

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A GREEN RIBBON COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE AND NOMINATE CERTAIN METRO GREENSPACES SITES TO OPEN AND OPERATE FOR THE PUBLIC) **RESOLUTION NO 01-3088**
) Introduced by
) Presiding Officer David Bragdon,
) Deputy Presiding Officer Susan
) McLain, Councilor Rod Park,
Councilor Rex Burkholder,

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Policy Advisory Committee unanimously passed a report headed by Jim Zehren calling for Metro's increased presence in Parks in the region; and

WHEREAS, Metro has acquired over 7,000 acres of open spaces for the region since 1996; and

WHEREAS, the 1995 Bond Measure for Parks, Open Spaces and Streams sought advice from citizens in the form of a Blue Ribbon Committee; and

WHEREAS, in the Fall of 2000, Metro held a series of outreach meetings with citizens and local officials about the future of Metro's Parks and Greenspaces program; and

WHEREAS, a strategic analysis of regional parks and greenspaces needs and opportunities for the Portland metropolitan area was conducted by Metro staff; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council will set the criteria for the selection of a specific number of programs and projects, its dollar range for expenditure and the method of obtaining such funds for the Green Ribbon Committee to consider; and

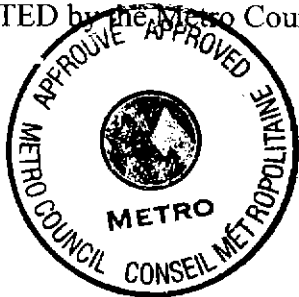
WHEREAS, much of the success derived from the Parks, Open Spaces and Streams Bond Measure was due to the specific nature of the programs and projects and the significant public interaction into the selection process; and

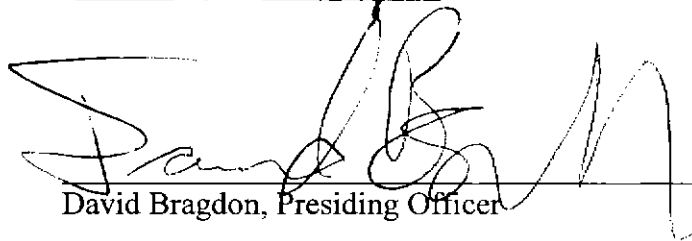
WHEREAS, cooperation with the citizens and local governments of the region is a hallmark of the Metro Greenspaces program; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED:

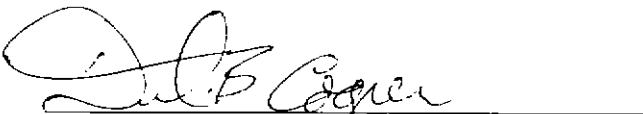
1. There is a demonstrated need for Council consideration for future phases of the Greenspaces Master Plan and the 1995 Open Spaces Bond Measure.
2. Opening and operating an introductory number of key Metro owned open spaces sites to the region is in the interest of the public and local jurisdictional partners.
3. The Metro Council wishes to obtain objective project and site nominations through the creation of a Green Ribbon Committee of citizens and local leaders.
4. The Green Ribbon Committee will sunset on October 15, 2001.
5. The committee work scope, timelines, appointment process and composition guidelines are listed in Appendix "A".

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 19th day of July 2001.




David Bragdon, Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Daniel B. Cooper, General Counsel

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UPDATED 7/11/01

Resolution No 01-3088, Appendix A

Green Ribbon Committee

Composition	<p>16 individuals, selected as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each Councilor and the Executive Officer will appoint one citizen representative• Each Councilor and the Executive Officer will appoint one representative from a local parks provider agency or organization <p>A committee chair will be nominated by Council Presiding Officer, with approval by Council. The chair shall not be an elected government official, nor a public sector employee.</p>
Objectives and Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Identify 8-10 priority sites within Metro’s existing openspaces properties to provide greater access to the public, operate more efficiently, and responsibly fulfill maintenance needs2. Criteria shall include: balance throughout the region, readiness of proposed sites for public use, support from citizens, user groups and local jurisdiction, fiscal constraints, level of use, fit within the regional system (including access or linkage to other sites)3. Quantify the cost to accomplish these projects in a fiscally realistic manner and validate budget requirements4. Recommend to Council an appropriate revenue source (property taxes, expansion of solid waste excise tax, or regional park utility fee), targeted to priority sites/projects.
Timeline	<p><u>July 2001 – Formation and Preparation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council approves resolution establishing Green Ribbon Committee• Councilors and Executive Officer submit names for appointees to the Committee• Council Office contacts appointees and schedules first meeting for early August• Appointees provided background information in preparation for first meeting to include “Lewis and Clark Project Report”, background information on openspaces program, roster, and establishing resolution <p><u>August 2001 – Identify Priority Projects</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductions and Charge of the Committee (Council Presiding Officer)• Staff presentations regarding key components of “Lewis and Clark Project Report”• Nomination of 8-10 key priority projects/sites, from current Open Space purchases, to be opened, operated, and maintained for public use, within 3-5 years. <p><u>September 2001 – Validate Budget Requirements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff presentations regarding anticipated costs to implement nominated priority projects/sites• Discussion/review of Metro’s available and projected financial resources• Assignment of cost to priority projects, and existing backlog of deferred operations and maintenance for current parks holdings. <p><u>October 2001 – Recommendations to Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review potential revenue sources for funding priority projects: property taxes, expansion of solid waste excise tax, or regional park utility fee• Review financial projections related to each of the three potential funding sources• Discuss pros and cons of revenue source(s) as a means to meeting budget requirements for priority projects• Recommend a revenue source to Council for further action• Council receipt of Committee recommendation by end of October

STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 01-3088, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A GREEN RIBBON COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE AND NOMINATE CERTAIN METRO GREENSPACES SITES TO OPEN AND OPERATE FOR THE PUBLIC

Date: July 11, 2001

Prepared by: Michael Morrissey
Peggy Coats

DESCRIPTION

Resolution 01-3088 creates a time-limited, fast working task force—Green Ribbon Committee—that will address a short list of specific issues. The committee will recommend Metro 8-10 park, trails and/or open space sites in current Open Space target areas to be opened for public use within 3-5 years. The committee will be given guidance by the Metro council as to budget parameters, criteria for decision-making and timeline. The committee will also recommend a specific revenue source to enable the park planning and openings.

BACKGROUND

During the latter part of 2000, and early 2001, Presiding Officer David Bragdon and key staff conducted interviews with 22 local elected officials and representatives from park districts or departments, to determine the level of support and perception of need for implementing future phases of the Greenspaces Master Plan (GMP). The GMP, adopted by Council in 1992, was the result of a regional planning effort to establish a common vision for the stewardship of natural resources, and a cooperative system of parks, natural areas, open space trails and greenways for wildlife and people. The strategies identified in the GMP to accomplish these goals include land acquisition, education, restoration, and regulation. Results of the 2000-2001 interviews were conclusive in determining that Metro's continued role within the regional park system is critical, and that funding for operations, maintenance, and public access should take precedence over new funding for additional acquisition or capital development at this time.

An internal evaluation of current and projected funding for Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces was conducted simultaneous with this outreach process. While funds remain for acquisition activities related to the 1995 Open Spaces, Parks and Streams Bond Measure, Parks core programs are not sustainable given current funding sources and expected fiscal trends. If left unaddressed, this situation will result in significant Parks program reductions by summer 2003. In addition to determining budgetary and programmatic cuts necessary prior to 2003, if no other actions are taken, the department has identified a range of funding options that can stabilize services, restore habitat on acquired properties, provide public access, acquire additional open spaces, and provide funding for local parks needs.

A recently issued report of the Metropolitan Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) Parks Subcommittee concludes that Metro needs to take a more aggressive role in establishing and implementing regional policies and programs related to parks and openspaces. It recommended that the Council should mobilize the regional community to support new funding sources, allowing Metro to deliver the full spectrum of parks and related lands and facilities needed to effectively implement Metro's Regional Growth Concept.

Resolution 01-3088 directs the formation of a Council appointed short-term citizen task force, The Green Ribbon Committee, to address Regional Parks and Greenspaces project priorities and funding needs by:

1. Identifying 8-10 priority projects/sites within Metro's existing openspaces properties to provide greater access to the public.

2. Quantifying the cost to accomplish these projects in a fiscally realistic manner and validating budget requirements within a range of \$2 to \$4 million, annually.
3. Recommending to Council an appropriate revenue source to implement these priority projects

The Green Ribbon Committee's charge would be limited to:

- the three tasks outlined above
- properties in existing target areas, approved in the 1995 bond measure, and
- established Council policy relative to the Regional Parks and Greenspaces programs.

ANALYSIS/INFORMATION

1. **Known Opposition:** There is no known opposition.
2. **Legal Antecedents:** There have been a number of legal antecedents relating to long-term planning for regional parks and openspaces, citizen involvement, and funding strategies:
 - Resolution 92-1637, For The Purpose of Considering Adoption of the Metropolitan Greenspaces Plan
 - Resolution 92-1638A, For the Purpose of Considering District Policy to Allocate Excise Taxes toward Operation and Maintenance of Metro-Managed Greenspaces until Other Funds are Available
 - Resolution 94-1924B, For the Purpose of Establishing Metropolitan Greenspaces Blue Ribbon Committee to Advise Metro Council on the Characteristics of Greenspaces General Obligation Bond Measure
 - Resolution 94-1975, For the Purpose of Amending the Local Share Allocation Formulas and Guidelines in the Greenspaces Master Plan
 - Resolution 94-2011A, For the Purpose of Submitting to the Voters a General Obligation Bond Indebtedness in the Amount of \$138.80 Million to Proceed with the Acquisition of Land for a Regional System of Greenspaces
 - Resolution 94-2012, Setting Forth the Official Intent of Metro to Reimburse Certain Capital Expenditures Out of the Proceeds of Obligations to be Issued in Connection with the Regional Greenspaces Program
 - Resolution 94-2026A, For the Purpose of Establishing an Advisory Committee to Assist the Metro Council in Coordinating the Regional Parks and Greenspaces Program
 - Ballot Measure 26-26, Open Spaces, Parks and Streams Bond Measure (May 1995)
 - Resolution 95-2186, For the Purpose of Accepting the May 16 1995 Special Election Abstract of Votes for Metro [Greenspaces Bond Measure]
 - December 14, 1999: Presentation and subsequent Council validation of Parks Department policy recommendations for the future of the Open Spaces Program, including options for staff, spending of remaining open spaces funds and the possibility of raising additional funds.
3. **Implementation of Task Force Recommendations:** Sites recommended by the task force and adopted by the Metro Council, will be subject to public and planning review as per current Metro practice. Sites will be masterplanned with significant public comment and, additional review from the Greenspaces Technical Advisory Committee.
4. **Budget Impacts:** There are little, if any, budget impacts relative to the formation and implementation of the Committee. The committee will be staffed through the Council Office. Deferred operations and maintenance needs to be met through the identified revenue source have been identified in the range of \$1.5 to \$2 million, annually.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

That Council approves Resolution 01-3088, For the Purpose of Creating a Green Ribbon Committee to Examine Opportunities to Open and Operate Certain Metro Greenspaces Sites to the Public