** will carry the Resolution to Council.

5. Councilor Communication

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Mannhalter
Council Assistant

:pm

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF
May 23, 2001

Document Number	Date	Document Description	RES/ORD
052301.01	December 20, 2000	Draft Metro Regional Trails and Greenways Map	Resolution No. 01-3068
052301.02	May 22, 2001	Memorandum to Mel Huie from Duane Roberts, City of Tigard re: Regionally Significant Trail Criteria	Resolution No. 01-3068

Metro Council Natural Resources Committee

May 23, 2001

Page 5

052301.03		Memo to Natural Resources Committee from Don Baack re: suggested changes to regional trails criteria	Resolution No. 01-3068
052301.04	May 23, 2001	Letter to Natural Resources Committee from Leonard Gard re: change in criteria to regional significance	Resolution No. 02-3068
052301.05	May 16, 2001	Email from Matthew Galaher re: support for the Springwater Trail.	