



**METRO**

**Agenda**

MEETING: METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION  
DATE: August 14, 2007  
DAY: Tuesday  
TIME: 2:00 PM  
PLACE: Metro Council Chamber

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

- |                |           |  |         |
|----------------|-----------|--|---------|
| <b>2:00 PM</b> | <b>1.</b> | <b>DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, AUGUST 16, 2007/ADMINISTRATIVE/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS</b> |         |
| <b>2:15 PM</b> | <b>2.</b> | <b>NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM TARGET AREA REFINEMENTS</b>   | Desmond |
| <b>3:15 PM</b> | <b>3.</b> | <b>BREAK</b>   |         |
| <b>3:20 PM</b> | <b>4.</b> | <b>OREGON CONVENTION CENTER HEADQUARTERS HOTEL PROJECT UPDATE</b>  | Woolson |
| <b>4:20 PM</b> | <b>5.</b> | <b>COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATION</b>   |         |

**ADJOURN**

Agenda Item Number 2.0

**NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM TARGET AREA  
REFINEMENTS**

Metro Council Work Session  
Tuesday, August 14, 2007  
Metro Council Chamber

# METRO COUNCIL

## Work Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: **August 14, 2007**

Time:

Length:

Presentation Title: **Cazadero Trail**

Department: **Metro Parks and Greenspaces**

Presenters: **Jim Desmond and Kathleen Brennan-Hunter**

### ISSUE & BACKGROUND

The 2006 Natural Areas bond measure stated:

This forested 4-mile corridor located between Boring and Barton Park runs along the north fork of Deep Creek and follows an historic rail line used to ship timber from Cascade forests to the Portland riverfront. Enhancement of the corridor for trail use will connect campgrounds, future interurban trails, and Portland (via the Springwater Corridor) to Mt. Hood and the Pacific Crest Trail.

The primary focus within this target area is acquisition of the remaining right of way necessary to develop the trail. The 4 mile corridor is owned by Oregon State Parks – little to no acquisition was anticipated for right of way within this target area. Acquisition of property for a trailhead at the northern and southern ends of the corridor would provide trail access.

The science report findings indicate that the north fork of Deep Creek is a healthy fish run with salmon and steelhead passage and spawning. The corridor has an extensive intact tree canopy, which is vital for fish and wildlife habitat, and provides views from trails.

Since the April and May work sessions more information has become available about the Cazadero Trail target area as a result of stakeholder input and public open houses. We are presenting a preliminary synthesis of proposed acquisition priorities to receive direction on policy issues prior to completing a refinement plan for this target area.

### OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Trail offers access to natural areas and publicly owned lands in the area.</li><li>• Trail follows intact forested ravine of the North Fork of Deep Creek.</li><li>• Trail would connect downtown Boring to Barton Park.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There are two large creek crossings that will require significant construction funds and possible land acquisition to cross at more ideal locations.</li><li>• There are several small parcels that have houses and outbuildings that are adjacent to the trail. These could be potential for conflicts in the future.</li><li>• Most of the corridor consists of small undeveloped forested parcels that could be developed as land value and density increases in the future.</li><li>• The trail corridor bisects a private camp. Camp officials are deeply concerned about future trail design and compatibility with their facility.</li></ul>

**SURVEY RESULTS**

In June, Metro hosted eight open houses throughout the region and a virtual open house on the Metro website. A total of 527 people attended the regional open houses. More than 700 surveys were submitted either in person or online. The online open house had 6,363 visits from 3,419 unique visitors. 31 people completed the Cazadero Trail survey. Additional commentary was provided orally at the open house, most of which was consistent with the written responses. In rank order, the public priorities were:

1. *Map area B* – Acquire additional lands between Barton Park and Hwy. 224 for a regional trailhead.
2. *Map area A* – Acquire additional lands in Boring on the south side of Hwy. 212 for a regional trailhead.

Complete survey results are attached.

**IMPLICATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

The proposed prioritization is based on information gathered from several sources including the research that preceded the 2006 Natural Areas Ballot Measure, the bond measure language that voters approved, best scientific information available, input from knowledgeable regional experts and stakeholders, and public survey feedback.

Within this target area the right of way necessary for the trail is held by the State of Oregon. There may be a need to acquire some small amount of land to construct trestles and link them to the trail. The old train trestles are long gone and two new trestles need to be built to accommodate the trail. In addition, officials from a private camp are concerned about the potential impact of the trail on their camp, and particularly about safety. Though the right of way is in public ownership, it may be necessary for trail planners to evaluate a re-route of the trail. If this occurs further land acquisition may be necessary to complete the right of way.

*Tier I Objectives*

- Acquire property in Boring to establish a trailhead and provide additional parking on the South side of Hwy 212. (Map area A)
- Acquire land necessary to connect trails via trestles over the creek.

*Tier II Objectives*

- If the trail must be re-routed acquire land and/or easements in the area to the northwest, west and south of the camp. A trail bridge would also need to be built across Deep Creek in this trail alignment. (Map area C)
- Acquire property just south of Hwy 224 (north of Barton Park) to establish a southern trail head outside of Barton Park. (Map area B)

**QUESTION(S) PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION**

- Does the Metro Council agree with these priorities?

**LEGISLATION WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR COUNCIL ACTION**     Yes     No

**DRAFT IS ATTACHED**     Yes     No\*

\* Complete Refinement Plans will be submitted to Metro Council in September 2007.

**SCHEDULE FOR WORK SESSION**

Department Director/Head Approval \_\_\_\_\_

Chief Operating Officer Approval \_\_\_\_\_

## Cazadero Trail Survey Results

1. The Metro Council's goal is to secure the entire Cazadero Trail corridor for use as a regional trail. The following priorities have been identified in the Cazadero Trail target area. Rank in order of importance to you.

	most important	least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Acquiring additional lands in Boring on the south side of Hwy. 212 for a regional trailhead. (Map area A)	48.3% (14)	51.7% (15)	1.52	29
Acquiring additional lands between Barton Park and Hwy. 224 for a regional trailhead. (Map area B)	57.1% (16)	42.9% (12)	1.43	28
	<i>answered question</i>			30
	<i>skipped question</i>			1

2. In general, what should be emphasized in the Cazadero Trail target area? Rank in order of importance to you.

	most important			least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Preserving forested corridors to protect water quality and wildlife habitat.	41.4% (12)	31.0% (9)	10.3% (3)	17.2% (5)	2.03	29
Preserving scenic views along the trail.	10.3% (3)	34.5% (10)	31.0% (9)	24.1% (7)	2.69	29
Creating buffers between private property owners and the trail corridor.	20.7% (6)	17.2% (5)	31.0% (9)	31.0% (9)	2.72	29
Providing access to the trail for people at trailhead locations.	30.0% (9)	16.7% (5)	26.7% (8)	26.7% (8)	2.50	30
	<i>answered question</i>					30
	<i>skipped question</i>					1

3. Are there other priorities that the Metro Council should consider in the Cazadero Trail target area? Please be specific.

Creating multiuse trails that include equestrian access. Connecting from Boring to Barton Park, where the County is going to build a horse camp, from there to McIver, and onward to PCT. This would be a truly wonderful way to enjoy the area and provide for future generations.

Map area B -- relative to Barton Park enhance park experience -- opportunities for parking and camping -- equestrian trail-head -- Tourism -- Estacada

Safe crossing of highways 212 and 224. (Underpass like Springwater trail at 242nd?)

Coordinate with grass roots Boring Parks and OPO efforts, listen to them

I would like to see the trail appropriate for bicycle use- accessing Hwy 225 to the Springwater trail- not paved, but rideable

Dealing with closeness the trail passes the trestle glen camp (youth); protecting the camp attendees

Make sure there will be adequate security along the trail for the property owners who border the railroad and no smoking in the canyon!

Design the trail so as to minimize conflicts between users (cyclists, walkers, etc.)

**4. Do you have suggestions about partnerships Metro should pursue or other innovative ways to leverage regional funding and enhance this natural area? If so, please specify.**

Yes, I do. There are many active equestrian groups in the area. Oregon Equestrian Trails is a statewide group that works with agencies to build and maintain horse camps and trail. The North Valley Chapter has stepped forward to help build the Barton Park Horse Camp and trails. Currently they work with the PCT trail system and McIver. They can be counted on for volunteer work and design expertise.

Rails to trails conversions.

Clackamas River Basin Council could help plan: interpretive signs relating to watershed health riparian enhancement and restoration fish habitat improvements all related to similar projects up and downstream of the Cazadero Trail.

Work with the interested individuals and organizations, public, private, business, governmental, conservation districts, non-profits.

We would like some advice on proceeding with a Master Plan for the Boring Trail Head.

Clackamas County Parks

State Parks acquisition and development \$

Definitely, a partnership with county and then the state who owns the property. Bike alliance groups.

Equestrian groups in the area would be natural allies; they have expressed interest and support.

Leverage the dollar given to the Salvation Army recently by a benefactor who wants to increase public health to build a bike/ped destination resort so people from out of the county could fly to PDX and get on a bike and the 26 miles to the Trestle Glen (currently owned by the Salvation Army) and stay at this wonderful regional asset that was sold from the tax payers.

Make private property closest to the trail safe and secure for public use.

**5. Do you have any other comments about this target area? If so, please specify.**

In November you came to the Clackamas PAB meeting outlining your future plans. Which by the way was really super. As a member of the board I look for features that include multiuse and access. Are you planning any handicap access to your plans? Additionally, buying the property that is next to Barton Park that backs up to the Barton store. I believe it was logged and the owner passed away and the heirs may want to sell. I know it would enhance the system and the County is looking at it as well.

Leave as natural as possible--no pavement!

Both trailheads are important but Clackamas Co has enough land at Boring. More would be ideal as better way to handle parking but Barton is critical.

I think you should get a little more historical research on the name and the line. a. some of your info claims timber on the rail line, some "commuter line" use, and some tourism (how much of each, and what else? Springwater farmers' products to Portland?) b. for P.R. reasons, clarify the names: how do Springwater Line and Cazadero relate? I know that a road went between the Springwater community and the Cazadero site, perhaps before a bridge crossed the Clackamas at what was to become Estacada

Very Important.

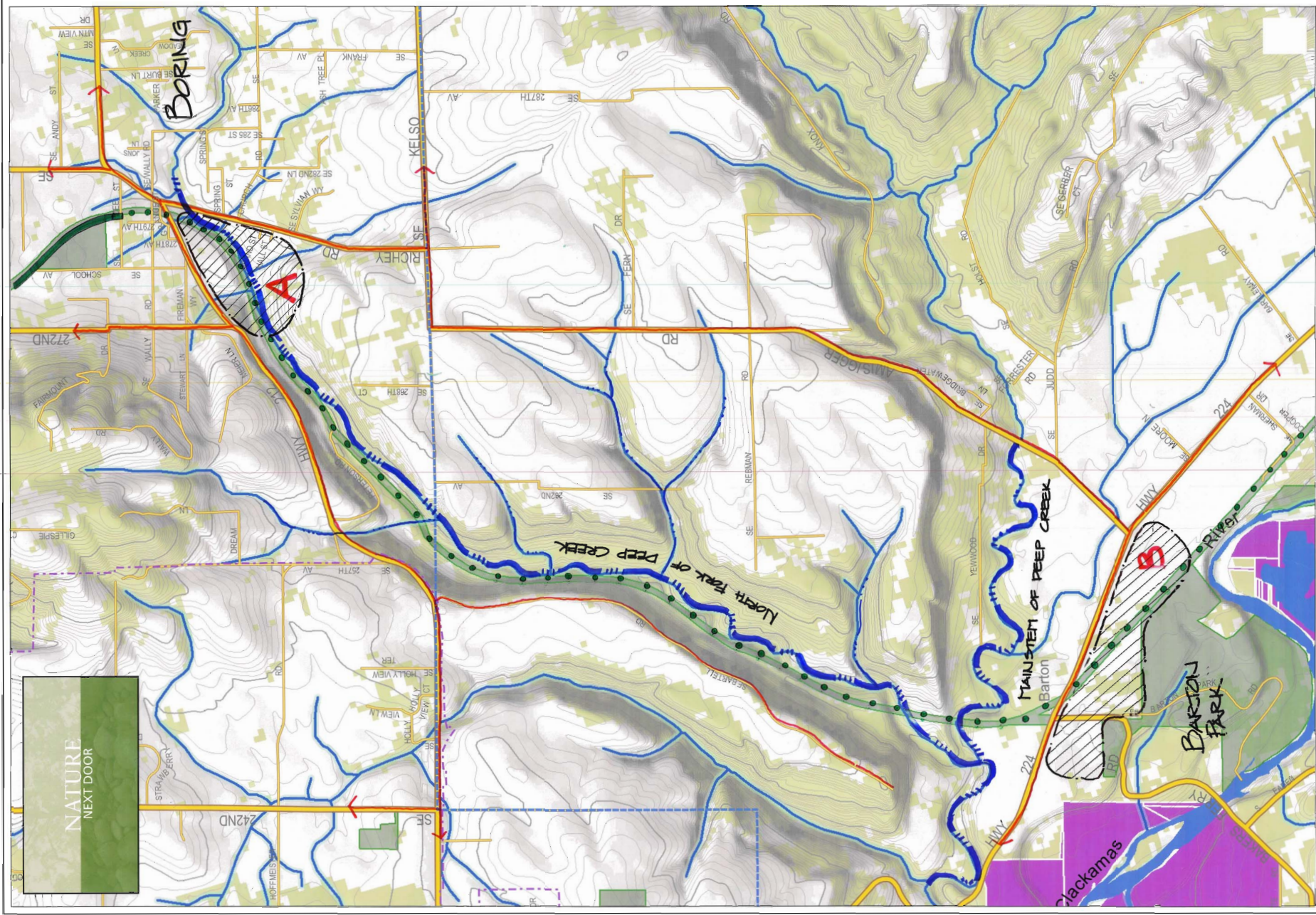
I think adding this trail to the network of trails will add to the recreational possibilities of this area of Clackamas County outside the UGB.

Purchase the 5 acre parcel next to me that may not be able to be sold for environmental reasons- clean it up- use the house area for riders on the trail- put in a picnic area and portapotties. Much prettier there than out at Hwy 212- possible trailhead station?

This would be a fabulous continuation of the Springwater Trail.

Salmon bearing stream and spotted owl hunting grounds (intact corridor from Mt. Hood National forest down trickle Creek to N. Fork Deep Creek) + Talus Caves (most unique geography in the region) = The most prime habitat to preserve un the region (look at all the overlap in the Tasset Ovens) Do something big! Exceptional! Buy all of the Clackamas County bluffs and canyon!

Keep private property safe from public use.



**NATURE  
NEXT DOOR**

# Cazadero Trail Boring to Barton Park

**Parks and Open Space**  
600 Northeast Grand Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97232-2736  
TEL (503) 797-1742  
www.metro-region.org



### Metro Natural Area Acquisitions Program

- ◆ 1995
- ◆ 2006

- Proposed Water Trail
- Proposed Greenway Corridor
- Major Roads
- Local Roads
- Public Lands

- Contour Interval:  
100 foot
- 10 foot
- Streams
- ◆ Major Rivers



The information on this map was derived from digital databases on Metro's GIS. Care was taken in the creation of this map. Metro cannot be held responsible for errors or for any consequences arising from the use of the information. There are no warranties, expressed or implied, including the warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose accompanying this map. Metro Region is not liable for any errors or for any consequences arising from the use of the information.



# METRO COUNCIL

## Work Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: **August 14, 2007**

Time:

Length:

Presentation Title: **Chehalem Ridgetop to Refuge**

Department: **Metro Parks and Greenspaces**

Presenters: **Jim Desmond and Kathleen Brennan-Hunter**

### ISSUE & BACKGROUND

The ridges and forested slopes of the Chehalem Mountains provide an important scenic panorama from the urbanized portion of Washington County and define the southwestern edge of the greater metropolitan region. The northern terminus of the Chehalem Mountains forms a large forested ridge leading to Wapato Lake and the Tualatin River floodplain, which is currently being restored to wildlife habitat by Metro and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge.

The 2006 Natural Areas bond measure stated:

The northern end of the Chehalem Mountains provides opportunities for the protection of large, undeveloped tracts of forestland to protect water quality and wildlife connections from this mountain range to area river bottomlands.

The Oregon Natural Heritage Program conducted assessments this spring. The science identified the Garry oak-populated western slopes lying between the upper fir-dominated Chehalem Ridge and Wapato Lake as the most significant habitat value. The forested upper elevations of Chehalem Ridgetop were noted for their recreational and educational opportunities as well as for their territorial views.

Since the April and May work sessions more information has become available about the Chehalem Ridgetop to Refuge target area as a result of stakeholder input and public open houses. We are presenting a preliminary synthesis of proposed acquisition priorities to receive direction on policy issues prior to completing a refinement plan for this target area.

### OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Protect the rare upland prairie and oak savanna habitat along with lands along creeks and streams on the western slope of the Chehalem Ridge to provide connections between the ridgetop and Wapato Lake and complement protection efforts in the Wapato Lake target area.</li><li>• Protect the upper elevation forestlands on the Chehalem Ridgetop to enhance water quality and wildlife habitat and to provide the public with future recreation and educational opportunities. Opportunities may exist for forming multiple partnerships (Oregon State Parks, Trust for Public Land, The Nature Conservancy) and for leveraging regional bond funds through Forest Legacy Funds, etc. Since most of the target area is in one ownership there may be an opportunity to acquire a large, uninterrupted forested habitat.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Acquisition of oak savanna habitat and small tributary habitat will involve multiple property owners and may be difficult to assemble contiguous habitat.</li><li>• Large forested parcels along the ridgetop will likely require initial and long-term management costs for stabilization/restoration as well as immediate and long-term park management responsibilities.</li></ul>

Opportunities	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support future recreational trail opportunities by securing potential trail corridors connecting Wapato Lake and/or Gales Creek to the Chehalem Ridge.</li> </ul>	

**SURVEY RESULTS**

In June, Metro hosted eight open houses throughout the region and a virtual open house on the Metro website. A total of 527 people attended the regional open houses. More than 700 surveys were submitted either in person or online. The online open house had 6,363 visits from 3,419 unique visitors. 16 people completed the Chehalem Ridgetop to Refuge survey. Additional commentary was provided orally at the open house, most of which was consistent with the written responses. In rank order, the public priorities were:

1. *Map area B* – Protect the rare upland prairie and oak savannah habitat along with lands along creeks and streams on the western slope of the Chehalem Ridge to provide connections between the ridge top and Wapato Lake and complement protection efforts in the Wapato Lake target area.
2. *Map area A* – Protect forestlands on the Chehalem Ridge to enhance water quality and wildlife habitat and to provide the public with future recreation and educational opportunities.
3. *Map arrows* – Support future recreational trail opportunities by securing potential trail corridors connecting Wapato Lake and/or Gales Creek to the Chehalem Ridge.

Complete survey results are attached.

**IMPLICATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

The proposed prioritization is based on information gathered from several sources including the research that preceded the 2006 Natural Areas Ballot Measure, the bond measure language that voters approved, best scientific information available, input from knowledgeable regional experts and stakeholders, and public survey feedback. Initial estimates are that a minimum of 400 acres of land would be protected within this target area.

*Tier I Objective*

- Acquire and protect the upper elevation lands including forest lands and oak woodlands on the Chehalem Ridge to enhance water quality and wildlife habitat and to provide potential public access and educational opportunities. (Map area A)

*Tier II Objectives*

- Acquire and protect the rare upland prairie and oak savanna habitat, as well as lands along creeks and streams on the western slope of the Chehalem Ridge to provide connections between the ridgetop and Wapato Lake and complement protection efforts in the Wapato Lake target area. (Map area B)
- Support future recreational trail opportunities by securing potential trail corridors connecting Wapato Lake and/or Gales Creek to the Chehalem Ridge. (Map arrows)

*Partnership Objective*

- Pursue partnership opportunities with Oregon State Parks, Trust for Public Land and the Nature Conservancy in order to leverage regional bond funds to acquire the upper elevation forestlands on the Chehalem Ridge.

**QUESTION(S) PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION**

- Does the Metro Council agree with these priorities?

**LEGISLATION WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR COUNCIL ACTION**     Yes     No

**DRAFT IS ATTACHED**     Yes     No\*

\* Complete Refinement Plans will be submitted to Metro Council in September 2007.

**SCHEDULE FOR WORK SESSION**

Department Director/Head Approval \_\_\_\_\_

Chief Operating Officer Approval \_\_\_\_\_

## Chehalem Ridgetop to Refuge Survey Results

1. The following priorities were identified in the Chehalem Ridgetop to Refuge target area based on scientific information about benefits to water quality, habitat diversity, wildlife connectivity, restoration potential and/or public access and trails and from information provided by key stakeholders in the area. Rank in order of importance to you.

	most important		least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Protecting forestlands on the Chehalem Ridge to enhance water quality and wildlife habitat and to provide the public with future recreation and educational opportunities. (Map area A)	40.0% (6)	46.7% (7)	13.3% (2)	1.73	15
Protecting the rare upland prairie and oak savannah habitat along with lands along creeks and streams on the western slope of the Chehalem Ridge to provide connections between the ridge top and Wapato Lake and complement protection efforts in the Wapato Lake target area. (Map area B)	50.0% (8)	31.3% (5)	18.8% (3)	1.69	16
Supporting future recreational trail opportunities by securing potential trail corridors connecting Wapato Lake and/or Gales Creek to the Chehalem Ridge. (see Map arrows)	12.5% (2)	25.0% (4)	62.5% (10)	2.50	16
	<i>answered question</i>				16
	<i>skipped question</i>				0

**2. In general, what should be emphasized in the Chehalem Ridgetop to Refuge target area? Rank in order of importance to you.**

	most important			least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Protecting the regionally-rare oak savannahs and upland prairies and lands along the streams and creeks on the western slope of the Chehalem Ridge.	56.3% (9)	25.0% (4)	18.8% (3)	0.0% (0)	1.63	16
Protecting large stands of existing forested areas on the upper Chehalem Ridge.	26.7% (4)	53.3% (8)	13.3% (2)	6.7% (1)	2.00	15
Providing a natural buffer between urban development and farm and forest land in the area.	0.0% (0)	20.0% (3)	53.3% (8)	26.7% (4)	3.07	15
Protecting lands that will allow opportunities for future public access for recreation, including trails and wildlife watching areas.	18.8% (3)	6.3% (1)	12.5% (2)	62.5% (10)	3.19	16
<i>answered question</i>						16
<i>skipped question</i>						0

**3. Are there other priorities that the Metro Council should consider in the Chehalem Ridgetop to Refuge target area? Please be specific.**

The connectivity of the upland area to Wapato Lake cannot be stressed enough.

If you have been to Sherwood you know what can and probably WILL happen if action is not taken to preserve Chehalem Ridgetop to Refuge area. Some landowners have filed a Measure 37 claim to divide their acreage. This kind of development would destroy the Chehalem Ridgetop.

Prevent the development of housing in the area.

Somehow either by purchase or other means prevent the Measure 37 claims on large properties. Declare this area a wildlife habitat protected by law identify endangered plants and animals and protect them by making this area a park

Encourage eco-tourism--bed and breakfast with trial rides; for example.

Rare plants, Red Legged frog and native turtle habitat, Salmonoid habitat in Gales Creek area and expand to other potential creeks.

Balancing protection of upper Chehalem ridge from future development while allowing small rural homes on 5 acres on Western slope with green spaces and trails (planned development on Western slope) to enhance balance of public and private use.

Land protection should be priority one in that area. Owners of Christmas tree farms and animal farms should be contacted for easements.

Like all the projects which would preserve land along ridgetops, buttes, etc., this project would also enhance the quality of life for all in the visible area by providing us with views of greenery and open spaces along our hilltops, instead of McMansions. This greatly adds to the feeling of even more natural area, instead of urbanization and sprawl.

Because of the large lot size in this area, I think the area is especially ripe for naturesscaping-type education. Property owners - farm and residential - should be targeted for education on how to manage their properties in a sustainable, and environmentally friendly way. Show them how to be a part of the wildlife system rather than a disruption to it.

**4. Do you have suggestions about partnerships Metro should pursue or other innovative ways to leverage regional funding and enhance this natural area? If so, please specify.**

Perhaps Metro partnering with the City of Forest Grove to acquire land surrounding the AT Smith house.

Approach landowners about the possibility of them donating their land. Get the communities of Forest Grove and Gaston involved somehow in fund raising events ie earth day fair, walks through the target areas, programs in conjunction with other wildlife refuge areas such as Jackson Bottom Wetlands.

"Sin" taxes

1000 friends of Oregon

Work with Nature Conservancy

Use wineries in efforts to promote tourism, work with recreational and scenics on way to wine country.

Purchase upper Chehalem Ridge and rework map on Section B to purchase/reserve Greenspace to promote planned development in the downslope that promotes 'planned development' on small rural sites.

All the usual partners you might wish to join you - at the state and local levels. Three Rivers Land Conservancy and the Tualatin Watershed Council to get you started.

**5. Do you have any other comments about this target area? If so, please specify.**

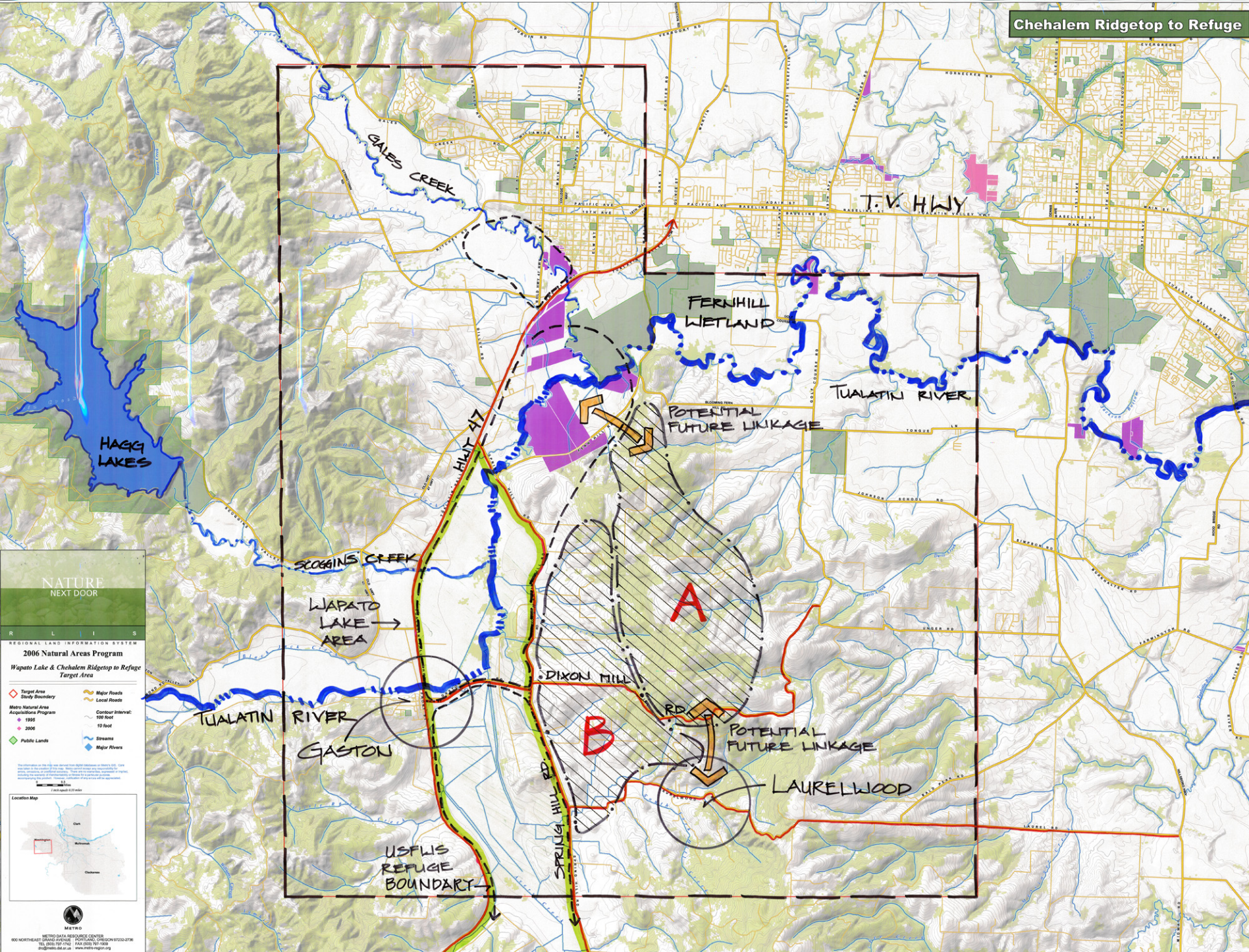
I am a member of the Friends of Historic Forest Grove and a member of a committee to preserve the AT Smith House. You may be aware that the AT Smith house is one of the most historically significant existing houses in Oregon. I believe that the potential for that property, which we now own, is fantastic. Our ultimate goal is for it to become a Regional Park or Historic Operating Farm. It is my opinion that our property has the potential for being developed into an area similar to Champoeg State Heritage Area. The biggest issue we face is to have surrounding land in some type of public ownership so that a more significant project can be developed.

I live adjacent to the target area and in the 13 years that I've lived there I have seen a wide variety of wildlife including but not limited to; elk, deer, nutria, beaver, wild turkeys, owls, hawks, vultures, skunk, porcupine. I have heard of cougar and bear sightings. In addition, my property alone is home to over 9 varieties of trees, numerous wildflowers, native plants and birds. Also, in the time I have lived there, I have noticed a diminishing of wildlife as the forest gets logged off.

It is a beautiful area with many different species of native plants, deer, elk, raccoon, frogs, ponds, creeks etc and needs to be preserved as the logging companies, left to their own devices, are wrecking it.

I am thrilled this area is a target for preservation-soils plants and wildlife and walkway.

Viewsheds should also be protected, from above and below. Cell towers kept to a minimum. (There are already too many.) And illegal dumping on the side of the road controlled.



**NATURE NEXT DOOR**

REGIONAL LAND INFORMATION SYSTEM

**2006 Natural Areas Program**

**Wapato Lake & Chehalem Ridgtop to Refuge Target Area**

- Target Area
- Study Boundary
- Major Roads
- Local Roads
- Metro Natural Area Acquisition Program
- 1995
- 2006
- Public Lands
- Contour Interval: 100 foot, 10 foot
- Streams
- Major Rivers

**Location Map**

**METRO**

METRO DATA RESOURCE CENTER  
 800 NORTHEAST GRAND AVENUE PORTLAND, OREGON 97232-2776  
 TEL (503) 797-1712 FAX (503) 797-1600  
 WWW.METRO-OR.ORG

# METRO COUNCIL

## Work Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: **August 14, 2007**

Time:

Length:

Presentation Title: **Dairy and McKay Creeks Confluence**

Department: **Metro Parks and Greenspaces**

Presenters: **Jim Desmond and Kathleen Brennan-Hunter**

### ISSUE & BACKGROUND

The 1995 goal for the Jackson Bottoms/Dairy/McKay Creeks target area focused on expanding the Jackson Bottom Wetlands complex on the north side of the confluence of Dairy Creek and the Tualatin River. Other objectives included protecting other significant wetlands associated with Dairy Creek and its tributaries and providing a linear greenway connection extending north along Dairy and McKay Creeks for multiple values including wildlife habitat, water quality/quantity management, education and stewardship opportunities, greenway corridor, permanent open space separation between Cornelius and Hillsboro, and passive recreation. Over 490 acres have been acquired to date, primarily an extensive portion of Jackson Bottom and segment of stream corridor along the Council Creek on the northern boundary of the City of Cornelius.

The 2006 Natural Areas bond measure stated:

The creeks converge at the interface of farmland and the urban growth boundary, forming broad wetlands accessible to a rapidly urbanizing area. Protecting the riparian areas and associated wetlands in the confluence area will contribute significantly to improved water quality in these major tributaries of the Tualatin River.

Because the target area lies between the western edge of the urban growth boundary and the rapidly urbanizing cities of Cornelius and Forest Grove, the potential for conflicts at the urban/rural interface and pressure to urbanize during future regional periodic reviews of the urban growth boundary is higher than in many other target areas. The refinement plan for this area will address Metro Council Resolution No. 06-3727, which included a commitment to keeping productive agricultural land in farm use and encouraging the use of conservation easements in agricultural areas.

The science report indicates that upper portions of McKay Creek support diverse habitat and plant communities. Dairy Creek just north of its confluence with McKay Creek currently has less habitat diversity, but has great potential for restoring wildlife habitats, wetlands and floodplain functions. Dairy Creek watershed northwestward to Northwest Susbauer Road and westward along Council Creek has medium habitat diversity, but has considerable potential for restoring wildlife habitats, wetlands and floodplain functions, including supporting connectivity and wildlife corridors to protected Metro properties.

Since the April and May work sessions more information has become available about the Dairy and McKay Creeks Confluence target area as a result of stakeholder input and public open houses. We are presenting a preliminary synthesis of proposed acquisition priorities to receive direction on policy issues prior to completing a refinement plan for this target area.



## **OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES**

<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For different reasons, there is broad consensus among stakeholders that acquisition of riparian corridors is a higher priority than acquisition of lowlands for wetland restoration and/or flood management. Agricultural interests see such acquisitions as helping to provide buffers between urban and rural uses; natural resource stakeholders in helping to provide river access and protect wildlife habitat and water quality; and local cities in helping to create public trail connectivity.</li> <li>• The science clearly supports acquisition of riparian corridors from the two creeks' confluence, northwestward along Dairy Creek and westward along Council Creek, identified as Areas A and C on the map.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural interests have concerns regarding the protection and restoration of lands that are currently, or have historically been farmed.</li> <li>• There is significant interest from representatives of local cities and agricultural interests to acquire riparian corridors along McKay Creek northward from the two creeks' confluence and around the Camp Ireland Scout Camp. These areas were ranked lower than Dairy and McKay creeks for habitat value.</li> </ul>

## **SURVEY RESULTS**

In June, Metro hosted eight open houses throughout the region and a virtual open house on the Metro website. A total of 527 people attended the regional open houses. More than 700 surveys were submitted either in person or online. The online open house had 6,363 visits from 3,419 unique visitors. Five people completed the Dairy and McKay Creeks Confluence survey. Additional commentary was provided orally at the open house, most of which was consistent with the written responses. In rank order, the public priorities were:

1. *Map area C* – Protect potential trail and habitat corridors along Council Creek from its confluence with Dairy Creek west to other protected public lands.
2. *Map area A* – Protect lands and associated wetlands along Dairy Creek from its confluence with McKay Creek and extending northward to NW Susbauer Road.
3. *Map area D* – Secure lands along the west side of Council Creek to Martin Road to provide habitat corridors, a potential trail corridor and a buffer to urban development.
4. *Map area E* – Protect the lands along McKay Creek from its confluence with Dairy Creek northward towards the Camp Ireland Scout Camp primarily to buffer the area from urban development.
5. *Map area B* – Protect the creekside, wetlands and upland forested areas in and around the Camp Ireland Scout Camp to provide benefits to wildlife.
6. *Map area F* – Protect the lands along Dairy Creek north of Jackson Bottom to the confluence of Dairy and McKay creeks, with a focus on protecting the natural corridors along the creek.

Complete survey results are attached.

**IMPLICATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

The proposed prioritization is based on information gathered from several sources including the research that preceded the 2006 Natural Areas Ballot Measure, the bond measure language that voters approved, best scientific information available, input from knowledgeable regional experts and stakeholders, and public survey feedback.

Though relatively few people completed surveys that directly address Dairy McKay Creek target area, Metro staff have had ongoing conversations with representatives from the Washington County Farm Bureau and other members of the agricultural community regarding appropriate acquisition targets within this area.

No more than 25% of total regional bonds funds will be spent on target areas that are not new for 2006, including Dairy and McKay Creeks Confluence.

*Tier I Objectives*

- Acquire/protect up to four miles of the riparian and associated wetland corridor along Dairy Creek from its confluence with McKay Creek and extending northward to Hornecker Road. (Map area A)
- Close the gaps in public ownership along Council Creek from its confluence with Dairy Creek and extending westward to link existing Metro-owned property. (Map areas C and D)

*Tier II Objectives*

- Acquire/protect the riparian, wetland and upland forested areas in and around the Camp Ireland Scout Camp. (Map area B)
- Acquire key parcels along Dairy Creek north of Jackson Bottom to the confluence of Dairy and McKay Creeks, with a focus on protecting riparian corridors along the creeks. (Map area F)

**QUESTION(S) PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION**

- Although not specifically included in the 2006 Bond Measure description, does Council want to pursue acquisition of key parcels between Jackson Bottom and the confluence of Dairy and McKay Creeks? (Map area F)

**LEGISLATION WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR COUNCIL ACTION**     Yes     No

**DRAFT IS ATTACHED**     Yes     No\*

\* Complete Refinement Plans will be submitted to Metro Council in September 2007.

**SCHEDULE FOR WORK SESSION**

Department Director/Head Approval \_\_\_\_\_

Chief Operating Officer Approval \_\_\_\_\_

## Dairy and McKay Creeks Confluence Survey Results

1. The following priorities were identified in the Dairy and McKay Creeks Confluence target area based on scientific information about benefits to water quality, habitat diversity, wildlife connectivity and/or restoration potential and from information provided by key stakeholders in the area. Rank in order of importance to you.

	most important					least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Protecting lands and associated wetlands along Dairy Creek from its confluence with McKay Creek and extending northward to NW Susbauer Road. (Map area A)	15.4% (2)	46.2% (6)	7.7% (1)	7.7% (1)	15.4% (2)	7.7% (1)	2.85	13
Protecting the creekside, wetlands and upland forested areas in and around the Camp Ireland Scout Camp to provide benefits to wildlife. (Map area B)	23.1% (3)	7.7% (1)	0.0% (0)	30.8% (4)	15.4% (2)	23.1% (3)	3.77	13
Protecting potential trail and habitat corridors along Council Creek from its confluence with Dairy Creek west to other protected public lands. (Map area C)	26.7% (4)	26.7% (4)	13.3% (2)	20.0% (3)	13.3% (2)	0.0% (0)	2.67	15
Securing lands along the west side of Council Creek to Martin Road to provide habitat corridors, a potential trail corridor and a buffer to urban development. (Map area D)	26.7% (4)	20.0% (3)	0.0% (0)	13.3% (2)	26.7% (4)	13.3% (2)	3.33	15
Protecting the lands along McKay Creek from its confluence with Dairy Creek northward towards the Camp Ireland Scout Camp primarily to buffer the area from urban development. (Map area E)	7.7% (1)	7.7% (1)	53.8% (7)	7.7% (1)	15.4% (2)	7.7% (1)	3.38	13
Protecting the lands along Dairy Creek north of Jackson Bottom to the confluence of Dairy and McKay creeks, with a focus on protecting the natural corridors along the creek. (Map area F)	6.7% (1)	0.0% (0)	26.7% (4)	20.0% (3)	6.7% (1)	40.0% (6)	4.40	15
	<i>answered question</i>							15
	<i>skipped question</i>							0

**2. In general, what should be emphasized in the Dairy and McKay Creeks Confluence target area? Rank in order of importance to you.**

	most important			least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Preserving lands along creeks and associated wetlands to protect water quality and wildlife habitat.	58.3% (7)	8.3% (1)	8.3% (1)	25.0% (3)	2.00	12
Protecting floodplains and wetlands for water quality and wildlife benefits.	0.0% (0)	33.3% (4)	58.3% (7)	8.3% (1)	2.75	12
Providing a natural buffer between urban development and farmland in the area.	25.0% (3)	8.3% (1)	16.7% (2)	50.0% (6)	2.92	12
Providing access to nature for people along greenway trail corridors.	16.7% (2)	50.0% (6)	16.7% (2)	16.7% (2)	2.33	12
	<i>answered question</i>					12
	<i>skipped question</i>					3

**3. Are there other priorities that the Metro Council should consider in Dairy and McKay Creek target area? Please be specific.**

Signs to direct use of public.  
 Education in regard to the benefits of natural areas to farmers. How do these natural areas provide more/better water for them, more opportunity for pollinators.

**4. Are there other priorities that the Metro Council should consider in Dairy and McKay Creek target area? Please be specific.**

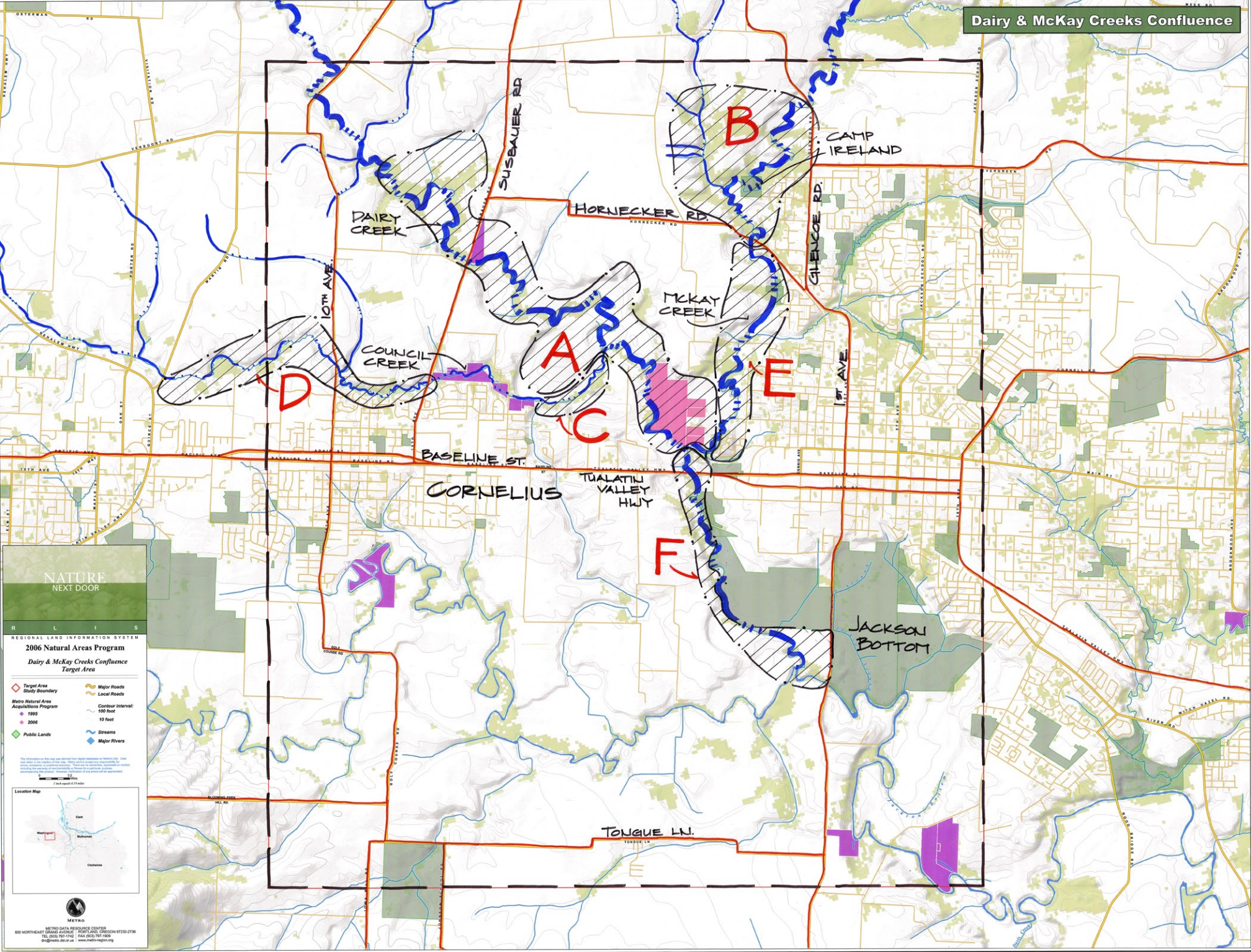
Make sure that the old cemetery at beginning of Speisschaert Rd be protected.  
 Keeping public off adjacent private property. Safety for public use.  
 All of these areas are vital for watershed health and wildlife habitat. Save this system - connect the whole. There isn't much time.

**5. Do you have suggestions about partnerships Metro should pursue or other innovative ways to leverage regional funding and enhance this natural area? If so, please specify.**

Provide assistance to prospective sellers.  
 Some acreage owners might be willing to donate land or money to help, but don't send fast talking folks with suits and ties to talk with them. Respect their knowledge of land as you try to enhance it.

**6. Do you have any other comments about this target area? If so, please specify.**

Areas A and B are not threatened by development - not helpful to regional trail system of land use trails.  
 Regions B & E have increasing development, roads, main avenue into Hillsboro from HWY 26. It is susceptible to impact from all this.



**NATURE NEXT DOOR**

REGIONAL LAND INFORMATION SYSTEM

**2006 Natural Areas Program**  
Dairy & McKay Creeks Confluence  
Target Area

Target Area Study Boundary	Major Roads
Metro Natural Area Acquisitions Program	Local Roads
1995	Contour Interval: 10 foot
2006	Streams
Public Lands	Major Rivers

The information on this map was derived from digital data from the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (ODGI). ODGI has provided this information as a public service. It is not intended to be used for legal purposes. The user assumes all liability for any use of this information. For more information on the accuracy of this information, please contact the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries at (503) 725-1500.

Scale: 1 inch equals 0.75 miles

Location Map

**METRO**

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# METRO COUNCIL

## Work Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: **August 14, 2007**

Time:

Length:

Presentation Title: **Deep Creek and Tributaries**

Department: **Metro Parks and Greenspaces**

Presenters: **Jim Desmond and Kathleen Brennan-Hunter**

### ISSUE & BACKGROUND

The 2006 Natural Areas bond measure stated:

The intact, steeply wooded slopes of Deep Creek canyon in eastern Damascus hold some of the largest contiguous wildlife habitat remaining in the region. The creek's sweeping alignment serves as the principal corridor connecting the Clackamas River to habitat areas within the more urbanized portions of the county. The corridor includes the Cazadero Trail that will link Gresham, Barton and public lands in the area. It will also complete the Springwater Corridor from downtown Portland to Barton.

The science reports show the mainstem of Deep Creek and the North Fork provide excellent habitat for fish passage and spawning. The North Fork of Deep Creek provides an essential wildlife corridor connecting the Butler Ridge and Sunshine-Tower-Zion Buttes to the Clackamas River. It has been noted that Noyer Creek has good water quality and habitat for terrestrial wildlife because of its undeveloped and contiguous forest but does not have fish passage because of a natural barrier.

Since the April and May work sessions more information has become available about the Deep Creek and Tributaries target area as a result of stakeholder input and public open houses. We are presenting a preliminary synthesis of proposed acquisition priorities to receive direction on policy issues prior to completing a refinement plan for this target area.

### OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Opportunities	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The steep wooded slopes and riparian corridors found along Deep Creek and its tributaries help maintain water quality and wildlife connections to the Clackamas River.</li><li>• Of all the possible connections, the North Fork has the greatest potential to provide a wildlife corridor between the Clackamas River and the East Buttes of Damascus.</li><li>• The North Fork is a high functioning wildlife corridor and fish run including salmon and steelhead.</li><li>• This target area has steep forested canyons that could be considered undevelopable. Environmental regulations may inhibit development within much of the privately owned land in the canyons, thus making this target area a good candidate for conservation easements.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• North Fork has poor water quality due to heavy concentrations of herbicides, pesticides, agricultural run off, and point source industrial pollution to the west in Boring.</li><li>• The headwaters of Noyer Creek have development pressures from Boring and Damascus and non-point source pollution from agricultural uses.</li><li>• Noyer Creek has a natural impediment to fish passage near the confluence with Deep Creek.</li><li>• There are invasive plant species throughout Noyer and North Fork of Deep Creek.</li><li>• Current Damascus and Clackamas County zoning and development regulations may not protect local natural resource lands.</li></ul>

Opportunities	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Cazadero Trail offers access in and along the North Fork of Deep Creek. Protecting lands within the North Fork would ensure the preservation of views and nature experience along this stretch of the Springwater Corridor.</li> <li>• Partnership opportunities exist for acquisition and management of properties in this area with Oregon State Parks, Three Rivers Land Trust, Damascus, Boring and Clackamas County.</li> <li>• Volunteers for the Clackamas River Basin Council are currently conducting invasive weed removal along Deep Creek.</li> </ul>	

## **SURVEY RESULTS**

In June, Metro hosted eight open houses throughout the region and a virtual open house on the Metro website. A total of 527 people attended the regional open houses. More than 700 surveys were submitted either in person or online. The online open house had 6,363 visits from 3,419 unique visitors. 18 people completed the Deep Creek and Tributaries survey. Additional commentary was provided orally at the open house, most of which was consistent with the written responses. In rank order, the public priorities were:

1. *Map area B* – Protect undeveloped natural areas within the canyons of the North Fork of Deep Creek to the trailhead for the Cazadero Trail in Boring to support water quality and fish habitat.
2. *Map area A* – Protect undeveloped natural areas within the canyons of upper Deep Creek above the confluence with the North Fork to Amisigger Road to support water quality and fish.
3. *Map area C* – Protect lands along Lower Deep Creek from the North Fork to the confluence with the Clackamas River.
4. *Map area D* – Protect land along the unnamed tributary north of the North Fork of Deep Creek to provide wildlife habitat connectivity between Zion Butte and Deep Creek. This is also identified as a priority in the East Buttes target area.
5. *Map area E* – Protect forested lands in the Noyer Creek canyon to support water quality.

Protecting wildlife corridors between the East Buttes and the Clackamas River scored best among respondents. Providing public access to natural areas for recreation and wildlife watching scored lower.

Complete survey results are attached.

## **IMPLICATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

The proposed prioritization is based on information gathered from several sources including the research that preceded the 2006 Natural Areas Ballot Measure, the bond measure language that voters approved, best scientific information available, input from knowledgeable regional experts and stakeholders, and public survey feedback. Initial estimates are that a minimum of 200 acres of land would be protected within this target area.

### *Tier I Objectives*

- Acquire land to protect forested areas in the canyons of mainstem Deep Creek and the North Fork of Deep Creek to Boring. (Map area B)
- Acquire land along unnamed tributary connecting the North Fork of Deep Creek to Zion Butte. (Map area D)

*Tier II Objectives*

- Protect lands along Lower Deep Creek from the North Fork to the confluence with the Clackamas River. (Map area C)
- Acquire land to protect intact forested areas in the canyons of Noyer Creek from the confluence north to Hwy 212. (Map area E)

*Partnership Objectives*

- Pursue opportunities for leveraging regional funds and/or managing properties with Oregon State Parks, Three Rivers Land Conservancy, Damascus, Boring, Clackamas County and the Clackamas River Basin Council.

**QUESTION(S) PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION**

- Does Metro Council agree with these proposed priorities?

**LEGISLATION WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR COUNCIL ACTION**     Yes     No

**DRAFT IS ATTACHED**     Yes     No\*

\* Complete Refinement Plans will be submitted to Metro Council in September 2007.

**SCHEDULE FOR WORK SESSION**

Department Director/Head Approval \_\_\_\_\_

Chief Operating Officer Approval \_\_\_\_\_



## Deep Creek and Tributaries Survey Results

- The following priorities were identified in the Deep Creek target area based on scientific information about benefits to water quality, habitat diversity, wildlife connectivity and/or restoration potential and from information provided by key stakeholders in the area. Rank in order of importance to you.

	most important				least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Protecting undeveloped natural areas within the canyons of upper Deep Creek above the confluence with the North Fork to Amisigger Road to support water quality and fish. (Map area A)	25.0% (4)	12.5% (2)	18.8% (3)	<b>31.3% (5)</b>	12.5% (2)	2.94	16
Protecting undeveloped natural areas within the canyons of the North Fork of Deep Creek to the trailhead for the Cazadero Trail in Boring to support water quality and fish habitat. (Map area B)	<b>50.0% (9)</b>	33.3% (6)	5.6% (1)	11.1% (2)	0.0% (0)	1.78	18
Protecting lands along Lower Deep Creek from the North Fork to the confluence with the Clackamas River. (Map area C)	6.3% (1)	25.0% (4)	25.0% (4)	<b>31.3% (5)</b>	12.5% (2)	3.19	16
Protecting land along the unnamed tributary north of the North Fork of Deep Creek to provide wildlife habitat connectivity between Zion Butte and Deep Creek. This is also identified as a priority in the East Buttes target area. (Map area D)	18.8% (3)	18.8% (3)	6.3% (1)	6.3% (1)	<b>50.0% (8)</b>	3.50	16
Protecting forested lands in the Noyer Creek canyon to support water quality. (Map area E)	6.3% (1)	6.3% (1)	<b>43.8% (7)</b>	18.8% (3)	25.0% (4)	3.50	16
	<i>answered question</i>						<b>18</b>
	<i>skipped question</i>						<b>0</b>

**2. In general, what should be emphasized in the Deep Creek target area? Rank in order of importance to you.**

	most important			least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Preserving forested upland habitat for wildlife.	6.3% (1)	31.3% (5)	31.3% (5)	31.3% (5)	2.88	16
Preserving streams and creeks to maintain water quality.	31.3% (5)	12.5% (2)	50.0% (8)	6.3% (1)	2.31	16
Protecting wildlife corridors between the East Buttes and the Clackamas River.	37.5% (6)	43.8% (7)	12.5% (2)	6.3% (1)	1.88	16
Providing public access to natural areas for recreation and wildlife watching.	25.0% (4)	12.5% (2)	6.3% (1)	56.3% (9)	2.94	16
	<i>answered question</i>					16
	<i>skipped question</i>					2

**3. Are there other priorities that the Metro Council should consider in the Deep Creek and Tributaries target area? Please be specific.**

If trails are developed--no pavement! Keep natural as possible--equestrian usage high priority! Keep pavement near urban centers only where higher population is.

Purchase from willing sellers; use conservation easements when cannot buy; leverage funds with conservation districts and private business and non-profits.

Protect greenspace between Boring and Damascus.

Maintaining green corridors between cities so wildlife can migrate and individual cities can control their surroundings.

You need to preserve forested upland habitat for wildlife to preserve streams and creeks to maintain water quality.

**4. Do you have suggestions about partnerships Metro should pursue or other innovative ways to leverage regional funding and enhance this natural area? If so, please specify.**

Partnership-Oregon Equestrian Trails-Volunteer labor for trail development and maintenance - security patrols.

Can the Salvation Army camp qualify for grants that METRO cannot?

Local CPO's in unincorporated areas.

Partner with State Parks, Boring CPO, and Clackamas County.

Personal and business donations.

**5. Do you have any other comments about this target area? If so, please specify.**

Biggest concern protection of wildlife. Leaving area as natural as possible - As more development comes wildlife are under more pressure to move to this area.

Although it is not specifically mentioned, Area B is a top priority to me because of the potential for Cazadero Trail between Boring and Barton.

Local farms should be considered in the "big" picture of protection since they also provide wildlife areas.

Think and act big.

ZION BUTTE

BORING

DAMASCUS

HWY 212

NATURE NEXT DOOR

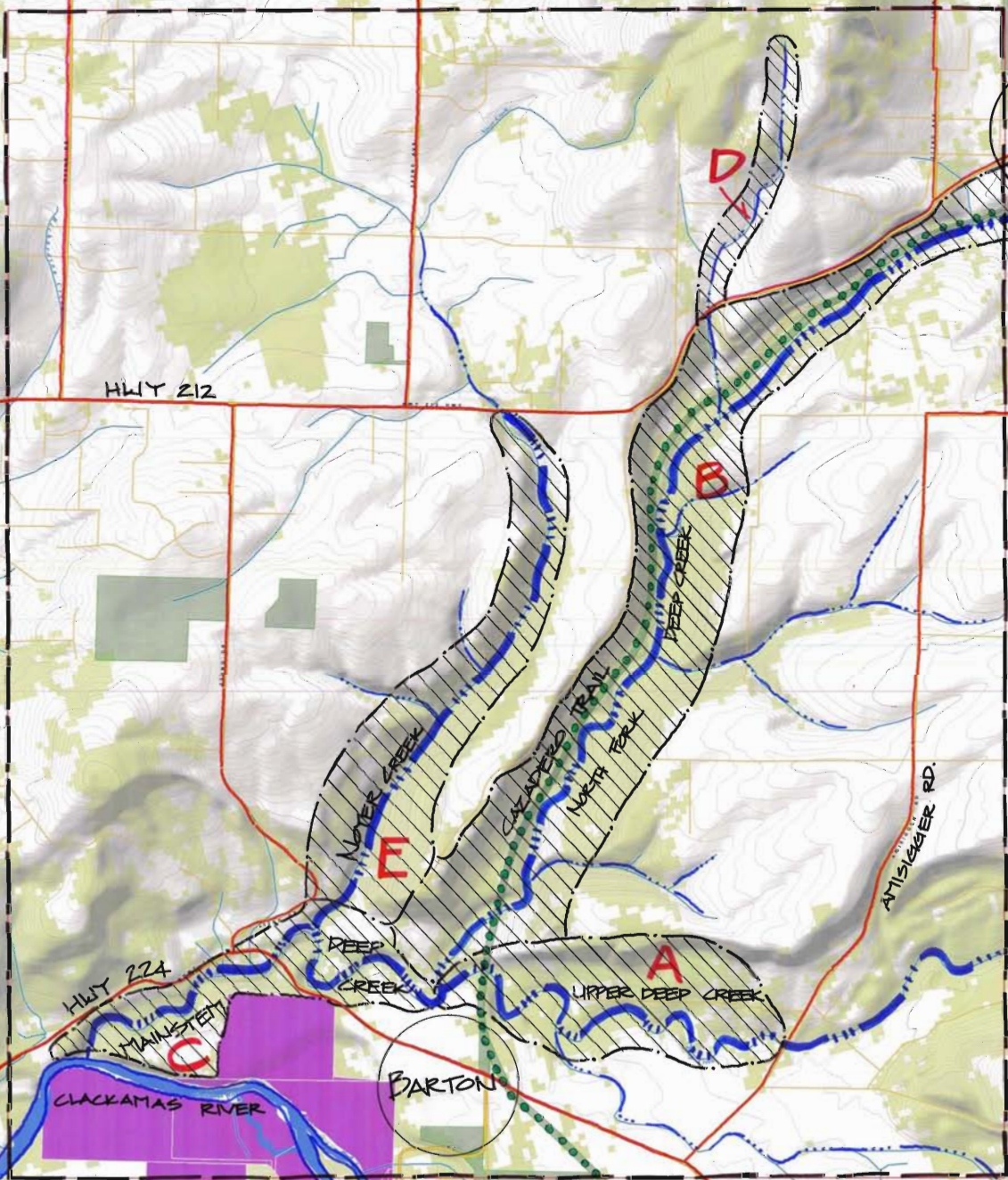
REGIONAL LAND INFORMATION SYSTEM  
2006 Natural Areas Program

Deep Creek & Tributaries  
Target Area

- Target Area
- Study Boundary
- Major Roads
- Local Roads
- Metro Natural Area Acquisition Program
- 1995
- 2006
- Public Lands
- Proposed Trail
- Streams
- Major Rivers
- Contour Interval: 100 foot
- 10 foot



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# METRO COUNCIL

## Work Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: **August 14, 2007**

Time:

Length:

Presentation Title: **East Buttes**

Department: **Metro Parks and Greenspaces**

Presenters: **Jim Desmond and Kathleen Brennan-Hunter**

### ISSUE & BACKGROUND

In 1995 Metro's goal for this target area was to create a biologically significant natural area between Gresham and Damascus. The focus of Tier I acquisition was along Butler Ridge, located south of Gresham, and on Mt. Talbert, with an acreage goal of 545 acres. Tier II and III objectives focused on enhancing and connecting existing open space properties at Mt. Scott, Powell Butte, Rocky Butte, Kelly Butte and Scouter Mountain, in addition to providing biological links between the East Buttes and the Clackamas River. Acquisitions at the more urban buttes (Talbert, Kelly, Rocky, and Powell) required a 25% local match. Metro acquired a total of 855 acres within this target area.

With increasing development pressure on the buttes and their adjoining valleys, a comprehensive land acquisition strategy that considers the connection of high quality upland habitats to each other through functioning wildlife corridors is important.

The 2006 Natural Area bond measure stated:

The remaining undeveloped wooded slopes of extinct lava domes in our eastern metropolitan region provide opportunities to protect water quality and large areas for wildlife habitat and wildlife corridors from the outer reaches of the Cascades to the inner Portland urban area such as Scouter Mountain and buttes in the Damascus area. Panoramic vistas east and south from the butte tops provide stunning views of valleys, farmland and the Cascades. The forested buttes frame the valleys, create a unique geography for local residents and provide welcome visual relief from surrounding land uses. By protecting these wooded slopes, Metro can maintain a system of natural area habitat patches connected to each other and ultimately to the Cascades via the Clackamas River corridor.

Since the April and May work sessions more information has become available about the East Buttes target area as a result of stakeholder input and public open houses. We are presenting a preliminary synthesis of proposed acquisition priorities to receive direction on policy issues prior to completing a refinement plan for this target area.

### OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Opportunities	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Close the gaps in public ownership by acquiring key parcels along Butler Ridge to create a biologically significant natural area.</li><li>• Science findings support as highest priority closing the gaps in public ownership along Butler Ridge, and preserving the wildlife corridor from there southeast to Deep Creek.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The land area under consideration within the East Buttes Target Area is very large.</li><li>• Current Damascus and Clackamas County zoning and development regulations may not protect local natural resources.</li></ul>

Opportunities	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect the headwaters of Mt. Scott Creek, add to Metro’s landholdings on the north side of Mt. Talbert.</li> <li>• Protect wooded slopes on Scouter Mountain in close proximity to other public landholdings to create a larger natural area on the butte that will benefit wildlife and support water quality goals in Johnson Creek.</li> <li>• Potential partners for acquisition and/or management are abundant, including the following organizations: North Clackamas School District, Gresham-Barlow School District, the Boy Scouts, Damascus, Boring, Gresham, Happy Valley, Clackamas County, and the North Clackamas Park District.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific reports recommend as the top priority closing the gaps in ownership on Butler Ridge and preserving the wooded slopes of the eastern Buttes. Public input clearly supports as the top two priorities the purchase of properties on Scouter Mountain and Mount Talbert.</li> </ul>

**SURVEY RESULTS**

In June, Metro hosted eight open houses throughout the region and a virtual open house on the Metro website. A total of 527 people attended the regional open houses. More than 700 surveys were submitted either in person or online. The online open house had 6,363 visits from 3,419 unique visitors. 57 people completed the East Buttes survey. Additional commentary was provided orally at the open house, most of which was consistent with the written responses. In rank order, the public priorities were:

1. *Map area E* – Protect lands on Scouter Mountain in close proximity to other protected areas and create a larger natural area on the butte to benefit wildlife and support water quality goals in Johnson Creek (Mitchell Creek).
2. *Map area F* – Protect lands on the north side of Mount Talbert adjacent to other protected areas and including a connection to Mount Scott Creek.
3. *Map area A* – Close gaps in public ownership along Butler Ridge to create a biologically significant natural area.
4. *Map area B* – Protect lands on Sunshine Butte and along the tributaries of Sunshine Creek to preserve a wildlife corridor and a connection to the Clackamas River.
5. *Map area D* – Protect lands along the unnamed tributary north of the North Fork of Deep Creek connecting to Tower and Zion buttes and the Deep Creek riparian corridor to preserve a wildlife corridor.
6. *Map area C* – Protect properties on Tower and Zion buttes for water quality benefits and connections to the Clackamas River.

Complete survey results are attached.

**IMPLICATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

The proposed prioritization is based on information gathered from several sources including the research that preceded the 2006 Natural Areas Ballot Measure, the bond measure language that voters approved, best scientific information available, input from knowledgeable regional experts and stakeholders, and public survey feedback.

The East Buttes Target Area includes some areas that were part of the focus with the 1995 Refinement Plan and other new places. The proposed acquisition priorities below reflect this. Land acquisition on Sunshine, Tower and Zion Buttes and the valleys between them can create a regionally significant wildlife corridor between existing public holdings on Butler Ridge and the Clackamas River via the Deep Creek valley. Scouter Mountain is important to many citizens, and remains a key target for land acquisition. Within Butler Ridge closing a few keys gaps will enhance the wildlife corridor and land acquisition for a trailhead or access point will benefit future public access to this extensive natural area. Opportunities remain to acquire a limited area that will enhance the Mt. Talbert Nature Park, which is scheduled to open this fall. This target area overlaps with Deep Creek and with Johnson Creek, and land acquisition will be coordinated strategically between these areas.

*Tier I Objectives*

- Protect wooded slopes on Sunshine Butte and along tributaries to Sunshine Creek to maintain wildlife corridors to the Clackamas River. (Map area B)
- Protect wooded slopes on Tower and Zion Buttes to maintain wildlife corridors to the Clackamas River. (Map area C)
- Acquire land on Scouter Mountain in close proximity to other public land holdings to create a larger contiguous open space on the butte. (Map area E)

*Tier II Objectives*

- Close the gaps in public ownership by acquiring key parcels along Butler Ridge to create a biologically significant natural area and to facilitate public access to these lands. (Map area A)
- Acquire properties on the north side of Mt. Talbert contiguous with other public holdings and in the headwaters of Mt. Scott Creek. (Map area F)

*Partnership Objectives*

- Pursue partnership opportunities with the City of Damascus, ODOT, the City of Gresham, Clackamas County, North Clackamas Park District, Damascus, Happy Valley and the Three Rivers Land Conservancy to achieve the priority objectives and to leverage the regional bond funds.
- Explore partnership possibilities with school districts, including Gresham-Barlow School District on their facility development plans for their property on Sunshine Creek.

**QUESTION(S) PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION**

- Does Metro Council agree with these proposed priorities?

**LEGISLATION WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR COUNCIL ACTION**     Yes     No

**DRAFT IS ATTACHED**     Yes     No\*

\* Complete Refinement Plans will be submitted to Metro Council in September 2007.

**SCHEDULE FOR WORK SESSION**

Department Director/Head Approval \_\_\_\_\_

Chief Operating Officer Approval \_\_\_\_\_

## East Buttes Survey Results

1. The following priorities were identified in the East Buttes target area based on scientific information about benefits to water quality, habitat diversity, wildlife connectivity and/or restoration potential and from information provided by key stakeholders in the area. Rank in order of importance to you.

	most important					least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Closing gaps in public ownership along Butler Ridge to create a biologically significant natural area. (Map area A)	21.7% (10)	8.7% (4)	23.9% (11)	13.0% (6)	6.5% (3)	26.1% (12)	3.52	46
Protecting lands on Sunshine Butte and along the tributaries of Sunshine Creek to preserve a wildlife corridor and a connection to the Clackamas River. (Map area B)	11.6% (5)	11.6% (5)	23.3% (10)	14.0% (6)	27.9% (12)	11.6% (5)	3.70	43
Protecting properties on Tower and Zion buttes for water quality benefits and connections to the Clackamas River. (Map area C)	6.8% (3)	9.1% (4)	20.5% (9)	31.8% (14)	18.2% (8)	13.6% (6)	3.86	44
Protecting lands along the unnamed tributary north of the North Fork of Deep Creek connecting to Tower and Zion buttes and the Deep Creek riparian corridor to preserve a wildlife corridor. (Map area D)	8.9% (4)	11.1% (5)	22.2% (10)	24.4% (11)	17.8% (8)	15.6% (7)	3.78	45
Protecting lands on Scouter Mountain in close proximity to other protected areas and creating a larger natural area on the butte to benefit wildlife and support water quality goals in Johnson Creek (Mitchell Creek) (Map area E)	48.0% (24)	18.0% (9)	10.0% (5)	4.0% (2)	10.0% (5)	10.0% (5)	2.40	50
Protecting lands on the north side of Mount Talbert adjacent to other protected areas and including a connection to Mount Scott Creek (Map area F)	17.0% (8)	40.4% (19)	4.3% (2)	12.8% (6)	10.6% (5)	14.9% (7)	3.04	47
	<i>answered question</i>							55
	<i>skipped question</i>							2

**2. In general, what should be emphasized in the East Buttes target area? Rank in order of importance to you.**

	most important			least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Preserving forested upland habitat for wildlife.	41.3% (19)	23.9% (11)	23.9% (11)	10.9% (5)	2.04	46
Preserving streams and creeks to maintain water quality.	20.4% (10)	44.9% (22)	28.6% (14)	6.1% (3)	2.20	49
Protecting wildlife corridors between the East Buttes and the Clackamas River.	32.6% (15)	23.9% (11)	26.1% (12)	17.4% (8)	2.28	46
Providing public access to natural areas for recreation and wildlife watching.	14.6% (7)	10.4% (5)	18.8% (9)	56.3% (27)	3.17	48
	<i>answered question</i>					52
	<i>skipped question</i>					5

**3. Are there other priorities that the Metro Council should consider in the East Buttes target area? Please be specific.**

<p>Boy scout camp has lodge + day camp acres already in place on Scouters Mountain. Excellent outdoor school and educational value for kids--wildlife habitat so important with all the development--close to town, easy transport for school kids.</p>
<p>Accessing trails and outdoor areas by bike is important.</p>
<p>Please overlay the regional trails plan and also anticipate what will be needed for three trails that connect to Springwater in this area.</p>
<p>I picked area D since it may act as a buffer between Damascus and Boring. That way they can maintain their own character. C, B and A would help do the same thing.</p>
<p>It was tough to rank question number two. I came to this forum for all these reasons. Seems like most are covered but one other reason to consider is just to preserve the scenic beauty in our area and reduce noise, pollution, congestion resulting from dense housing development.</p>
<p>Preserve the beautiful scenery.</p>
<p>Scouter's Mountain.</p>
<p>Get the areas vulnerable to development first.</p>
<p>All of the items in question 3 are important and should be pursued.</p>
<p>If the lands will be available for public use, adequate parking or public transportation from "park and ride" facilities must be provided.</p>
<p>Please focus on protecting lands in and near Rock Creek's canyon...this area is between the Clackamas River and SE 172nd Avenue. It is an outstanding, existing corridor for wildlife that is between the East buttes and the Clackamas River.</p>
<p>Save Scouter Mt. public access to East Buttes.</p>
<p>Public access from the west. A trail that allows public to access the rim of the butte and Mt Hood views. A park for the public. We don't have any parks here except Blue Lake and a new park here, Johnson City (Springwater Trail) is really needed. It needs to be done NOW.</p>
<p>From question #1: I thought Clatsop Butte was to be part of "East Butte." Hopefully this is part of the plan to be included.</p>



For question #1: We were under the impression that Clatsop Butte was part of the "East Buttes" (on extreme Western end) - That's the way it's listed on MANY maps.

#### Damascus Buttes

Respect and honor the viewpoints of current landowners in the target areas.

Scouter's Mountain is a natural wildlife preserve that should be maintained as a park if at all possible. Scouter's Mountain is link in the trail system between the east buttes and the Clackamas River as well as east-west trails.

Scouters mountain is a beautiful resource and has the opportunity to provide both habitat protection for the water resources and the wildlife that enrich the community while already having recreational facilities (Scouters Camp site) for the community. The area adjacent to Scouters Mountain is among the fastest growing in the Metro area, and has one of the highest percentages of children per household. It would be a shame to miss the chance to provide this unique resource to the surrounding communities and their children.

Preservation of historical landmarks should also be a priority such as the lodge on Scouters Mountain and the pioneer cemetery on the Southwest side of the mountain.

Scouters Mountain is "the" key butte to the inner larger habitat areas, which not only holds historical importance, that Metro is responsible for maintaining, IE cemeteries, but has been part of the Metro Trails master plan, since I worked on the data base for the very first bond measure back in 1991. The early Clackamas County Parks Map also once reflected this importance. The existing power & gas line easements between Butler Butte, down through Scouters Mountain, and unto the Clackamas Rivers are key habitat routes, and must be preserved. Scouters Mountain also provides the head waters to the Mt Scott & Kellogg Creek Drainages as they travel past Mt Talbert. Scouters Mountain is a hub for trails and routes of all kinds for human and wildlife....it has to be preserved. Routes from the NW...being the Elcoa/ the old Girl Scout Camp by Willamette National, to the north Johnson Creek/Bundy Park, The Springwater, and Powell Butte, NE to Butler Butter, Millers Creek, and East/SE to Pleasant Valley, and Deep Creek, South to Clackamas River via Seiban Creek, and west to Happy Valley Wetlands, Mt Scott Nature Park, Mt Scott Creek, and on down to Talbert. \*\*\*Thank-you

Connect open space to Clackamas River corridor to assure future development doesn't create an "Island" of nature. More emphasis on Johnson Creek Watershed through, and east, of Gresham to the south (near Sunshine Valley). This may help flood control.

Scouters Mountain is the most important acquisition priority due to its proximity to the City of Happy Valley and the quality of forested upland habitat for wildlife. The steep slopes of the mountain are visible from several other outdoor areas in the eastern part of Clackamas County. Scouter's Mountain has a long history of public use and conservancy.

Like all the projects which would preserve land along ridgetops, buttes, etc., this project would also enhance the quality of life for all in the visible area by providing us with views of greenery and open spaces along our hilltops, instead of McMansions. This greatly adds to the feeling of even more natural area in our neighborhoods, instead of urbanization and sprawl.

I find nothing on wildlife corridor(s)connecting East Buttes with Scouter Mountain ridge. The rather open valley (Pleasant Valley/upper Rock Creek Valley) is sandwiched between these two highland ridges, and currently wildlife crosses freely from one to the other in an east-west direction through meadows, riparian forests, nursery lands, Christmas tree farms, orchards, berry fields, and my garden. In this valley I've seen deer, foxes (both red and gray), a bobcat, elk, coyotes galore, and there's an active cougar scratching post next to a branch of Rock Creek on my property. I've counted up to 29 bird species on my property in one day. There seems to be no plan for preserving wildlife habitat or connecting corridors in this valley. Instead the traffic will be forced to follow the ridges. Though preserving the buttes is extremely important, I feel there should also be some provision for preserving cross-valley wildlife corridors.

Stop purchasing land which can be used for high end development.

The ranking above should not be construed to mean lower priorities are not important, i.e. provision of public access. This is important, but we can't provide access unless we buy it first. Metro needs to think of the east buttes as an ecological system in which upland forests, streams, wildlife corridors, and visual open space are integrated. Your questionnaire is phrased in a way that makes these appear to be separate issues, but they are not. We either conserve a system or we conserve a few fragmented patches of habitat. Unfortunately, you did not make the bond measure large enough to conserve systems throughout the Metro area.

Preservation of natural resources should take precedent, but resources also need to be allocated for trail and trail-head development too.

Balance – i.e. I think Scouter Mountain could be opened up to housing, but keep the rock stream area open for wildlife habitat. Also, filling in the "gap" between larger Metro and land to recreate a larger block of undeveloped land makes a lot of sense.

**4. Do you have suggestions about partnerships Metro should pursue or other innovative ways to leverage regional funding and enhance this natural area? If so, please specify.**

Perhaps some partnership with Boy Scouts? Caretakers on site now continue to offer security and maintain--Some repairs needed--potential for petting zoo? Volunteer opportunities to work with at-risk kids.
Receive funds from the lottery
What about personal and business financial donations?
Can Metro partner with businesses and corporations to preserve forest preservation? Local and national corporations give millions of dollars each year to good causes such as this.
Buy easements to stretch the dollar out.
If the City of Happy Valley can integrate their development plans to assist Metro with the necessary infrastructure, that would assist in reaching the goals.
The North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District now serves this entire area (Rock Creek canyon...between the Clackamas River and SE 172nd Avenue). They'd be a logical partner.
A partnership with the city of Gresham looking to local businesses.
Partner with North Clackamas Parks and Recreation and the City of Happy Valley to purchase Scouter's Mountain.
Metro should partner with Happy Valley and NCPRD to try to save as much of Scouters Mountain as possible.
Partnership with the other interested revenue sources: The Cities located in the area adjacent to the location: the Clackamas County government, the N. Clackamas Parks and Recreation District, the Nature Conservancy. Any potential Federal funding sources. A funding measure targeting to the voters for this specific vicinity.
Banning access to the north face of Mt Talbert is not a very good way to enhance or promote a natural habitat area. I was recently up on Mt Talbert and noticed that they had cut off access to the north side and a large trail area that enhances the size and beauty of the mountain.
The partners that I originally formed as Mayor of Happy Valley have long been forgotten at Metro, as, sadly, their original promises. We had hoped for better joint funding with Clackamas Parks, but they reprioritized their wishes via political interests elsewhere...we could have had the whole Scouters Mountain for under \$5 million back then, but was not a big enough city to carry the full load.
Metro has an opportunity to partner with the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District, City of Happy Valley and Boy Scouts of America for preservation of the Scouters Mt. area.
Metro should work with the Boy Scouts of America, the City of Happy Valley and Clackamas County Recreation District to acquire 75-100 acres of Scouter's Mountain. The area is rapidly urbanizing on lands around the base of the mountain. It should be a key priority as land on and around the mountain is becoming highly desirable for housing and expensive to purchase. Other public groups would be interested in helping preserve Scouter's Mountain and the old Chief Obie Lodge on top.
Enhance and improve local neighborhood parks.
You have to forge a close working relationship with Damascus, the local watershed councils, and Gresham. Some sort of "Buttes Conservancy" should be established that helps integrate conservation programs. Metro tends to operate in its own universe too often.
Work with the Nature Conservancy and assorted land trusts if not already doing so.

**5. Do you have any other comments about this target area? If so, please specify.**

Scouters Mountain needs to be saved for kids and wildlife habitat! Potential income from events that could be held there.
If and where you already have land, I support adding to it, and creating a "mass" of space to create a larger long term impact. The areas that are rapidly developing need to be addressed, so you're not trying to recreate untouched areas...specifically in Happy Valley where the development seems to be on fast forward.
No mention of trying to maintain local small farms which also assist in wildlife migration and habitat.

Please save as much of Scouter's Mountain as possible. Many deer have been displaced and killed due to the loss of habitat to the quickly developing areas surrounding it. We want to see them survive. Also, Scouter's Mountain is a wonderful place for people to enjoy light recreation. Save the lodge too! It's beautiful in itself and has a larger than life breathtaking view of Mt. Hood.

This is the last/best chance to plan a new city with a complete greenbelt - including small farms. Be creative and stretch the dollars.

I urge you to purchase all of the Scouters Mountain. Please purchase as much of the property on the north side of Mt. Talbert. It is important for the health of Mt. Scott Creek.

I am a non-resident owner of property that will be affected and have no knowledge of the other areas referenced.

More public access. Park located on Johnson Creek or Kelly Creek. Somewhere South Gresham can use.

Scouter's Mountain is a rare opportunity to purchase land in the Metro area, the Boy Scouts are willing sellers, in the hands of one owner and it is a pristine property on the edge of growth. We were told the goal was to acquire 70-90 acres of this property for open space and it has been lumped in with East Buttes where it is not very distinguishable.

I wholeheartedly agree with and support the following comments regarding Scouter's Mountain: "Scouter's Mountain is the key "hub" to all the SE "green areas", and has to be preserved to insure connectivity for both human hiking activity and wildlife migration. From Scouters Mountain heading north is the wheel spoke to the Miller Creek purchase (162nd & Clatsop) already completed by Metro, which starts the connected of the riparian areas all the way down to Johnson Creek, and the Spring Water Corridor. To the NE is the power and gas line easements that make the connection to Butler Butte/Gresham. To the east/south-east is the drainage going down into Pleasant Valley and the Rock Creek Riparian system. To the South is the beginning of Sebian Creek riparian area down to the Clackamas River. To the SW is the spoke through the open spaces, that run between the developments going towards Spring Mountain. To the west is the spoke to the Wetlands behind the grade school, city park, and the Mt Scott Creek Riparian areas, including connections later down stream to the Happy Valley Nature Park, and Mt. Talbert. Another key connection that keeps getting forgotten is from the Happy Valley Nature Park on the SE of slopes Mt Scott, and once was identified as a regional significant trail corridor that crested over Idleman, just west of Mt Scott Lane, and headed into both cemeteries...the riparian area going North/NE through Willamette National Cemetery connects to the already Metro purchased Elcoa/old Girl Campfire site. This Metro site just off of SE Flavel, and 124th makes a connection via a riparian area down to the covered bridge at SE 132ND/Deardorff Road. From the cover bridge is a old wagon road that connects upstream to the Metro purchased..."Bundy Park" at the end of SE 141st. If one walks north on 141st, then one can cross Foster Road, and quickly be on the Spring Water Corridor at the base of Powell Butte. This route made the significant connection of allowing on to hike from Powell Butte to Mt Scott, then to Mt Talbert. If one was then tried of the all the ups and downs, then one could return via the flatter I-205 bike route to the Spring Water Trail, and back to the beginning. This was a very significant hike with some great views."

The Happy Valley voters supported the Metro Bond under the assumption that a portion of Scouters Mountain would be saved (70-90 acres). We hope that Metro continues to work with the Boy Scouts in conjunction with the new developer to continue with the proposed plan.

All the protected areas should not be on butte alone.

As I testified before the Metro Council when they were still located on Front Ave, and considering the "Green Spaces Program"... "We don't inherit this land from our forefathers, but we borrow it from our children, the work we do today is just one of the loan payments." In reference below...already gave a easement for a riparian zone to the city on past property that I once lived on.

Scouter's Mountain is accessible via trails and roads built for the Boy Scouts of America. The BSA land is adjacent to a pioneer cemetery that holds the remains of the founding members of the City of Happy Valley. The trails, roads and old cemetery should be maintained. The headwaters of Mitchell Creek area on the eastern flank of the mountain and this water corridor should be preserved to connect with other scenic and outdoor areas between the Eastern Buttes.

Direction and focus to acquire land for the elite is misguided and overly cost burdensome for the well to do.

You won't be able to buy enough, so a parallel effort needs to be made to work with local land trusts and private landowners who wish to continue to own and manage their land. They need to be offered technical support and incentives in exchange for progressive management practices, including selective timber harvesting and sustainable farming.

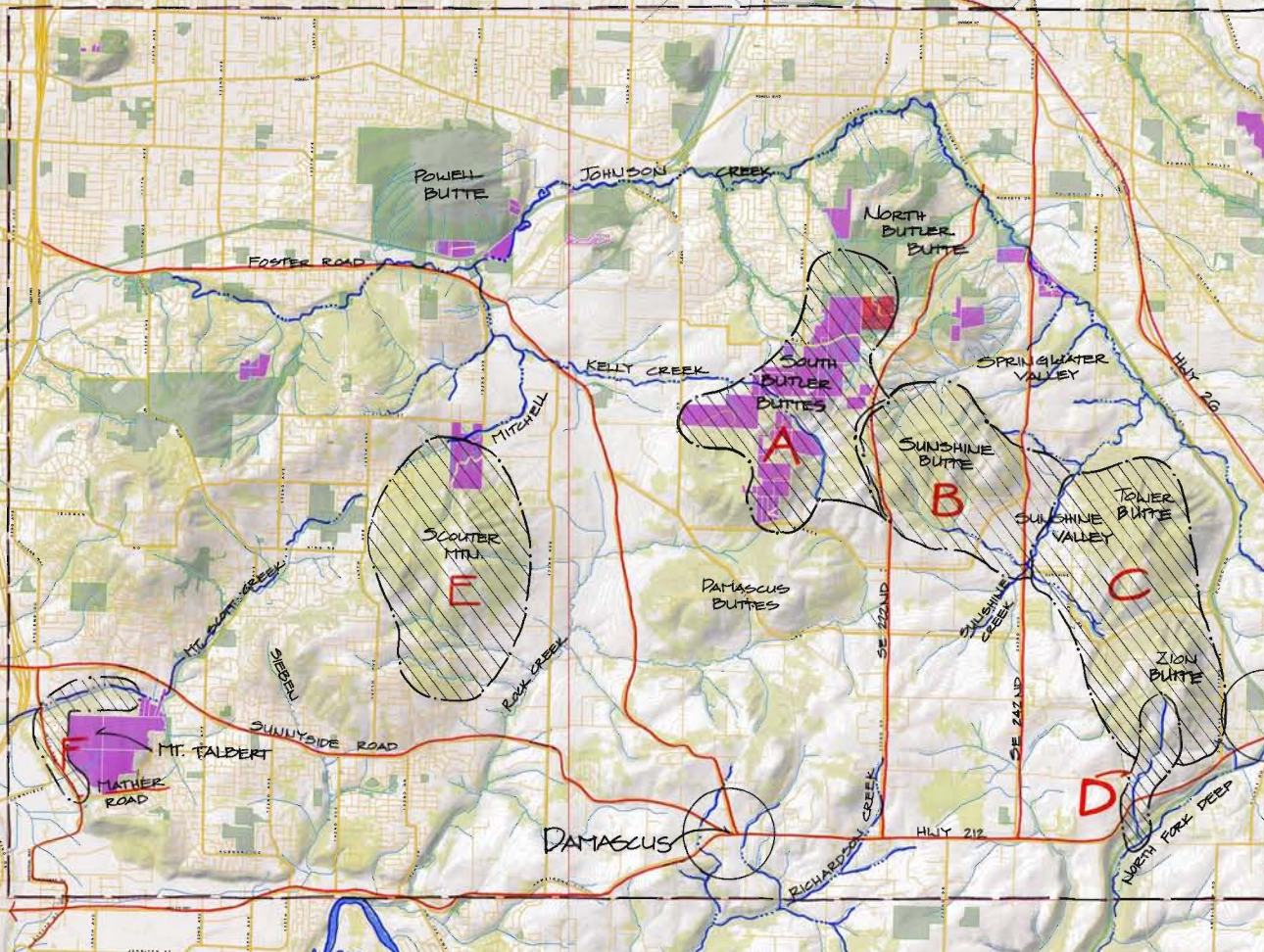
On behalf of the Native Plant Society Of Oregon, Portland Chapter, I urge you to purchase the site on Kelly Butte that contains the population of *Erythronium oregana*, the Oregon Fawn lily. As you may be aware, Portland once had an abundant and diverse native flora community. We now have an opportunity to save the last remnant, but significant population of the beautiful Oregon Fawn Lily. It would be a shame to lose the largest population in Portland of a Fawn Lily named after our state. This opportunity to preserve this natural treasure should not be missed.

**NATURE**  
NEXT DOOR

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

2006 Natural Areas Program  
East Buttes (Portland/Clackamas)  
Target Area

Target Area	Major Route
Wild Area	Local Road
Major Road of Area	County Road
1000 Feet	500 Feet
2000 Feet	Water
Public Land	Streams
	Major Dike



# METRO COUNCIL

## Work Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: **August 7, 2007**

Time:

Length:

Presentation Title: **Johnson Creek and Watershed**

Department: **Metro Parks and Greenspaces**

Presenters: **Jim Desmond and Kathleen Brennan-Hunter**

### ISSUE & BACKGROUND

The Johnson Creek watershed is a key drainage in the City of Portland. Tens of thousands of people live within the Johnson Creek watershed, and there has been a significant investment of public funds in the acquisition and restoration of lands in this watershed, including the recent Metro acquisition of the Clatsop Butte property. The Springwater trail brings recreational users along the creek, allowing the public to experience the creek and its natural areas. This was not a specific target area in 1995 and so there was no acreage goal for Johnson Creek in the 1995 bond. However, many acres were acquired in what is now the designated Johnson Creek and Watershed target area, primarily as part of the 1995 East Buttes target area.

The 2006 Natural Areas bond measure stated:

Johnson Creek remains the most densely urbanized creek in our region. Opportunities remain to acquire tracts within the remaining floodplain, upland habitat areas adjacent to the main stem, and along both Butler and Kelly creeks to protect water quality and connect public holdings with the Damascus Buttes.

Scientific findings suggest that headwaters areas are important targets for maintaining watershed habitat health and for protecting water quality.

Since the April and May work sessions more information has become available about the Johnson Creek and Watershed target area as a result of stakeholder input and public open houses. We are presenting a preliminary synthesis of proposed acquisition priorities to receive direction on policy issues prior to completing a refinement plan for this target area.

### OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Important upland forest habitat and tributary streams still remain in the Clatsop Butte area. This area contains the last remaining large tracts of mature native forest adjacent to the creek and is an important tributary water source that currently benefits the creek but could easily, through poor development practice, aggravate water quality problems in the creek and flooding issues in the Lents area immediately downstream. (Map area A)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Properties in the urban headwaters areas are likely to be very expensive and difficult to acquire.</li><li>• Key stakeholders have high expectations for the number of acres they would like to see purchased in specific parts of the watershed with this bond measure.</li></ul>

Opportunities	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Headwaters and tributary creek protection is important especially for major tributary creeks such as Crystal Springs Creek, Errol Creek, Butler Creek, Kelly Creek, Badger Creek, and Sunshine Creek. The mix of small tributaries and uplands is important for sustaining water quality within the creek (particularly temperature) and preserving water quality in the overall watershed. Forested sections of these creek corridors are also important for controlling temperature and stream siltation. (Map area B)</li> <li>• Smaller, more isolated sites are valuable for wildlife habitat and water quality contributions to the Johnson Creek Watershed. These areas include Crystal Springs and Reed College Canyon, areas surrounding Tideman Johnson Park, Errol Heights, Kelly Butte and the Willamette River confluence. (Map area C)</li> <li>• Completing the connections of the publicly-owned properties along the mainstem of Johnson Creek/Springwater Trail within Gresham between Powell Butte and the Springwater area is important, primarily to protect the mainstem of the creek, the integrity of the riparian areas, and to protect the habitat and potential human connections between the parcels already purchased in this area. (Map area D)</li> <li>• The wildlife corridors and opportunities for trail connections within the recently planned Pleasant Valley area and along Kelly Creek are experiencing increasing development pressure. The Springwater area is at greater risk given the presence of high quality existing habitat. (Map area E)</li> <li>• Work with private landowners to explore opportunities for conservation easements and water quality protection strategies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>

## **SURVEY RESULTS**

In June, Metro hosted eight open houses throughout the region and a virtual open house on the Metro website. A total of 527 people attended the regional open houses. More than 700 surveys were submitted either in person or online. The online open house had 6,363 visits from 3,419 unique visitors. 96 people completed the Johnson Creek and Watershed survey. Additional commentary was provided orally at the open house, most of which was consistent with the written responses. In rank order, the public priorities were:

1. *Map area A* – Protect headwater areas in the area around Powell Butte and Clatsop Butte, east of I-205, and west of SE 182nd Avenue to benefit water quality and wildlife habitat.

2. *Map area B* – Protect lands along the important tributaries of Johnson Creek from Gresham to Boring including Butler Creek, Badger Creek and Sunshine Creek for water quality benefits (this area is located in east Gresham and includes the Springwater Plan area).
3. *Map area D* – Protect remaining gaps along the main stem of Johnson Creek and the Springwater Corridor from Powell Butte eastward to Gresham.
4. *Map area E* – Protect the wildlife corridors and securing trail connections within the recently planned Pleasant Valley area and along Kelly Creek.
5. *Map area C* – Protect important smaller and more isolated sites along Crystal Springs and Reed College Canyon, areas surrounding Tideman Johnson Park, Errol Heights, on Kelly Butte and at the Willamette River confluence.

Respondents also rated protecting wildlife corridors and habitat connections to other natural areas highly. Providing public access and wildlife watching opportunities scored lower among respondents.

Complete survey results are attached.

## **IMPLICATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

The proposed prioritization is based on information gathered from several sources including the research that preceded the 2006 Natural Areas Ballot Measure, the bond measure language that voters approved, best scientific information available, input from knowledgeable regional experts and stakeholders, and public survey feedback. Initial estimates are that a minimum of 200 acres of land would be protected within this target area.

### *Tier I Objectives*

- Secure the upland forest habitat and tributary streams in the Clatsop Butte area immediately south of Johnson Creek, east of I-205, and west of SE 162<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. (Map area A)
- Protect lands along the important tributaries of Johnson Creek from Gresham to Boring including Butler Creek, Badger Creek, Johnson Creek Reaches 16 & 17, and Sunshine Creek for water quality benefits. (Map area B)

### *Tier II Objectives*

- In partnership with the City of Portland, secure key parcels adjacent to existing publicly protected resource areas including smaller and more isolated sites around Crystal Springs and Reed College Canyon, areas surrounding Tideman Johnson Park, Errol Heights, Kelly Butte and the Willamette River confluence. (Map area C)
- Complete the connection of remaining gaps along the main stem of Johnson Creek and the Springwater Corridor from Powell Butte eastward to Gresham. (Map area D)
- Protect the wildlife corridors and secure trail connections within the recently planned Pleasant Valley area and along Kelly Creek. (Map area E)

### *Partnership Objectives*

- Pursue partnership opportunities with the City of Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services and Parks and Recreation, City of Gresham, City of Milwaukie, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Clackamas and Multnomah Counties, and the Johnson Creek Watershed Council to leverage the regional investment in the Johnson Creek and Watershed target area.
- Work with private landowners to explore opportunities for conservation easements and water quality protection strategies.

## **QUESTION(S) PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION**

- Does Metro Council agree with these priorities?

**LEGISLATION WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR COUNCIL ACTION**     Yes     No

**DRAFT IS ATTACHED**     Yes     No\*

\* Complete Refinement Plans will be submitted to Metro Council in September 2007.

**SCHEDULE FOR WORK SESSION**

Department Director/Head Approval \_\_\_\_\_

Chief Operating Officer Approval \_\_\_\_\_



## Johnson Creek and Watershed Survey Results

- The following priorities were identified in the Johnson Creek and Watershed target area based on scientific information about benefits to water quality, habitat diversity, wildlife connectivity and/or restoration potential and from information provided by key stakeholders in the area. Rank in order of importance to you.

	most important				least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Protecting headwater areas in the area around Powell Butte and Clatsop Butte, east of I-205, and west of SE 182nd Ave. to benefit water quality and wildlife habitat. (Map area A)	76.4% (68)	7.9% (7)	7.9% (7)	3.4% (3)	4.5% (4)	1.52	89
Protecting lands along the important tributaries of Johnson Creek from Gresham to Boring including Butler Creek, Badger Creek and Sunshine Creek for water quality benefits (this area is located in east Gresham and includes the Springwater Plan area). (Map area B)	13.0% (7)	38.9% (21)	24.1% (13)	11.1% (6)	13.0% (7)	2.72	54
Protecting important smaller and more isolated sites along Crystal Springs and Reed College Canyon, areas surrounding Tideman Johnson Park, Errol Heights, on Kelly Butte and at the Willamette River confluence. (Map area C)	15.8% (9)	10.5% (6)	24.6% (14)	12.3% (7)	36.8% (21)	3.44	57
Protecting remaining gaps along the main stem of Johnson Creek and the Springwater Corridor from Powell Butte eastward to Gresham. (Map area D)	10.7% (6)	28.6% (16)	14.3% (8)	33.9% (19)	12.5% (7)	3.09	56
Protecting the wildlife corridors and securing trail connections within the recently planned Pleasant Valley area and along Kelly Creek. (Map area E)	4.5% (3)	27.3% (18)	22.7% (15)	27.3% (18)	18.2% (12)	3.27	66
	<i>answered question</i>						94
	<i>skipped question</i>						2

**2. In general, what should be emphasized in the Johnson Creek and Watershed target area?  
Rank in order of importance to you.**

	most important				least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Protecting fish and aquatic habitats including land along the creek and its tributaries.	17.6% (16)	16.5% (15)	<b>35.2% (32)</b>	14.3% (13)	16.5% (15)	2.96	91
Protecting wildlife corridors and habitat connections to other natural areas.	<b>43.6% (41)</b>	17.0% (16)	14.9% (14)	17.0% (16)	7.4% (7)	2.28	94
Preserving high quality wildlife habitat that remains in the area.	11.8% (11)	<b>44.1% (41)</b>	21.5% (20)	17.2% (16)	5.4% (5)	2.60	93
Protecting headwater areas for water quality benefits.	22.2% (20)	16.7% (15)	26.7% (24)	<b>30.0% (27)</b>	4.4% (4)	2.78	90
Providing public access and wildlife watching opportunities.	7.6% (7)	6.5% (6)	2.2% (2)	20.7% (19)	<b>63.0% (58)</b>	4.25	92
	<i>answered question</i>						<b>95</b>
	<i>skipped question</i>						<b>1</b>

**3. Are there other priorities that the Metro Council should consider in the Johnson Creek and Watershed target area? Please be specific.**

<p>I consider all of the above so important, that it was hard to rank them. I ranked them based on urgency, as much as anything. Acquiring and restoring more areas in the flood plain -- to minimize flooding on the main stem. Also acquire property on the buttes closest to the creek, so the runoff from these buttes doesn't increase the flood danger. The headwaters of all these tributaries will be valuable/productive (especially for fish), only if the fish are able to make it through the main stem of the creek.</p>
<p>The private land on Kelly Butte contains unique species that contribute to the diversity and botany of the Metropolitan area. The Erythronium oregonum and the Populus tremuloides populations on Kelly Butte are uncommon species that deserve to be protected from destruction. Keeping Kelly Butte on the Greenspace priority list is critical to preserving these populations. Acquisition of the remaining open space land will complete the public ownership of this important wildlife habitat area.</p>
<p>The SE side of Kelly Butte has a population of thousands of plants of Erythronium oregonum, a wild fawn lily, and although this plant is not "rare", even with us, this is probably the largest population in our area. I have had the pleasure of observing the plants for at least 45 years and their numbers have been quite stable (appearing), the encroachment of ivy notwithstanding. The city would be poorer place to live if we do not preserve these plants and their habitat.</p>
<p>Please consider repaving the ailing sections of the Springwater Trail between 45th and 82nd avenue, and again from 92nd to Gresham. It's badly worn.</p>
<p>Springwater Corridor Trail is main access to seeing Johnson Creek. Leverage the existing investment by securing a few more trailheads for those who don't live along the trail. Some trailhead sites could also include land on creek and any site could demonstrate good stormwater management. See whether any more property can be secured for flood abatement/natural resource enhancement in Lents.</p>
<p>Protecting and adding areas that add to the urban forest canopy, protecting ESRA areas in the outer watershed (like Springwater and Pleasant Valley) from development. <i>Staff note: 44 surveys included detailed address and tax lot number information not detailed here (Clatsop Buttes property acquired by Metro July 13, 2007).</i></p>
<p>Providing public access to the watershed. Specifically I would like to see a trailhead developed on the west side of Powell Butte, at the Old Holgate Trail.</p>

1) Flooding - reducing paved area in J.Ck headwaters 2) Slope stability - acquire some land on the steepest hillside above J.Ck.

More emphasis on the acquisition and preservation of watershed land east of Gresham and including the Springwater Neighborhood.

The priority should be raising public awareness of Johnson Creek, so land should be acquired and small interpretive parks developed at the major street crossings. Nothing would do more to protect and enhance the Johnson Creek Watershed for multiple purposes. The key crossings are Johnson Creek Blvd., 82nd, 92nd, 122nd, 181st, etc.. The land acquisitions could be prioritized by the number of cars crossing the creek per day. Raising awareness is the best way to arrive at natural area protection. How many people know they have crossed the creek on 82nd??

Kelly Creek Mainstem Johnson Creek Mainstem Reach 16 & 17 Portland East Buttes

Removal of encroaching blackberry bushes.

Try leaning on Portland Parks and Recreation to follow and implement the Westmoreland Park Masterplan!

Acquisition of lands south of Powell Butte in the vicinity of Johnson Creek. This is a desirable residential area, but would benefit existing local neighborhoods for increased passive park acreage.

Non-point surface water pollution, sediments, etc. unpaved streets without storm water management or mitigation. increased traffic on SE Foster Road due to Damascus/Boring/Pleasant Valley urbanization without any mitigation

**4. Do you have suggestions about partnerships Metro should pursue or other innovative ways to leverage regional funding and enhance this natural area? If so, please specify.**

Develop partnerships with ODOT and Tri-Met (and others, like Friends of Trees) to add vegetation along the I-205 bike path and the light rail to Clackamas (under construction) -- to provide at least a minimal wildlife corridor (for birds, if nothing else) between the Columbia River/Columbia Slough and Johnson Creek.

Possibly investigate riparian easements or some way to do more planting on banks for erosion prevention and shade.

Work with business in the watershed that have a commitment to the community in which they operate to help fund projects. Work with the existing neighborhood associations to formulate plans.

Sell these parcels as stocks, not property...in small increments. Or offer them as environmental investments/sustainability to larger businesses

Use lottery Funds.

In developing access to Powell Butte, partner with Parks and Rec. Dept., and or Portland Water Bureau.

Consider land/trust partnerships. *Staff note: this suggestion was made by 14 survey respondents.*

Federal watershed grants.

National Dark Sky Association

Uncertain - There are many areas upstream and downstream from these properties that are being (or have been) rehabilitated.

I think highway money should be used in combination with parks money.

Nature Conservancy

Try getting the real human communities (as opposed to the jurisdictional bureaucracies) interested and involved in their resource heritage.

Work/fund co-projects with Friends of Trees for habitat restoration.

Lobby the governor and legislature to fulfill the mandate of BM 66 -- purchase of critical lands for watershed protection, natural area public access with lottery funds vs. past practice of using funds for natural resource agency budget backfill -- more federal funds for protection vs. nearly-exclusive emphasis on mega-transportation initiatives like (I-5) bridge corridor -- why can't Clackamas & Washington county gov't make a contribution -- totally inadequate planning or acquisition or maintenance for recreation despite huge population growth, including unincorporated areas?

**5. Do you have any other comments about this target area? If so, please specify.**

There are several large parcels of land on the buttes closest to Johnson Creek that are threatened with development THIS YEAR, especially on Clatsop Butte. Are Mt Tabor and Rocky Butte considered part of the East Buttes? These, combined with Kelly Butte are important wildlife nodes that help wildlife (at least birds) travel between the Columbia River/Columbia Slough and Johnson Creek. Look into acquisitions adjacent to Leach Botanical Garden (especially the parcel along 122nd Ave at the top of the bluff, next to where the park entrance is to be re-located. This would expand an important node. It would be great if a wildlife corridor could be created/preserved, eventually, between the Leach property and the Brookside flood plain property downstream. I agree that the views from sections of Regner Road should be preserved. As a child growing up south of Gresham (at the headwaters of Heiney Creek, a tiny tributary to Johnson Creek), our school bus turned around every morning at the Onchi farm which was located at the county line -- so I enjoyed the fabulous view of Mt Hood on a daily basis! I'd like to see additional property acquired in the Errol Heights area, if at all possible -- and improved access for residents of that much-neglected area.

Some of your original priorities are not really either/or choices; they may work together or they may be "and" choices: both the headwaters and downstream are probably necessary to maintain aquatic habitat; improving the aquatic habitats also requires the margins of the streams be improved, thus benefiting the flora and fauna they're inhabiting.

Some of the buildings and roadways along Crystal Springs are way too close to creek. Make special efforts, even where very expensive, to secure some of that land and remove buildings. This creek has excellent cold water and offers excellent possibility for urban residents to see salmon return to streams.

Building more homes in these areas would be harmful to native plants and indigenous wildlife in the area. Preservation now instead of cleaning up after the fact would be more beneficial to the environment and natural habitat.

In the Boring Lava Dome Study, they have outlined the importance of this parcel of land. It is an intact forest. I support many organizations who protect environment. Thank you for listening to the input from citizens. I don't live in this area, but I have enjoyed the Johnson Creek and Watershed for hiking and biking.

Maybe I'd sell. All I have is my single home with 1/4 acre lot on greenspace.

Please refer to the Boring Lava Dome study. *Staff note: this suggestion was made by 15 survey respondents.*

Pileated woodpecker habitat, salmon water quality issues.

Yes - another consideration of mine is to also protect our disappearing dark skies. Light pollution is a consideration. Our night sky is disappearing - street lights from developments obliterate the night sky.

We're glad you're considering it!

Please save our salmon, and Pilliated Woodpeckers

The development that has already gone on has caused drainage problems due to the slope of the hillsides above target area. High density development is not optimum for this area.

This area needs to be protected from increases housing density which will create water runoff problems and flooding if developed.

Focus on increasing awareness.

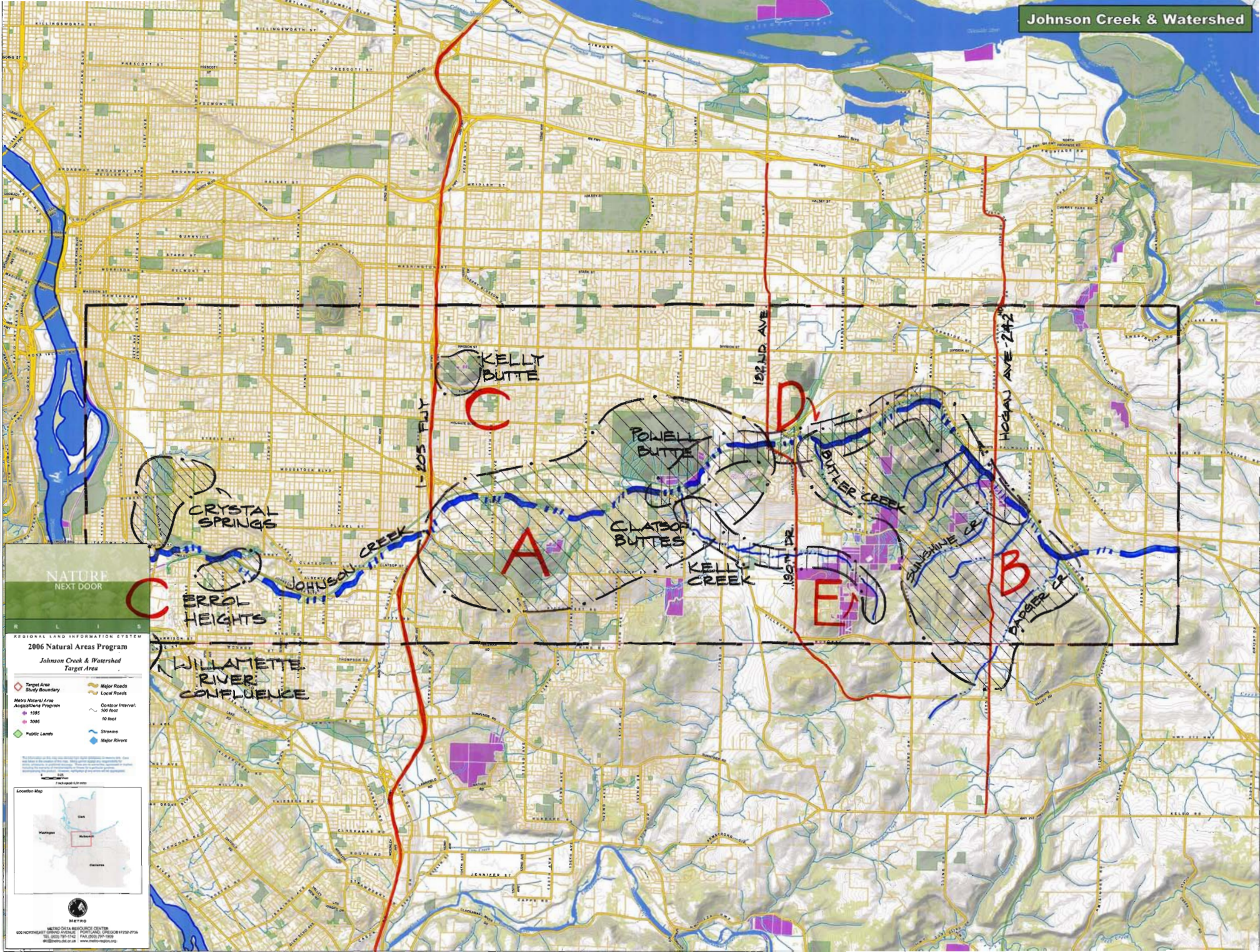
Building houses in this area is counter to protecting the water purity that is becoming ever so much more important in our world.

The more urbanized zones should be given the highest priority for acquisition.

Save Kelly Butte's Erythronium's: Kelly Butte harbors a population of (perhaps tens of) thousands of Erythronium oregonum plants, whose large size is almost certainly unique in our area. If this property is not currently in public ownership, Metro should acquire it, so future generations can enjoy these plants for longer than the 45 years I have visited them.

I urge you to continue to protect Kelly Butte from development. KB is home to a unique set of urban plants, including Erythronium oregonum. I heavily value the remaining natural areas within the city. I encourage you to purchase any private land surrounding KB, especially land that is home to the currently healthy population of Erythronium oregonum. I would consider purchase of such land to be a wise use of Metro's bond measure funds. Thank you.

I tried to send a plea to purchase private land on Kelly Butte and extend the greenspace, but the web site says my feedback contained a forbidden character. I'll try again with this. Please! Thanks.



**CRYSTAL SPRINGS**

**ERROL HEIGHTS**

**JOHNSON CREEK**

**WILLAMETTE RIVER CONFLUENCE**

**KELLY BUTTE**

**POWELL BUTTE**

**CLATSOP BUTTES**

**KELLY CREEK**

**BUTLER CREEK**

**SUNSHINE CR**

**DIABLO CR**

**I-205 FWY**

**I-505 DR**

**ISLAND AVE**

**HOGAN AVE 242**

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

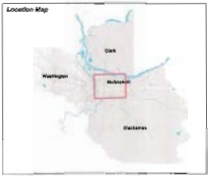
**E**

NATURE NEXT DOOR

2006 Natural Areas Program

Johnson Creek & Watershed Target Area

- Target Area Study Boundary
- Major Roads
- Local Roads
- Contour Interval: 100 foot
- 1985 10 foot
- 2006
- Public Lands
- Streams
- Major Rivers



# METRO COUNCIL

## Work Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: **August 14, 2007**

Time:

Length:

Presentation Title: **Wapato Lake**

Department: **Metro Parks and Greenspaces**

Presenters: **Jim Desmond and Kathleen Brennan-Hunter**

### ISSUE & BACKGROUND

Wapato Lake is an ancient lakebed that historically supported large numbers of waterfowl, including tundra swans. This flood-prone bottomland of the Tualatin River was approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for acquisition and development as a future National Wildlife Refuge that will connect to existing public lands to the north (such as Metro's Gales Creek Natural Area) located near Forest Grove and Hillsboro and attract tourists to Washington County. Much of the ancient lakebed is in agricultural use for at least part of the year. Generally, there is excitement in the surrounding communities for the natural resource and economic development potential of the new refuge unit, though agricultural interests are concerned about direct and indirect impacts to productive farmland.

The 2006 Natural Areas bond measure stated:

This ancient lakebed historically supported large numbers of waterfowl, including tundra swans. This flood-prone bottomland of the Tualatin River is being considered as a future wildlife refuge that will connect to existing public lands to the north located near Forest Grove and Hillsboro and attract tourists to Washington County. The area has the highest potential for protecting wildlife habitat and water quality in this part of the region, and also offers significant restoration opportunities.

The acquisition plan for this area will address Metro Council Resolution No. 06-3727, which included a commitment to keeping productive agricultural land in farm use and encouraging the use of conservation easements in agricultural areas.

Science assessment work conducted by the Oregon Natural Heritage Program in April 2007 placed high value on the Wapato target area. An excerpt from their report discussed the target area in this way:

The Wapato lakebed and the Tualatin River floodplain north of the Wapato Lake water control structures contain significant remnant stands of riparian forest and organic muck soils of the former Wapato lakebed. These provide a major opportunity to restore more riparian forest and floodplain wetlands as is being done downstream along the Tualatin River. These habitats have had large losses in the Willamette Valley and many species of conservation concern depend on them. Restoration of wetlands on the Wapato lakebed would be a significant opportunity to restore a rare ecosystem. Of equal importance is the fact that the Wapato-Tualatin area of focus forms a continuous strip along the entire floodplain of the Tualatin River, connecting to the conservation sites downriver and forming an important corridor along the entire floodplain. If USFWS carries through with its goals for the Wapato lakebed, Metro should focus its attention on the Tualatin bottomlands north of Gaston Road.

Since the April and May work sessions more information has become available about the Wapato Lake target area related to stakeholder input and public open houses, and we are coming to Council now to see if we are on the right track with proposed acquisition priorities and to receive direction on policy issues prior to completing draft refinement plans.

## **OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES**

<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection of bottomland and riparian areas along the Tualatin River, south from Fernhill Wetlands complex to Gaston Road, including the northern basin of Wapato Lake, could create an uninterrupted and significant habitat area.</li> <li>• Protection of riparian/floodplain corridor along Gales Creek from its confluence with Tualatin River northward to Ritchey Road for wildlife connection, floodplain management and passive recreation.</li> <li>• Support U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s acquisitions of Wapato Lake properties south of Gaston Road.</li> <li>• Develop connections to Chehalem Ridge from Wapato Lake to protect wildlife corridors and water quality, as identified in the Chehalem Ridge Target Area objectives.</li> <li>• Explore partnership opportunities with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, City of Forest Grove, Clean Water Services, Tualatin River Watershed Council, Tualatin Riverkeepers, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Joint Water Commission to leverage regional dollars targeted to Fernhill Wetlands/Gales Creek area.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuing to improve on the emerging cooperative relationship with the Washington County Farm Bureau, which is concerned about farmland being converted from active agricultural uses to wetland habitat.</li> <li>• Size of Wapato Lake (4,300 acres) combined with Gales Creek is great – will need to focus areas for Metro involvement.</li> <li>• Main interpretive site for the Wapato Lake wildlife refuge has not been identified and could affect the need and location of access points and trail connections with minimal impacts to agricultural uses.</li> <li>• Forest Grove is in the midst of trail and park planning that could affect future connections to Gales Creek and the north end of Wapato Lake.</li> </ul>

## **SURVEY RESULTS**

In June, Metro hosted eight open houses throughout the region and a virtual open house on the Metro website. A total of 527 people attended the regional open houses. More than 700 surveys were submitted either in person or online. The online open house had 6,363 visits from 3,419 unique visitors. 28 people completed surveys for Wapato Lake. In rank order, the public priorities matched the order they appear on the map areas:

- *Map area C* – Protect lands along Gales Creek, including the floodplain, from its confluence with the Tualatin River north to Ritchey Road for wildlife connections, flood management, and future recreation opportunities.
- *Map area A* – Protect bottomland and lands along the Tualatin River south from the Fernhill Wetlands area to Gaston, including the northern basin of Wapato Lake, which is the northern portion of the wildlife refuge area designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- *Map area B* – Seek connections to the Chehalem Mountains to protect wildlife corridors and water quality, as identified in the Chehalem Ridgetop target area objectives.
- *Map area D* – Support the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s acquisitions of Wapato Lake properties south of Gaston Road in the southern portion of the wildlife refuge area designated by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Complete survey results are attached.

## **IMPLICATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

The proposed prioritization is based on information gathered from several sources including the research that preceded the 2006 Natural Areas Ballot Measure, the bond measure language that voters approved, best scientific information available, input from knowledgeable regional experts and stakeholders, and public survey feedback. Initial estimates are that a minimum of 400 acres of land would be protected within this target area.

With the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service actively contacting landowners and working to acquire lands in the area south of Gaston, Natural Areas bond funds should be used to complement those efforts. A focus on the area between the Fernhill Wetlands and Gaston provides the best opportunity to achieve significant habitat protection and leverage federal dollars being spent to acquire lands to the south. Acquisition of lands in the riparian area along Gales Creek will support the 1995 investment there and will provide additional restoration opportunities.

### *Tier I Objective*

- Protect bottomland and lands along the Tualatin River south from the Fernhill Wetlands area to Gaston, including the northern basin of Wapato Lake, which is the northern portion of the wildlife refuge area designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. (Map area A)

### *Tier II Objective*

- Protect lands along Gales Creek, including the floodplain, from its confluence with the Tualatin River north to Ritchey Road for wildlife connections, flood management, and future recreation opportunities. (Map area C)

### *Partnership Objectives*

- Support the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's land acquisition efforts in the Wapato Lake area.
- Explore partnership opportunities with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, City of Forest Grove, Clean Water Services, Tualatin River Watershed Council, Tualatin Riverkeepers, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Joint Water Commission to leverage regional dollars targeted to Fernhill Wetlands/Gales Creek area.

## **QUESTION(S) PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION**

- How do we balance the Farm Bureau's interests with those of local property owners, local jurisdictions and other stakeholders?

**LEGISLATION WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR COUNCIL ACTION**     Yes     No

**DRAFT IS ATTACHED**     Yes     No\*

\* Complete Refinement Plans will be submitted to Metro Council in September 2007.

## **SCHEDULE FOR WORK SESSION**

Department Director/Head Approval \_\_\_\_\_

Chief Operating Officer Approval \_\_\_\_\_



## Wapato Lake Survey Results

1. The following priorities were identified in the Wapato Lake target area based on scientific information about benefits to water quality, habitat diversity, wildlife connectivity and/or restoration potential and from information provided by key stakeholders in the area. Rank in order of importance to you.

	most important			least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Protecting bottomland and lands along the Tualatin River south from the Fernhill Wetlands area to Gaston, including the northern basin of Wapato Lake, which is the northern portion of the wildlife refuge area designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. (Map area A)	23.1% (6)	38.5% (10)	38.5% (10)	0.0% (0)	2.15	26
Seeking connections to the Chehalem Mountains to protect wildlife corridors and water quality, as identified in the Chehalem Ridgetop target area objectives. (Map area B)	11.5% (3)	46.2% (12)	15.4% (4)	26.9% (7)	2.58	26
Protecting lands along Gales Creek, including the floodplain, from its confluence with the Tualatin River north to Ritchey Road for wildlife connections, flood management, and future recreation opportunities. (Map area C)	53.8% (14)	7.7% (2)	23.1% (6)	15.4% (4)	2.00	26
Supporting the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's acquisitions of Wapato Lake properties south of Gaston Road in the southern portion of the wildlife refuge area designated by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. (Map area D)	11.5% (3)	7.7% (2)	23.1% (6)	57.7% (15)	3.27	26
	<i>answered question</i>					27
	<i>skipped question</i>					1

**2. In general, what should be emphasized in the Wapato Lake target area? Rank in order of importance to you.**

	most important				least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Preserving land along the Tualatin River and Gales Creek including their associated wetlands to protect water quality and wildlife habitat.	65.4% (17)	7.7% (2)	7.7% (2)	11.5% (3)	7.7% (2)	1.88	26
Protecting the floodplains along the Tualatin River and Gales Creek for future wetland enhancement potential.	8.0% (2)	64.0% (16)	20.0% (5)	4.0% (1)	4.0% (1)	2.32	25
Establishing the Wapato Refuge and connecting it to the Tualatin River Wildlife Refuge.	16.0% (4)	12.0% (3)	20.0% (5)	12.0% (3)	40.0% (10)	3.48	25
Providing a natural buffer between urban development and farmland in the area.	0.0% (0)	16.0% (4)	44.0% (11)	24.0% (6)	16.0% (4)	3.40	25
Providing access to nature for people in the future, particularly opportunities for wildlife watching and environmental education.	11.5% (3)	0.0% (0)	7.7% (2)	46.2% (12)	34.6% (9)	3.92	26
	<i>answered question</i>						27
	<i>skipped question</i>						1

**3. Are there other priorities that the Metro Council should consider in this target area? If so, please specify.**

Work to reduce or eliminate trespassing on private land.
It appears that there may be more important opportunities for lands along stream and river corridors that have already been identified as important resources to protect like the Tualatin River, Council Creek and Gales Creek. The land use zoning along these corridors may permit development to some extent and preclude future public uses. The Wapato Lake area (Area A) already has some of the most restrictive zoning in the Metro area in place that would preclude future development. Area B east of Gaston already has been impacted by rural residential development. It just seems like we should be looking more towards lands closer to the urban fringe that are going to be harder to protect in the future as Urban Reserves and Exception Lands are proposed for new development.
For some reason, my browser does not enable me to answer your first two questions in the above location, SO the most important in #1 is Map Area C and the most important in the second question is number 1. In addition, I think the designation of area C for natural area on existing plans should govern. At present, the City and developers are cooperating to develop property in the area for housing. This is against the wishes of the majority of the neighbors and probably violates Metro's own objectives.
Gales Creek is the federally designated critical habitat sub-basin for federally listed winter steelhead.
Have you approached Native American groups - casino \$ contacts to see if recreational and educational components could be blended into area use.
Do not hinder eco-tourism - Gaston is an economically depressed area.
Integrate goals and info sharing with "friends" groups of Jackson Bottom and Fern Hill Wetlands.
Acquisition of land for future trail links (Hagg Lake, Forest Grove loop & outward).
Protect and fund "Emerald Necklace" trail around Forest Grove

**4. In what ways can Metro's Natural Areas Program be compatible with agricultural uses in the Wapato Lake target area?**

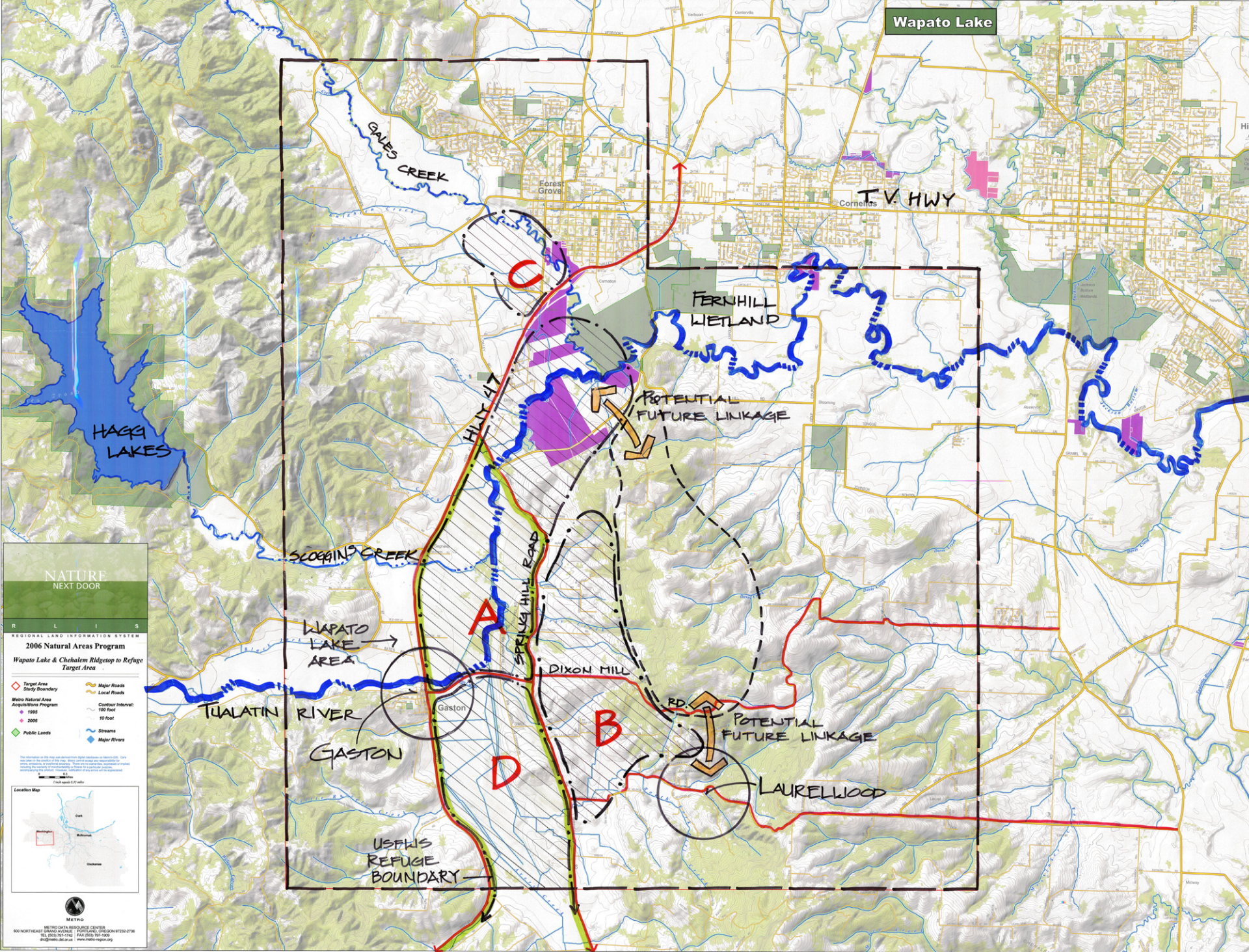
Can BPA mitigation funds be used? Ducks Unlimited has money. Wetlands Conservancy.
Carefully transition the use from agricultural to a natural area. In other words, slow down the farming use gradually and let the land change itself into a more natural area.
Do not allow housing to progress any further to the south and west of Forest Grove than it does at present. There is a very important community effort by Adelante Mujeres, for example, in the area near the lakebed. It supplies locally grown produce to the Forest Grove Farmer's Market. This is only one example of the very important sources of local food for the area. We must not allow ourselves to be dependent on foreign nations for our food supply.
Allow farming no matter who owns it. Allow hunting.
Allow land to be farmed in summer when land is dry - lease to farmers.
Crop residue after harvest for winter waterfowl food source (types of crops to encourage farming).
Improve water quality and table. Improve flood control.

**5. Do you have suggestions about partnerships Metro should pursue or other innovative ways to leverage regional funding and enhance this natural area? If so, please specify.**

Metro should try to "partner" with cities such as Forest Grove to help them attain the objectives of the Natural Areas program. At present, only land developers are operating that way. That's why areas unsuitable for housing become targets for development. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.
Partnering with those working in the areas. Working group in the Gales Creek Area.
Talk to lumber mill at Scoggins Creek. This would be good PR for them.
Seek North American Wetlands Conservation Act grant and OWEB funding to match Metro funds for land acquisition. NAWCA requires 1:2 match and provides up to \$1 million per grant: \$1 million NAWCA / \$1 million Metro / \$1 million OWEB = \$3 million. Acquisitions could be phased to secure multiple NAWCA grants. NAWCA and OWEB can also provide funding for wetland restoration. Alternatively, but more complex, would be to use USDA's Wetlands Reserve Program. Existing landowners would need to apply for and enroll in WRP, which would purchase permanent conservation easement. Metro could then buy remaining fee title interest -- perhaps even through same escrow.

**6. Do you have any other comments about this target area? If so, please specify.**

How will raising Hagg Lake impact this area?
I would do easement, but my property is not close. Glad to see willingness to work with USFW in property acquisition and expanding it with Metro owned land(s).
Acquisition of Gales Creek and Tualatin Link. Creation of loop trail around Forest Grove would serve as a critical hub for future links to Wapato, Hagg Lake, Council/Dairy Creek, Banks/Vernonia, Gales Creek, and eventually to Forest Park!
The area from B Street to Davids Hill Road is the Gales Creek Natural Area as defined by the Forest Grove Comprehensive plan. This calls for "minimum development" yet Metro overturned the FG Planning commission's recommendation for 4 units per acre to 10 units per acre. This area should be protected as stipulated in the Comp Plan for FG.
Gales Creek from B Street to David's Hill Road is the "Gales Creek Natural Area" as defined by the Forest Grove comprehensive plan. This calls for "minimum development", yet Metro overturned the recommendation of the Forest Grove Planning Commission for 4 units per acre to 10 units per acre. Is this the way Metro protects the environment?
From a habitat conservation standpoint and overall biological value, this is probably the most important acquisition target for Metro.



NATURE  
NEXT DOOR

REGIONAL LAND INFORMATION SYSTEM  
2006 Natural Areas Program  
Wapato Lake & Chehalis Ridgtop to Refuge  
Target Area

- Target Area Study Boundary
- Metro Natural Area Acquisition Program
- 1995
- 2006
- Public Lands
- Major Roads
- Local Roads
- Contour Interval: 100 foot
- 50 foot
- Streams
- Major Rivers

Scale: 1 inch equals 0.25 miles



# METRO COUNCIL

## Work Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: **August 14, 2007**

Time:

Length:

Presentation Title: **Willamette Narrows and Canemah Bluffs**

Department: **Metro Parks and Greenspaces**

Presenters: **Jim Desmond and Kathleen Brennan-Hunter**

### ISSUE & BACKGROUND

In 1995 the refinement goals for the Willamette Narrows and Canemah Bluffs were included within the broader Willamette River Greenway. For the Willamette Narrows, the successful acquisition of 472 acres acquired far exceeded the initial 75-acre goal. In the Canemah Bluffs, the initial acreage goal was 390, with acquisition total of 134 acres. Refinement plan goals focused on bogs, ponds and small drainages and acquiring and protecting islands in the Willamette River. The 606 acres that have been protected by Metro in this area are located along the eastern and western bank of the Willamette River. Protected areas include some small islands in the Willamette River as well as a very important peat bog. Due to their proximity and similar natural resource values the Willamette Narrows and Canemah Bluffs target areas were combined for the 2006 bond.

The 2006 Natural Areas bond measure stated:

Descending the Willamette River, this greenway forms the corridor gateway to Willamette Falls, Oregon City, and urbanizing areas of the lower Willamette River. Flowing through islands and past steep bluffs, this portion of the river retains a sense of wildness like no other reach of the lower river. The narrows provide high quality wildlife and important fish habitat.

The science recognized that this unique area is under pressure from increased development. Oregon white oak and rare wildflower habitats exist in the area. River habitat values are high because of the diverse topography that includes steep bluffs and plateaus.

Since the April and May work sessions more information has become available about the Willamette Narrows and Canemah Bluffs target area as a result of stakeholder input and public open houses. We are presenting a preliminary synthesis of proposed acquisition priorities to receive direction on policy issues prior to completing a refinement plan for this target area.

### OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Challenges</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Existing base of public lands in the areas provides opportunity for enhancing public access with a few key acquisitions.</li><li>• Unique area for Oregon white oak and endangered whiterock larkspur</li><li>• Riparian related values area are high</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Development pressures are high.</li></ul>

### SURVEY RESULTS

In June, Metro hosted eight open houses throughout the region and a virtual open house on the Metro website. A total of 527 people attended the regional open houses. More than 700 surveys were submitted either in person or online. The online open house had 6,363 visits from 3,419 unique visitors. 22 people completed surveys about Willamette Narrows and Canemah Bluffs. Additional commentary was provided orally at the open house, most of which was consistent with the written responses. In rank order, the public priorities were:

1. *Map area A* – Protect large blocks of forested areas along the west side of the Willamette River from Willow Island to the Oregon Golf Club.
2. *Map area B* – Protect scenic views of the Canemah Bluffs.
3. *Map area C* – Provide recreational access and/or rest stops for canoeing and kayaking from Rock Island to Fish Eddy.

A complete survey is attached.

## **IMPLICATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

The proposed prioritization is based on information gathered from several sources including the research that preceded the 2006 Natural Areas Ballot Measure, the bond measure language that voters approved, best scientific information available, input from knowledgeable regional experts and stakeholders, and public survey feedback.

With limited funds available, the most essential acquisitions should be the priority. Completing key acquisitions in the Canemah Bluffs and Willamette Narrows would protect the public investment made to date in establishing these significant regional natural areas. Strategic acquisition will protect important natural areas and will also enhance the future establishment of public access to these areas. No more than 25% of total regional bonds funds will be spent on target areas that are not new for 2006, including Willamette Narrows and Canemah Bluffs.

### *Tier I Objectives*

- Acquire property adjacent to existing public holdings that are essential to the establishment and management of a publicly accessible regionally significant natural area. (Portion of map area A)
- Prioritize acquisition of unique landscape forms (kolks, fens, rock outcrops) and rare plant communities (oak woodland, prairie, isolated wetlands). (Portion of map area A)
- Secure protection of remaining gaps in riparian areas on the west bank of the Willamette River between existing public holdings and Peach Cove fen. (Portion of map area A)
- Acquire lands to extend public ownership of forested bluffs and protect scenic views of Canemah Bluff from the river and nearby publicly owned lands. (Map area B)

## **QUESTION(S) PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION**

- Does the Metro Council agree with these priorities?

**LEGISLATION WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR COUNCIL ACTION**     Yes     No

**DRAFT IS ATTACHED**     Yes     No\*

\* Complete Refinement Plans will be submitted to Metro Council in September 2007.

## **SCHEDULE FOR WORK SESSION**

Department Director/Head Approval \_\_\_\_\_

Chief Operating Officer Approval \_\_\_\_\_

## Willamette Narrows and Canemah Bluff Survey Results

1. The following priorities were identified in the Willamette Narrows and Canemah Bluffs target area based on scientific information about benefits to water quality, habitat diversity, wildlife connectivity and/or restoration potential and from information provided by key stakeholders in the area. Rank in order of importance to you.

	most important			least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Protecting large blocks of forested areas along the west side of the Willamette River from Willow Island to the Oregon Golf Club. (Map area A)	68.4% (13)		10.5% (2)	21.1% (4)	1.53	19
Protecting scenic views of the Canemah Bluffs. (Map area B)	15.0% (3)		55.0% (11)	30.0% (6)	2.15	20
Providing recreational access and/or rest stops for canoeing and kayaking from Rock Island to Fish Eddy. (Map area C)	20.0% (4)		30.0% (6)	50.0% (10)	2.30	20
	<i>answered question</i>					20
	<i>skipped question</i>					2

2. In general, what should be emphasized in the Willamette Narrows and Canemah Bluffs target area? Rank in order of importance to you.

	most important				least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Protecting rare or unique plant communities (e.g., Oregon white oak, white rock larkspur, sphagnum bog).	45.0% (9)	5.0% (1)	20.0% (4)	15.0% (3)	15.0% (3)	2.50	20
Securing trail corridors for walking and hiking.	30.0% (6)	20.0% (4)	15.0% (3)	15.0% (3)	20.0% (4)	2.75	20
Protecting historic, archeological and cultural resources.	9.5% (2)	38.1% (8)	9.5% (2)	4.8% (1)	38.1% (8)	3.24	21
Protecting the area's scenic values and important views.	19.0% (4)	14.3% (3)	42.9% (9)	14.3% (3)	9.5% (2)	2.81	21
Providing access to the Willamette River for recreation and wildlife watching.	5.3% (1)	26.3% (5)	10.5% (2)	47.4% (9)	10.5% (2)	3.32	19
	<i>answered question</i>					22	
	<i>skipped question</i>					0	

**3. Are there other priorities that the Metro Council should consider in this target area? If so, please specify.**

Water quality protection.

Connecting trails and making the land available for public use.

Bike camping. Leave Portland on bike and camp at Molalla State Park or Champoeg.

Protecting water resources and natural trees and vegetation in historic Canemah Bluff is important. On property associated with 202 5th Avenue there are lots next to Ganong Street and a natural wetlands pond that should be acquired and saved. Metro's William Eadie knows about this opportunity. The associated property (6 1/2 acres) to the south that includes a big meadow and all of the land that feed the old Historic Canemah Water Works should be acquired too.

Narrows: It is a sensitive area and too many people will destroy it so Metro needs to be careful by keeping it protected from damage of the public.

**4. Do you have suggestions about partnerships Metro should pursue or other innovative ways to leverage regional funding and enhance this natural area? If so, please specify.**

Nature Conservancy.

Native American Tribes??? They have lots of history here.

Nature Neighborhood Challenge Grants could be used to acquire some of this land.

**5. Do you have any other comments about this target area? If so, please specify.**

Lovely area- hope this area high on your list.. :)

None of the priorities are really least important.

I like the idea of the continuous acquisition along the Willamette River. Also, I would like the wildlife corridors that run into the Willamette Narrows to be protected.

This area is extraordinary, rare and precious. The Metro-owned area(s) should be enlarged and protected. Once hiking trails are put through, invasive weeds will follow.



**NATURE NEXT DOOR**

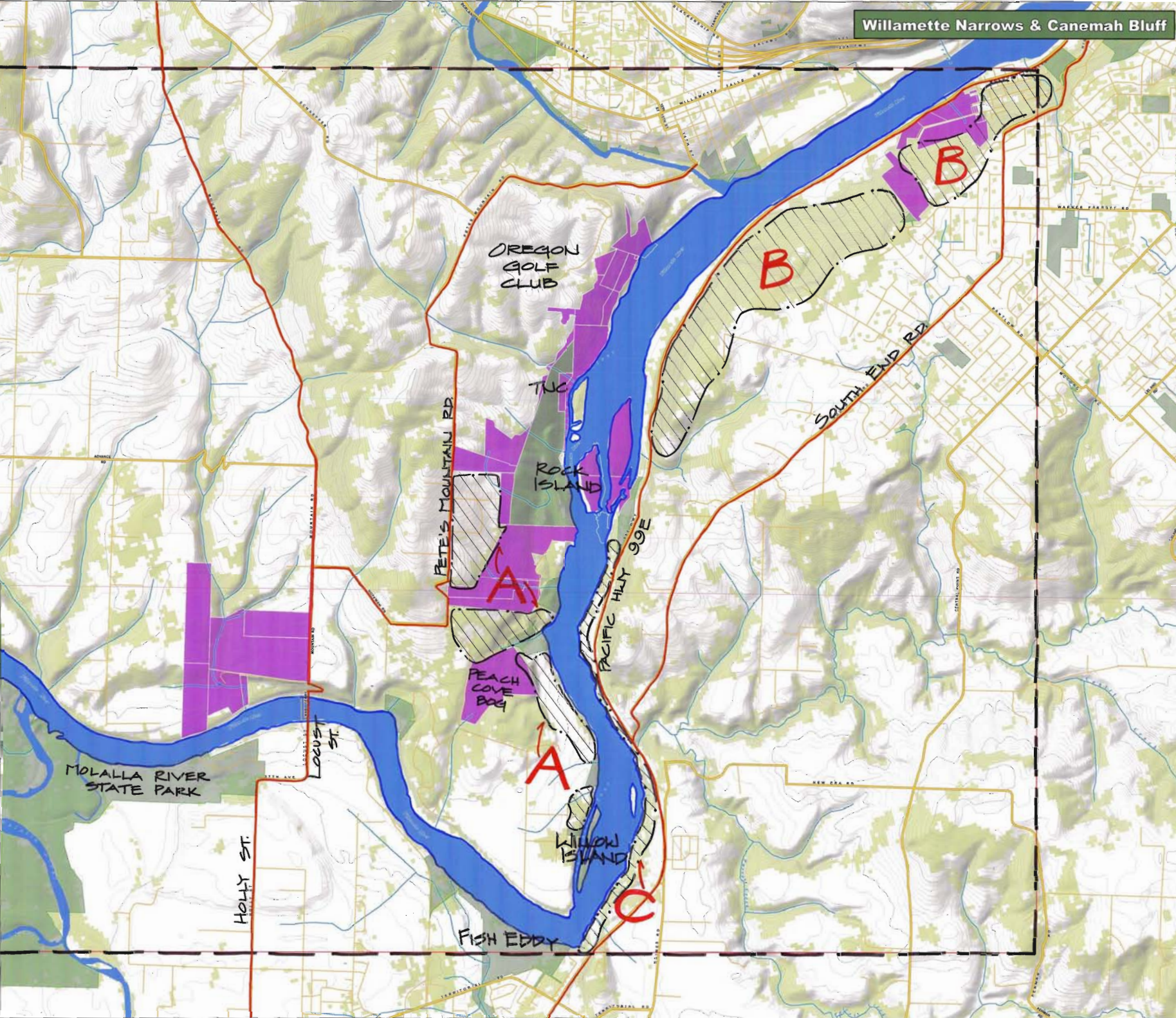
REGIONAL LAND INFORMATION SYSTEM

**2006 Natural Areas Program**  
 Willamette Narrows & Canemah Bluff  
 Target Area

◆ Target Area Study Boundary  
◆ Metro Natural Area Acquisitions Program  
◆ Public Lands

— Major Roads  
— Local Roads  
— Contour Interval: 100 Foot  
— 10 Foot  
— Streams  
— Major Rivers

METRO - DATA RESOURCE CENTER  
 800 NORTHWEST GRAND AVENUE, FIFTH FLOOR, OREGON 97130-2739  
 TEL: (503) 797-7112 FAX: (503) 797-7009  
 metro@metro.or.gov www.metroregion.org



# METRO COUNCIL

## Work Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: **August 14, 2007**

Time:

Length:

Presentation Title: **Willamette River Greenway**

Department: **Metro Parks and Greenspaces**

Presenters: **Jim Desmond and Kathleen Brennan-Hunter**

### ISSUE & BACKGROUND

The Willamette River Greenway is the Portland Metropolitan Area contribution to a larger vision that stretches from the Columbia River to Eugene, and has been a state goal since the 1970s. Metro and local jurisdictions along the river have made great strides in developing a network of protected streamside habitats, a river trail, and multiple use trails over the past two decades. Because there are so many interests along the greenway (including separate neighborhood organizations within Portland,) there are competing views as to the best use of limited funds.

The 1995 refinement goals split the target area into designated sub-areas (Willamette Cove, Canemah Bluffs, Multnomah Channel, Willamette Narrows and the OMSI-Springwater Corridor). The goals for these areas included combining large parcels of continuous forest on terrace above cliffs, acquiring a peninsula that extends into the Willamette River, preserving cliffs, rock outcrops and seeps, protecting cultural and historic sites and providing greenway linkages. The acquisition target was 1,103 acres for all the sub-areas combined. 1,012 acres were protected in the Greenway. The lands that were purchased include a large wildlife habitat area along the west side of the Multnomah Channel, Willamette Cove near the St. Johns neighborhood in Portland and the Willamette Narrows and Canemah Bluffs areas (now designated its own target area) south of the Tualatin River near West Linn. Trail connections were also secured through the 1995 program including the 3-mile "Springwater on the Willamette" section of the trail.

The 2006 Natural Areas bond measure stated:

Acquisition and connections between existing public holdings along the greenway from Wilsonville to the Multnomah Channel will protect fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, scenic resources and improve public access to the river.

The science report indicates that shallows with natural vegetation, even in intensively urban areas, are important rearing areas for steelhead and salmon and closing gaps to remaining river-dependent floodplain and wetlands is vital to wildlife.

Since the April and May work sessions more information has become available about the Willamette River Greenway target area as a result of stakeholder input and public open houses. We are presenting a preliminary synthesis of proposed acquisition priorities to receive direction on policy issues prior to completing a refinement plan for this Target Area.

### OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Opportunities	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Several areas where there are gaps in protected habitats in the south part of the greenway.</li><li>• Beach/shoreline property available at Linnton.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lack of an overriding biological assessment for the greenway makes ecologically sound priority setting difficult.</li></ul>

Opportunities	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supportive partners all along the greenway implementing local initiatives.</li> <li>• Supportive financial partnership opportunities including the Meyer Memorial Trust, which has named the Willamette River one of its three key objectives for investment.</li> <li>• Strong citizen support for trail expansion and new river access points.</li> <li>• Strong support from Willamette Riverkeepers for site stewardship.</li> <li>• Multiple small acquisitions have the potential to enlarge existing public areas south of the Sellwood Bridge.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Too late to establish a fully connected riparian habitat system.</li> <li>• More conservation and trail opportunities than available funds.</li> <li>• Potential contaminated areas along river in Portland.</li> <li>• Multiple local visions versus overriding regional vision for greenway.</li> </ul>

## **SURVEY RESULTS**

In June, Metro hosted eight open houses throughout the region and a virtual open house on the Metro website. A total of 527 people attended the regional open houses. More than 700 surveys were submitted either in person or online. The online open house had 6,363 visits from 3,419 unique visitors. 87 people completed surveys about the Willamette River Greenway. Additional commentary was provided orally at the open house, which was consistent with the written responses. In rank order, the public priorities were:

1. *Map area B* - Establish a riverfront natural area for habitat and public access in the Linnton area and identifying opportunities to improve trail connections through the Linnton area.
2. *Map area C* - Close multiple small trail gaps on the east bank of the river in North Portland (generally between Pier Park and the University of Portland).
3. *Map area D* – Protect the remaining gaps along the Willamette River bluff in Portland (above Swan Island and above Oaks Bottom in Sellwood).
4. *Map area E* - Close the few remaining small trail gaps on the west riverbank in Portland between the Marquam and Sellwood bridges.
5. *Map area A* – Protect the remaining gaps along the west bank of Multnomah Channel and establishing a public access point at the southwestern tip of Sauvie Island (the confluence of Multnomah Channel and the Willamette River).
6. *Map area F* – Protect the large forested area west of the Sellwood Bridge.
7. *Map area G* – Protect additional oak and prairie habitats near Elk Rock Island in Milwaukie and securing lands along the river or a trail corridor along the river below the bluff in Milwaukie.
8. *Map area H* – Secure a trail corridor between Lake Oswego and West Linn near Marylhurst University.
9. *Map area I* – Secure a trail corridor and protecting lands along the east bank of the river between Oregon City and Canby.

Complete survey results are attached.

## **IMPLICATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

The proposed prioritization is based on information gathered from several sources including the research that preceded the 2006 Natural Areas Ballot Measure, the bond measure language that voters approved, best scientific information available, input from knowledgeable regional experts and stakeholders, and public survey feedback.

The Willamette River Greenway is one of the largest target areas, covering several miles of the river. This makes setting priorities a challenge. Several other agencies and organizations recently launched initiatives aimed at preservation and restoration of the Willamette River. These include the City of Portland, the State of Oregon, Meyer Memorial Trust and the Willamette Riverkeepers. The City of Portland is currently engaged in a large public process to identify important habitat, river access and trail linkages along the river, but their primary focus is trail linkages along the Greenway. The schedule for completion of this work is 2009, because it involves zoning and land use ramifications. While it will be necessary to be poised to move quickly to acquire key trail gaps and important habitat areas as mapped, opportunities to leverage limited bond funds may materialize if Metro provides leadership to convene these partners to discuss cooperative efforts.

### *Tier I Objectives*

- Close key trail gaps in Portland, including those in North and Southeast Portland (Map areas C, D and E).
- Secure remaining unique and rare habitats. These include Multnomah Channel (Map area A), the large forested area west of the Sellwood Bridge (Map area F) and lands near Elk Rock Island (Map area G).

### *Partnership Objectives*

- Work with existing groups (including the State of Oregon, the City of Portland, Meyer Memorial Trust, The Nature Conservancy, Western Rivers Conservancy, and others) to leverage regional bond funds to the maximum extent possible to achieve Tier I priorities and to preserve and restore the Willamette River.
- Support efforts by other public agencies to restore habitat and create regional trails in the Willamette River.

## **QUESTION(S) PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION**

- Should Metro convene and work with multiple partners to build a regional vision and priorities for the Willamette River Greenway before prioritizing acquisitions in addition to those named above?
- Should Metro defer to City of Portland in setting priorities within city limits?
- Should acquisition of riverfront land in the Linnton area be included as a Tier II priority?

**LEGISLATION WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR COUNCIL ACTION**     Yes     No

**DRAFT IS ATTACHED**     Yes     No\*

\* Complete Refinement Plans will be submitted to Metro Council in September 2007.

## **SCHEDULE FOR WORK SESSION**

Department Director/Head Approval \_\_\_\_\_

Chief Operating Officer Approval \_\_\_\_\_

## Willamette River Greenway Survey Results

1. The following priorities were identified in the Willamette River Greenway target area based on scientific information about benefits to water quality, habitat diversity, wildlife connectivity and/or restoration potential and from information provided by key stakeholders in the area. Rank in order of importance to you.

	most important									least important	Rating Average
Protecting the remaining gaps along the west bank of Multnomah Channel and establishing a public access point at the southwestern tip of Sauvie Island (the confluence of Multnomah Channel and the Willamette River). (Map area A)	10.1% (7)	<b>21.7% (15)</b>	11.6% (8)	13.0% (9)	7.2% (5)	10.1% (7)	10.1% (7)	7.2% (5)	8.7% (6)	4.45	
Establishing a riverfront natural area for habitat and public access in the Linnton area and identifying opportunities to improve trail connections through the Linnton area. (Map area B)	<b>38.0% (30)</b>	11.4% (9)	11.4% (9)	12.7% (10)	5.1% (4)	5.1% (4)	5.1% (4)	7.6% (6)	3.8% (3)	3.32	
Closing multiple small trail gaps on the east bank of the river in North Portland (generally between Pier Park and the University of Portland). (Map area C)	<b>32.8% (21)</b>	14.1% (9)	14.1% (9)	9.4% (6)	4.7% (3)	6.3% (4)	9.4% (6)	7.8% (5)	1.6% (1)	3.44	
Protecting the remaining gaps along the Willamette River bluff in Portland (above Swan Island and above Oaks Bottom in Sellwood). (Map area D)	6.3% (4)	<b>20.6% (13)</b>	17.5% (11)	19.0% (12)	4.8% (3)	15.9% (10)	7.9% (5)	4.8% (3)	3.2% (2)	4.17	
Closing the few remaining small trail gaps on the west riverbank in Portland between the Marquam and Sellwood bridges. (Map area E)	19.0% (12)	6.3% (4)	15.9% (10)	3.2% (2)	<b>25.4% (16)</b>	14.3% (9)	6.3% (4)	4.8% (3)	4.8% (3)	4.30	
Protecting the large forested area west of the Sellwood Bridge. (Map area F)	5.0% (3)	<b>16.7% (10)</b>	11.7% (7)	15.0% (9)	<b>16.7% (10)</b>	13.3% (8)	8.3% (5)	6.7% (4)	6.7% (4)	4.68	
Protecting additional oak and prairie habitats near Elk Rock Island in Milwaukie and securing lands along the river or a trail corridor along the river below the bluff in Milwaukie. (Map area G)	7.8% (5)	7.8% (5)	17.2% (11)	14.1% (9)	14.1% (9)	9.4% (6)	<b>20.3% (13)</b>	3.1% (2)	6.3% (4)	4.81	
Securing a trail corridor between Lake Oswego and West Linn near Marylhurst University. (Map area H)	1.5% (1)	13.6% (9)	0.0% (0)	12.1% (8)	3.0% (2)	7.6% (5)	9.1% (6)	<b>28.8% (19)</b>	24.2% (16)	6.50	
Securing a trail corridor and protecting lands along the east bank of the river between Oregon City and Canby. (Map area I)	1.6% (1)	3.2% (2)	4.8% (3)	3.2% (2)	12.7% (8)	7.9% (5)	12.7% (8)	19.0% (12)	<b>34.9% (22)</b>	7.02	

**2. In general, what should be emphasized in the Willamette River Greenway target area? Rank in order of importance to you.**

	most important				least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Protecting remaining unique and rare habitats (islands, oaks, prairies, bogs, wetlands) for the benefit of fish and wildlife.	41.2% (28)	10.3% (7)	23.5% (16)	17.6% (12)	7.4% (5)	2.40	68
Improving public access and recreation opportunities by establishing new or enlarging existing public parks and natural area sites.	17.9% (12)	22.4% (15)	9.0% (6)	6.0% (4)	44.8% (30)	3.37	67
Protecting remaining high quality aquatic habitats (river and creek mouths, cottonwood groves, shallows, coves).	9.0% (6)	34.3% (23)	23.9% (16)	25.4% (17)	7.5% (5)	2.88	67
Closing gaps between existing trail segments along the Willamette River Greenway.	37.3% (25)	10.4% (7)	10.4% (7)	29.9% (20)	11.9% (8)	2.69	67
Connecting the river to upland parks and natural areas along selected creek corridors to improve water quality in the Willamette River.	6.3% (4)	22.2% (14)	31.7% (20)	15.9% (10)	23.8% (15)	3.29	63
	<i>answered question</i>						<b>75</b>
	<i>skipped question</i>						<b>12</b>

**3. Are there other priorities that the Metro Council should consider in this target area? If so, please specify.**

Shady backwaters along the banks vs more life--unfriendly lawns, concrete, landings.
I am very interested in a seamless bike trail on both sides of the Willamette. Right now the areas that need the attention are 1) West side connections such as Marquam to Sellwood Bridge, Sellwood Bridge to West Linn, and Portland to Sauvie Island, and 2) the NPGreenway. Southeast has Springwater. I can envision bike commuters funneling down to the river and getting to town via the Willamette trail.
Continue the bike trail north of the Steel Bridge to connect eventually to a big loop around Portland.
Any 40-Mile Loop gaps.
Area A near Swan Island does not mention trails. It appears to be drawn so that the Willamette Greenway Trail could be secured between Fremont Bridge and Swan Island. This is very desirable but since it was not explicit in the description of that bubble, I ranked it relatively low. The river frontage at outfalls such as Balch Creek.
What about enhancing previous purchases funded by the taxpayers? For example, the greenway along the Willamette between the St. Johns Bridge and the railroad bridge (Willamette Cove?). Why not use some of your money to improve and clean it up? It continues to remain in a decrepit condition, with homeless camps and illegal dumpsites. Second, please make an offer to buy the property jointly owned by Metro and another property owner. This beautiful stretch of land runs along the north side of the Columbia Slough, just west of Portland Road. The Slough is on one side of this property, Smith Lake is on the other side.
Close gaps in existing trail segments and make it easier for bicycle riders and pedestrians to commute.
Clean river, public access.

Neighborhood history and support. The Linnton neighborhood has been asking and planning for a river park and access for over a decade. We are motivated to do what it takes.

Trauk easements around (?) and "Cement Road".

Making sure the North Portland Greenway Trail is completed--connecting Cathedral Park to the East Bank Espl.

N. Portland Greenway trail should be completed

Canoe.

Enhanced signage for public access points would be very useful.

BUILD N. Portland Greenway connection to smith/Bybee via Pier Park.

Recreation opportunities/bicycle access for community-N. Portland to downtown.

Provide exercise and recreational opportunities such as through a river level greenway trail from Cathedral Park to the Eastbank Esplanade.

Dear Council Members, I am a member of NPGREENWAY. NPGREENWAY is a group of citizens advocating for a trail system providing access to and along the Willamette River enveloping the north riverfront from the Steel Bridge in downtown Portland to Cathedral Park at the St. Johns Bridge and continuing on to Kelly Point Park. Our goal is to link North Portland neighborhoods with the Willamette River for recreation and access to jobs. The refinement of the Willamette River Greenway will include a network of trails used for activities such walking, running, cycling, in-line skating, skateboarding, fishing, boating and wildlife viewing. The North Portland Greenway trails will connect with the existing Willamette River trail system serving residents and visitors throughout the region. The Willamette River Greenway Trail is a goal of the State of Oregon, City of Portland and Metro. The Metro Natural Areas Bond Program can help complete this vision over the next several years. Critical areas to achieve this goal include acquisition for use (fee simple, easement or like access) of land: 1. between the Willamette Cove property (purchased under the 1995 program) and the City of Portland Water Pollution Lab adjacent to Cathedral Park for the Willamette River Greenway Trail, 2. between Swan Island and the Fremont Bridge for the Willamette River Greenway Trail 3. for the Willamette River access point in Rivergate generally referred to as the Time Oil parcel (from the proposed Willamette River Greenway Trail further to the east), 4. and submersed land through a lease from the State of Oregon for areas below the bluff adjacent to the University of Portland and other similar areas should the Willamette River Greenway Trail require the trail be built over the river similar to portions of the Eastbank Esplanade. Items 1,2, and 4 above are within Areas C and D on your Willamette River Greenway Trail Map and Item 3 could connect to the Trail. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Linnton is largely ignored--it is a great resource to preserve-- Bordering in forest hills park and the Willamette River, a very historical site (early settlements including Native Americans) with many creeks flowing to the Willamette.

Access to parks/water in specific areas--if a particular area is cut off from the river.

Ross Island acquisition if current talks with City of Portland fail.

Expand it up into Marquam Ravine and purchase 6.5 acre parcel next to entrance to Marquam Nature Park at hairpin in Sam Jackson park Rd.

Mosquito populations. You're building more habitat for mosquitoes to breed and transmit disease.

Finishing the connections for the North Portland Greenway Trail will enhance recreational opportunities while increasing appreciation for wildlife and support of conservation measures needed to enhance wildlife habitats along the river.

Missing links in the greenway trail system, especially gaps that will combine to make long distance segments.

Metro should consider fish refugia. This is a issue with the health of the Willamette River. Stream shading is also a good goal for temperature in the river.

Air quality impacts. Wildlife impacts.

**4. Do you have suggestions about partnerships Metro should pursue or other innovative ways to leverage regional funding and enhance this natural area? If so, please specify.**

Potential partnership with railroads to get rail with trails. This affects west-side as well near St Johns Bridge.

A wonderful looking piece of riverfront land near Owens Corning plant in Linnton could be a very special small park that could be accessed by Linnton residents and others.

Federal grants to enhance preserve wildlife and recreational areas and river access.

Purchase easement in Triangle and sites from eventual owner - freeing up money for owner to build more access over UPRR.

With Portland Parks so underfunded how about funding a fundraiser to pull in the funds that are needed to finish the entire trail system. Piecemeal is crap. Not effective

NEGreenway bikebelong.com

University of Portland- Partner RE: "Triangle Property' 40 mile loop-trail connections Portland Parks- Trail maintenance.

Governors initiative for the Willamette River Keepers

Partner with watershed councils, riverkeeper organizations, and landtrust/conservancies to provide non-federal matching funds for restoration/acquisition grant proposals.

Riverview Cemetery is open to selling some of their land, and Lewis and Clark College would like to buy some of it. Work with Lewis and Clark to meet some of their needs while protecting the most sensitive lands.

Why would you see it fit to have leverage to get your way???? You should be required to help the region fund the mosquito control districts in Washington, Clackamas, and Multnomah Counties.

The Greenway trail should become part of the City of Portland's Bicycle Master Plan, as well as get put on the zoning map so that when future redevelopment occurs, the trail is taken into consideration. University of Portland is a strong potential partner for the trail. Portland Parks and Recreation is another partner. Union Pacific and BNSF will need to be brought into the process since the trail will be running near their properties in many places.

I believe METRO is already working with the North Portland Greenway group.

Metro should approach various jurisdictions and agencies regarding water quality concerns. On-going water quality efforts could result in leveraged funding.

**5. Do you have any other comments about this target area? If so, please specify.**

Go for the most acres per dollar-- Better to acquire cheap waterfront acres upstream than pay big bucks to greedy urban land owners.

If the Willamette Shoreline ends up designated as Bus Rapid Transit, act to secure additional easements for trail on rail alignment. If it is designated for streetcar, secure additional land or easements in order to have rail with trail. This would be outstanding addition to the Willamette Greenway.

The online open house doesn't provide any detailed information about the areas on the maps for Columbia Slough and Willamette River.

We have a great opportunity to complete significant portions of the N. Portland Greenway---Don't Fail us!!

THIS COULD EVENTUALLY PROVIDE RIVER ACCESS TO THE WEST SIDE. HILLSBORO, BEAVERTON ETC. VIA CORNELIUS PASS OR NEWBERRY

Access to the Willamette will help the public identify with the river and give incentive to protect existing natural areas.

Focus on connecting neighbors, neighborhoods, and nature.

Ross Island, Oaks Bottom and Bluffs above, and Riverview Cemetery lands are inseparable and connected to West Willamette Wildlife Corridor, providing habitat and recreational opportunities.

I would like to sit on the review board.

Will you pay the medical bills for people who get West Nile Virus if the mosquito populations you help produce are found to carry the virus??

I appreciate Metro's efforts to keep the faith with North Portland voters, who overwhelmingly approved the Greenspaces bond measure, and Metro's willingness to push forward a water-level trail through North Portland.

It seems somewhat "islanded". Benefits seem somewhat isolated to specific areas, not necessarily regional.

My comments are intended to support increasing river access in the Linnton neighborhood along NW St. Helens Rd. in Portland. While there is great access to Forest Park throughout this area there is minimal access to the west side of the Willamette River basically from downtown Portland to outside the City border, or near the City limit there is a boat ramp I believe. There is momentum to hold the City and future landowners of the old Linnton Plywood Mill site to provide public access to the river near NW 107th Ave. in the heart of the remaining Linnton business area. There is a very welcoming



natural beach at that location, one of the last remaining opportunities to save a natural beach area along the industrial area of the Willamette. This could provide a wonderful trail end from the Forest Park trail system from Wildwood Trail down the Linnton Trail to Hwy 30 with access to the river for hikers. There is already a greenspace overlay on the City's zoning map for this area. If the City and Metro do not take advantage to preserve this small access point to the river, future industrial development will likely eliminate such future access. Then again, there could be an opportunity for the City and Metro to work with a property owner to allow certain less than desirable developments as long as public access is allowed to the beach, along with the building of a sidewalk or access route from the highway.

I continue to be optimistic that Metro will develop a plan for our farm property that I, and our family members can enjoy and share with others who appreciate the rural and idle setting.



MULTNOMAH CHANNEL

**A**

LINTON  
**B**

PIER PARK  
**C**

ST. JOHN'S BRIDGE

COLUMBIA RIVER

WILLAMETTE RIVER

**D**  
SILVAN ISLAND

FREMONT BRIDGE

MARQUAM BRIDGE

**D**  
ROSS ISLAND

**E**

SELWOOD BRIDGE

**F**

TRYON CREEK STATE PARK

**G**  
ELK ROCK ISLAND & ESCARPMENT

LAKE OSWEGO

MILWAUKIE

**H**

TUALATIN RIVER

CLATSOP RIVER

CANEMAH BLUFF

MOLALLA RIVER STATE PARK

CANBY FERRY

MOLALLA

CANBY

**NATURE NEXT DOOR**

2006 Natural Areas Program  
Milwaukie Area Overlay

- Natural Area
- Wetland
- Stream
- Riparian
- Park
- Bridge
- Ferry
- Bluff
- Island
- Escarpment
- Bluff
- Island
- Escarpment

Agenda Item Number 4.0

**OCC HEADQUARTERS HOTEL PROJECT UPDATE**

Metro Council Work Session  
Tuesday, August 14, 2007  
Metro Council Chamber

# METRO COUNCIL

## Work Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: 8/14/07 Time: 2:00 Length: 60 min

Presentation Title: OCC Headquarters Hotel Project Update

Department: Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission (MERC)

Presenters: David Woolson, Tom Hazinksi (HVS), Bill Stringer, Peter Phillippi (Piper Jaffray)

### ISSUE & BACKGROUND

The proposed 600-room publicly owned, privately operated headquarters hotel is one of five alternatives the Metro Council directed staff to research to maximize the Oregon Convention Center's economic impact and strengthen the OCC's financial operations.

### OPTIONS AVAILABLE

The five alternatives under consideration are:

- 1) 600-room publicly owned, privately operated headquarters hotel.
- 2) 400-room privately owned, privately operated headquarters hotel with public subsidy.
- 3) Enhanced incentives, i.e. shuttle service, free rent, etc.
- 4) Change the OCC mission: regional meeting center
- 5) Status quo with increased subsidy for operations

This work session will focus on option one and provide a brief overview of studies conducted by consultants HVS, KPMG and SAG.

### IMPLICATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Metro/MERC staff, in conjunction with independent consultants have been conducting research on the feasibility of these five alternatives. At this work session, HVS International will present their findings, and Metro/MERC staff will provide an update on other facets of the project.

On 9/6/07 at the joint work session with the Metro Council and MERC Commission, all of the consultants will be available to summarize their findings and answer questions.

### QUESTION(S) PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

On 9/27/07, the Metro Council is scheduled to select one of the five alternatives for further research and implementation. Is Metro/MERC staff on track to provide the Metro Council with sufficient information to make this decision? What other information would be helpful for the Metro Council decision making process?

**LEGISLATION WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR COUNCIL ACTION**  Yes  No  
**DRAFT IS ATTACHED**  Yes  No