

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

APPROVING THE NATURAL AREAS ACQUISITION
REFINEMENT PLAN FOR THE FOREST PARK
CONNECTIONS TARGET AREA

RESOLUTION NO. 07-3833

Introduced by Chief Operating Officer
Michael J. Jordan, with the
concurrence of Council President
David Bragdon

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2006, the Metro Council adopted Resolution No. 06-3672B “For the Purpose of Submitting to the Voters of the Metro Area a General Obligation Bond Indebtedness in the Amount of \$227.4 Million to Fund Natural Area Acquisition and Water Quality Protection,” recommending submission for voter approval a general obligation bond to preserve and protect natural areas, clean water, and fish and wildlife (the “2006 Natural Areas Bond Measure” or “Measure”); and

WHEREAS, at the election held on November 7, 2006, the voters approved Ballot Measure 26-80, the 2006 Natural Areas Bond Measure; and

WHEREAS, the Forest Park Connections Target Area was identified in the Measure as one of 27 regional target areas for land acquisition, building on the success of land acquisitions in the Forest Park Target Area pursuant to Metro’s 1995 Open Spaces Bond Measure Program; and

WHEREAS, as provided in the 2006 Natural Areas Bond Measure, Metro has undertaken a public refinement process to establish specific acquisition strategies, goals, objectives, and a confidential tax-lot specific acquisition target area map for each of the 27 target areas; and

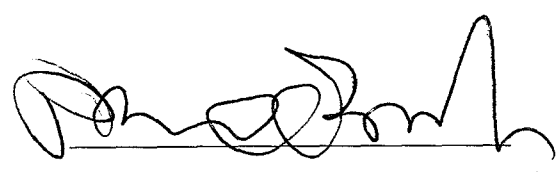
WHEREAS, Metro’s refinement process included the compilation of available information about each target area; biological field visits and expert analysis of maps; interviews with key stakeholders including natural resource experts, property owners, representatives from state and local government agencies, and advocates from water quality, fish, and wildlife preservation interest groups; and eight public open houses at sites throughout the region and a “virtual” open house available via the internet, at which draft refinement plans were made available for public review and participants could share their target area priorities either in-person or electronically; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2007, the Council approved Resolution No. 07-3766A, “Authorizing the Chief Operating Officer to Purchase Property with Accepted Acquisition Guidelines as Outlined in the Natural Areas Implementation Work Plan,” authorizing the Metro Chief Operating Officer to acquire properties identified on a Council-approved target area “confidential refinement map;” and

WHEREAS, the Council has reviewed the draft refinement plans and considered information it has received from citizens, scientists, advocates, and state and local governments; now, therefore

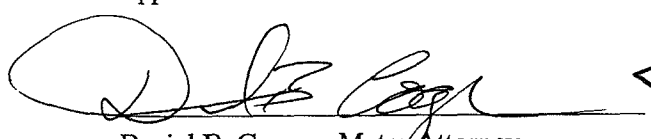
BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council adopts the Forest Park Connections Refinement Plan attached hereto as Exhibit A, including the confidential tax-lot specific map reviewed by the Council in Executive Session on September 4, 2007, and signed by Council President David Bragdon on that date, and hereby authorizes the Chief Operating Officer to acquire properties in the Forest Park Connections Target Area consistent with the Council-approved Acquisition Parameters and Due Diligence Guidelines of the Natural Areas Implementation Work Plan.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 6th day of September 2007.

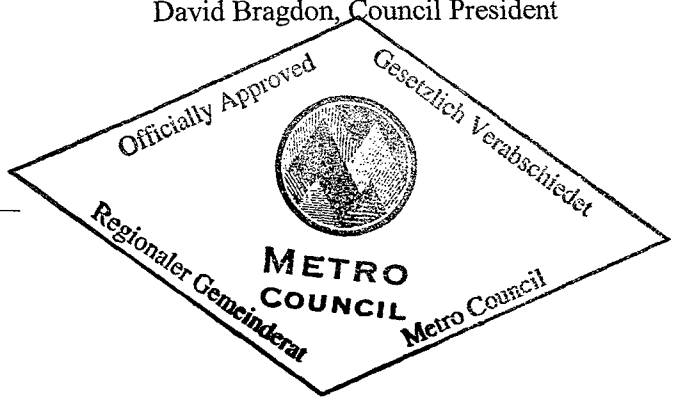


David Bragdon, Council President

Approved as to Form:



Daniel B. Cooper, Metro Attorney



**2006 NATURAL AREAS ACQUISITION PROGRAM
FOREST PARK CONNECTIONS TARGET AREA REFINEMENT PLAN**

Background

The 1995 refinement plan goals for Forest Park included acquisition of 320 acres adjacent to and within the park to protect, maintain and expand habitat. To date more than 865 acres have been protected by Metro's program including inholdings, pinch points, and potential future trailhead sites. More than 600 of these acres are located near the northern end of the existing park boundaries including the Ancient Forest and lands along Agency and Ennis creeks.

The 2006 Natural Areas bond measure stated:

Connecting Forest Park to Rock Creek and the Westside Trail will keep important wildlife corridors intact and provide trail connections between the region's largest urban park and Washington County. Acquiring key properties will capitalize on recent successful acquisitions of land adjacent to and beyond Forest Park, connecting the park with the larger Pacific Greenway.

Target Area Description

Forest Park stretches for nearly eight miles along the northeast slope of the Tualatin Mountains within the City of Portland and unincorporated Multnomah County. At more than 5,000 acres of mostly second-growth forest, it is the largest natural urban forest reserve in the United States and is considered by many to be the "crown jewel" of the region's network of natural areas. The park contains significant wildlife corridors and more than 70 miles of recreational trails, including the well-used Wildwood Trail (a segment of the 40-Mile Loop Trail). Its massive tree canopy and substantial undergrowth support an abundance of wildlife, including the 112 bird and 62 mammal species that have been recorded there.

Refinement Process

During the refinement process, Metro staff compiled available information about the Forest Park target area, analyzed maps and conducted biological field visits. Individuals were interviewed representing various government agencies, property owners, interested friends groups and natural resource experts. The key concerns expressed during the interviews are summarized in Attachment 1.

Public open houses to discuss the proposed Refinement Plan were held on June 12, 2007 at the Portland Community College Rock Creek Event Center and on June 20, 2007 at the St. Johns Community Center, two of eight such open houses held throughout the region. Notices of the open houses were mailed to area residents and other interested citizens. Metro also conducted a "virtual" open house by making target area materials, including maps, available "online" via the internet and allowing participants to share their target area priorities electronically. A total of 527 people attended the regional open houses, and the online open house had 6,363 visits from 3,419 unique visitors. More than 700 target area surveys were submitted either in person or online. Fifty-six people completed the Forest Park survey. A copy of the survey questionnaire is included as Attachment 2. The map associated with the questionnaire for this target area is included as Attachment 3, and complete survey results are included as Attachment 4.

Findings

- The Forest Park Connections target area is a regionally significant natural area due to its fish, wildlife, regional recreation and water quality values.
- The Forest Park Connections target area is the largest and most ecologically intact natural area in public ownership in the metropolitan region.

- The City of Portland’s Forest Park is the predominate feature within the Forest Park Connections target area with a size over 5,000 acres.
- The western boundary (southwest) of the target area is the Skyline Ridge that includes important connections to the neighboring Rock Creek target area.
- The eastern boundary (northeast) of the target area is the Willamette River – an important migration route for endangered fish species.
- Several large and ecologically important publicly owned parcels extend northwest of Forest Park out to Burlington Bottoms and the Multnomah Channel. These parcels are currently not contiguous with other publicly owned natural areas.
- Key tributary streams for water quality, wildlife habitat and fish habitat include Balch Creek, Doane Creek, Saltzman Creek and Miller Creek.
- Established science continues to show the key importance of intact headwaters for water quality and quantity protection, habitat and maintenance of overall watershed health.
- Recent studies on the Willamette have shown the importance of tributary creek confluence areas for listed fish species using the Willamette River. Many of the tributary creeks provide valuable sources of clean and cold water, nutrients and refuge areas off the main channel for refuge and rearing.
- Fifty-six people responded to the Forest Park questionnaire. 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* – Protecting lands in the large natural corridor northwest of today's Forest Park connecting to other protected natural areas northwest of Newberry Road.
 2. *Map area B* – Protecting lands or purchasing development rights in the headwater areas of Balch Creek, Saltzman Creek, Doane Creek and Miller Creek on the east side of the ridgeline.
 3. *Map area D* – Securing connections between Forest Park and Rock Creek headwaters areas on the west side of the ridgeline.
 4. *Map area C* – Protecting lands around key creek confluence areas on the Willamette River at Saltzman Creek, Doane Creek and Miller Creek.

Goals

- Acquire key properties to connect Forest Park to other public lands.
- Connect Forest Park to Rock Creek and the Westside Trail to keep important wildlife corridors intact and provide trail connections between the region’s largest urban park and Washington County.
- Protect important headwater areas on the eastside of the ridgeline.

Objectives

A target area map showing the tiered objectives described below is included as Attachment 5.

Tier I Objective

- Acquire and protect additional lands along the corridor at the north end of the park to link Forest Park with other publicly owned parcels northwest of Newberry Road.

Tier II Objectives

- Secure key locations for trailheads in areas of the park that lack suitable access.
- Acquire important habitat links and connections with Rock Creek headwater streams on the west side of the ridgeline.
- Using conservation easements as the primary tool, acquire important headwater areas within the Balch, Saltzman, Doane, and Miller Creek watersheds, on the east side of the ridgeline.

Partnership Objectives

- Pursue partnership opportunities with the City of Portland Parks and Bureau of Environmental Services, Washington and Multnomah Counties, and Clean Water Services to coordinate protection efforts and to leverage regional bond dollars.
- Pursue partnership opportunities with Friends of Forest Park, Trust for Public Land, The Three Rivers Land Conservancy, and other local land trusts to leverage regional bond dollars targeted to the Forest Park Connections area.

STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 07-3833, APPROVING THE NATURAL AREAS ACQUISITION REFINEMENT PLAN FOR THE FOREST PARK CONNECTIONS TARGET AREA

Date: September 6, 2007

Prepared by: Jim Desmond
Kathleen Brennan-Hunter

BACKGROUND—REFINEMENT PROCESS

The Natural Areas Bond Measure (Resolution No. 06-3672B, “For the Purpose of Submitting to the Voters of the Metro Area a General Obligation Bond Indebtedness in the Amount of \$227.4 Million to Fund Natural Area Acquisition and Water Quality Protection,” adopted by the Metro Council March 9, 2006) provided that Metro would undertake a “Refinement Process” to “gather additional information about each individual target area and begin zeroing in on particular parcels that would be valuable to acquire” (Exhibit A to Resolution No. 06-3672B). In addition, the Natural Areas Implementation Work Plan (Resolution No. 07-3766A, “Authorizing the Chief Operating Officer to Purchase Property with Accepted Acquisition Guidelines as Outlined in the Natural Areas Implementation Work Plan,” adopted by the Metro Council on March 1, 2007) authorized the Metro Chief Operating Officer to acquire properties without further Council approval if they have been identified on a Council-approved target area “confidential refinement map.” To implement those directives, the Refinement Plans for each target area contain overall target area objectives and confidential tax-lot specific target area maps identifying priority properties for acquisition, enabling Metro staff to begin the acquisition of property and property rights as detailed in the Natural Areas Implementation Work Plan.

Additional background information, target area information, a description of the specifics of the refinement process regarding this target area, and the refinement plan’s findings, goals, and objectives are described in further detail in Exhibit A to this resolution, the Forest Park Connections Target Area Refinement Plan.

ANALYSIS/INFORMATION

1. **Known Opposition**

None.

2. **Legal Antecedents**

Resolution No. 06-3672B, “For the Purpose of Submitting to the Voters of the Metro Area a General Obligation Bond Indebtedness in the Amount of \$227.4 Million to Fund Natural Area Acquisition and Water Quality Protection,” adopted on March 9, 2006.

The voters’ approval of Metro’s 2006 Natural Areas Bond Measure at the general election held on November 6, 2006.

Resolution No. 07-3766A “Authorizing the Chief Operating Officer to Purchase Property With Accepted Acquisition Guidelines as Outlined in the Natural Areas Implementation Work Plan,” adopted by the Metro Council on March 1, 2007, established the Acquisition Parameters and Due Diligence Guidelines for the purchase of properties as part of the 2006 Natural Areas Bond Program.

3. **Anticipated Effects**

Acquisition of natural area properties in the Forest Park Connections target area to achieve the goals and purposes of the 2006 Natural Areas Bond Measure.

4. **Budget Impacts**

The FY 2007-08 budget includes budgetary authority to purchase \$35 million in natural area lands, with an additional \$15.4 million in contingency, if necessary. It is estimated, based on historical spending patterns, that this authority will be sufficient to cover the anticipated acquisition activity for this fiscal year. Additional unappropriated fund balance (\$64 million) exists for land acquisition in future years, along with the authority to issue up to an additional \$102 million in General Obligation bonds in support of this program.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends adoption of Resolution No. 07-3833.

Summary of Comments from Stakeholder Interviews for Forest Park Connections Target Area

Stakeholder(s) Interviewed

Paul Ketcham, City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services
Jim Labbe, Portland Audubon
Bob Sallinger, Portland Audubon
Kendra Smith, Clean Water Services
Gail Snyder, Friends of Forest Park
Fred Nilsen, Portland Parks and Recreation
Debra Lev, Portland Parks and Recreation
Jim Emerson, Forest Park Neighborhood Association

Key Themes Discussed

Water Quality/Wildlife Habitat

- The opportunities for connections to the northwest of existing Forest Park were mentioned in every stakeholder interview. Everyone interviewed indicated the importance of extending the park and providing maximum habitat and water quality protection for the scattered parcels previously purchased in this area.
- A major emphasis was placed on maintaining the key habitats and preserving water quality in the Balch Creek watershed and other key watersheds in the park. Particularly, the headwaters outside and uphill from the park. Ecological changes within the Balch Creek watershed are apparent in the last few years even at the low density development level. Forest fragmentation is affecting species diversity, becoming more suitable for open/fragmented canopy species and losing interior habitat characteristics. Negative impacts to headwaters affect the entire watershed.
- Multiple stakeholders have mentioned the important bottomland forest and wetland confluence habitat on the Willamette River where tributary streams enter the Willamette River. Habitat for pond turtles, bottomland forest, and Willamette wetlands are a diminishing resource. Restoration potential and mitigation bank potential. Very important habitat for Willamette River listed fish species
- The connections with the Rock Creek watershed and its tributaries are important linkages for wildlife and humans. Possible connections in this area for the Westside Trail and the Pacific Greenway trail were mentioned. Abbey Creek headwaters, Rock Creek headwaters
- Balch Creek and Forest Park in-holdings and edge properties are important targets for maintaining forest and habitat health and for protecting water quality in key watersheds. However, they are likely to be very expensive and difficult to acquire.
- Northwest corridor and Rock Creek connection properties are also important for maintaining habitat connections to adjacent natural areas and ecosystems, headwaters, and for buffering unique habitats. Important local elk habitat shared with Rock Creek. Elk use creek corridors for movement, feed in open fields, and use forested areas for cover/rest

Miscellaneous Comments

Paul Ketcham

- Forest Park headwaters for west side and east side streams
 - cool water sources
 - reduce/control sedimentation
 - moderate flows (forested headwaters)
 - headwaters on west side very vulnerable
 - Acquiring headwaters, highest gradient and damage
- Connectivity with intact canopy patches that prevent fragmentation and maintain connections for Forest Park
- High priority areas:
 - Wetlands
 - Bottomland hardwood
 - White oak
 - Known rare plants/species
 - Old growth patches
- Opportunities for connections
 - Doane Lake connection across Willamette River to Smith/Bybee (rail corridor)
 - BES enhancement projects planned for Doane Lake remnant floodplain, Willamette Shores

Jim Labbe, Bob Salinger, Kendra Smith, Gail Snyder

- Linking up big chunks of publicly owned property at NW end
- McNamee road area has potential
- Provide buffering for the Old Growth area
- Balch Creek Watershed in-holdings
- Ecological changes to Audubon Sanctuary because of land use changes above and below
- Bones Creek important for scientific study in cooperation with Portland Audubon
- Conservation easements/partitions
- Creeping development in Balch
- Cutthroat population in Balch – genetic conservation
- Infill Skyline Blvd. residences, conservation easements for edges
- Willamette floodplains/bottomland forest restoration potential/mitigation bank
- Elk migrating through creek corridors, feeding in open fields, moving into forested areas for cover; herds moving from Rock Creek to Forest Park and back

Fred Nilsen, Deborah Lev

- Key water quality issues and opportunities
 - Creek connections to Willamette River
 - Balch Creek and especially upper Balch Creek in-holdings top priority
 - Large acreages in Balch and at edges could use Conservation Easement
- Important water quality areas/streams
 - Balch
 - Saltzman
 - Doane
 - Miller
- The most important existing wildlife corridors in this area:
 - Northwest corridor connection
 - Bottom of Saltman Creek also trail/access
 - Rock Creek
 - Doane/Peninsula crossing
 - Miller floodplain to Smith/Bybee

Jim Emerson

- A lot of property was acquired around Forest Park through the 1995 bond measure, but not much up on Skyline Drive area. Would like to see more emphasis on the Tualatin side.
- On the Westside, there are limited opportunities for public access. Metro needs to figure out a way to fund maintenance.

QUESTIONNAIRE

TARGET AREA: FOREST PARK CONNECTIONS

In November 2006 voters directed the Metro Council to extend a regionwide program and acquire between 3,500 and 4,500 acres of additional natural areas to protect water quality and fish and wildlife habitat and to provide future generations opportunities for greater access to nature. Now it's time for the Metro Council to refine priorities in the 27 regional natural areas and trail corridors targeted for acquisition. The 1995 acreage goal for this target area was 320 and Metro has acquired 866 acres to date. The 2006 program will provide additional funding for protection goals in this target area.

The Metro Council wants your ideas and input. We've been talking with scientists, land-use experts, groups and individuals who have special knowledge about the natural resource values and community visions for these areas. With this information Metro has begun to identify the potential strategies and opportunities that will achieve the best results. Now we need to know: Do we have it right? What have we missed? What is most important to you?

2006 NATURAL AREAS BOND DESCRIPTION FOR THIS TARGET AREA

Connecting Forest Park to Rock Creek and the Westside Trail will keep important wildlife corridors intact and provide trail connections between the region's largest urban park and Washington County. Acquiring key properties will capitalize on recent successful acquisitions of land adjacent to and beyond Forest Park, connecting the park with the larger Pacific Greenway.

QUESTIONS

1. **The following priorities were identified in the Forest Park Connections 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 from 1 to 4, with 1 being the most important and 4 being the least important.**

- _____ Protecting lands in the large natural corridor northwest of today's Forest Park connecting to other protected natural areas north of Newberry Road. **(Map area A)**
- _____ Protecting lands or purchasing development rights in the headwater areas of Balch Creek, Saltzman Creek, Doane Creek and Miller Creek on the east side of the ridgeline. **(Map area B)**
- _____ Protecting lands around key creek confluence areas on the Willamette River at Saltzman Creek, Doane Creek and Miller Creek. **(Map area C)**
- _____ Securing connections between Forest Park and Rock Creek headwaters areas on the west side of the ridgeline. (Note: see also the Rock Creek Headwaters and Greenway target area information.) **(Map area D)**

2. **In general, what should be emphasized in the Forest Park Connections target area? Rank in order of importance to you from 1 to 5, with 1 being the most important and 5 being the least important.**

- _____ Protecting existing wildlife habitat connections.
- _____ Protecting creeks and headwater areas for water quality, fish and wildlife habitat.
- _____ Providing people access to nature along trail corridors and within natural areas.
- _____ Protecting wildlife habitat and public access by securing inholdings or filling gaps in Forest Park.
- _____ Securing locations for additional trailheads for public access to Forest Park.

3. Are there other priorities that the Metro Council should consider in the Forest Park Connections target area? Please be specific.

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

5. Are you interested in participating in Metro's Natural Areas program by selling or donating your property or selling or donating a conservation easement on your property?

Yes No If yes, please be sure to provide your contact information below.

6. Do you have any other comments about this target area?

Please add my name to the Forest Park Connections target area mailing list for future information, public meetings and events.

Name _____

Address _____

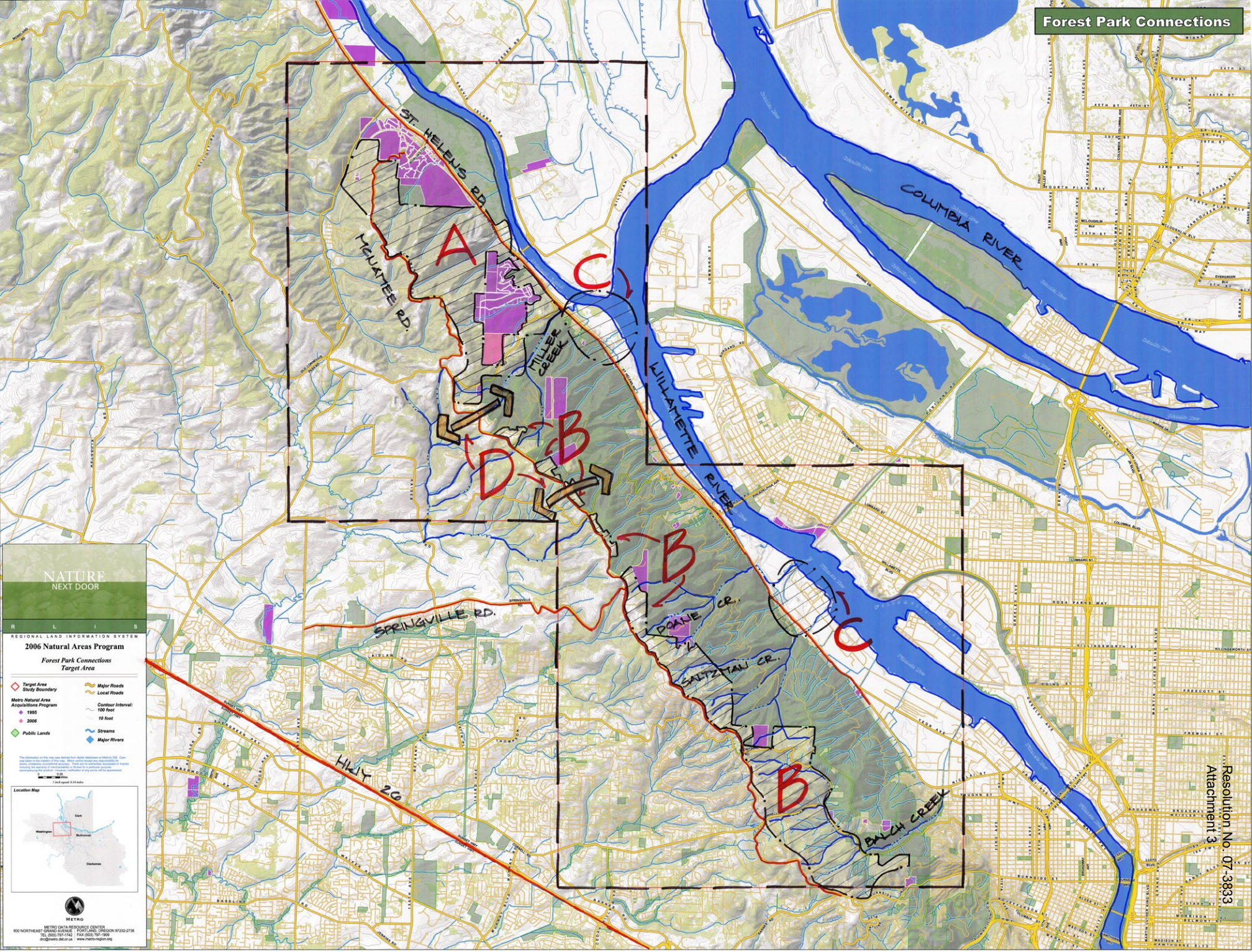
City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

**You may complete this questionnaire online at
www.metro-region.org/naturalareas**

or mail it to Metro at
600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97232
(503) 797-1741



NATURE
NEXT DOOR

REGIONAL LAND INFORMATION SYSTEM
2006 Natural Areas Program
Forest Park Connections
Target Area

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

The information on this map was derived from digital data from Metro GIS. Certain information may be subject to change without notice. Metro GIS is not responsible for errors or for any consequences arising from the use of the information. This map is provided as a general reference only. For more information, contact Metro GIS at 503.253.7172.



Forest Park Connections Survey Results

1. The following priorities were identified in the Forest Park Connections 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 in the large natural corridor northwest of today's Forest Park connecting to other protected natural areas northwest of Newberry Road. (Map area A)	46.0% (23)	22.0% (11)	14.0% (7)	18.0% (9)	2.04	50
Protecting lands or purchasing development rights in the headwater areas of Balch Creek, Saltzman Creek, Doane Creek and Miller Creek on the east side of the ridgeline. (Map area B)	18.0% (9)	36.0% (18)	32.0% (16)	14.0% (7)	2.42	50
Protecting lands around key creek confluence areas on the Willamette River at Saltzman Creek, Doane Creek and Miller Creek. (Map area C)	21.6% (11)	9.8% (5)	31.4% (16)	37.3% (19)	2.84	51
Securing connections between Forest Park and Rock Creek headwaters areas on the west side of the ridgeline. (Note: see also the Rock Creek Headwaters and Greenway target area information.) (Map area D)	20.8% (11)	32.1% (17)	20.8% (11)	26.4% (14)	2.53	53
	<i>answered question</i>					54
	<i>skipped question</i>					4

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

	most important				least important	Rating Average	Response Count	
Protecting existing wildlife habitat connections.	35.8% (19)	34.0% (18)	13.2% (7)	5.7% (3)	11.3% (6)	2.23	53	
Protecting creeks and headwater areas for water quality, fish and wildlife habitat.	24.1% (13)	24.1% (13)	29.6% (16)	18.5% (10)	3.7% (2)	2.54	54	
Providing people access to nature along trail corridors and within natural areas.	16.7% (9)	9.3% (5)	11.1% (6)	33.3% (18)	29.6% (16)	3.50	54	
Protecting wildlife habitat and public access by securing inholdings or filling gaps in Forest Park.	23.2% (13)	19.6% (11)	33.9% (19)	10.7% (6)	12.5% (7)	2.70	56	
Securing locations for additional trailheads for public access to Forest Park.	3.6% (2)	14.5% (8)	10.9% (6)	29.1% (16)	41.8% (23)	3.91	55	
	<i>answered question</i>							56
	<i>skipped question</i>							2

3. Are there other priorities that the Metro Council should consider in the Forest Park Connections target area? Please be specific.

Expansion of mountain bike access.
I hope that as part of the vision for public access that there will be increased recognition of cycling as a legitimate and non-destructive recreational activity within park boundaries.
I hope that as part of the vision for public access that there will increased recognition of cycling as a legitimate and non-destructive recreational activity within park boundaries.
I'd really like to see some areas of the park opened up to mountain bikes -- actual singletrack. It's important to me to be able to ride to trailheads -- I think it's a bad thing that local mountain bikers inevitably end up burning gas to haul their bikes to remote trails. Consult with local and national mountain biking groups to discuss how negative impacts can be managed -- we don't want to mess up Forest Park any more than you do!
Single track mountain bike trails.
Make them bike accessible, the more use the better and right now bikes have a very limited range in Forest Park.
Measure 37 is a threat to McNamee Road area (Dorothy English's neighborhood). Be aware of development plans there and consider purchasing properties--just don't pay M37 claimants their ridiculously inflated ideas of property values.
Critical to link park to Willamette River more effectively.
A lot of the upland forests (Doug fir forests) have been protected. I would like to see more emphasis on protecting the riparian and bottomland forests. I know that Sauvie Island is outside of Metro's areas, but I love the idea mentioned at the St. John's open house of connecting Howell Territorial park with the river to the east.
Please try to obtain some westside creek headwaters areas a bit farther west, as well in "area D"---for instance near NW Quarry Rd. and/or NW Toelle Lane. These provide existing Elk routes as well as potential hiking/view sites for people who are farther west than Forest Park proper.

Specifically: protecting and expanding the area of park and trail connections NW from Forest Park to the old growth strand.

Maintain a separation between areas heavily used by people away from areas heavily used by wildlife.

Trail connections to Agency and Ennis Creeks and out to old growth property.

Ivy removal.

A bicycle commuting connection from the St. Johns Bridge through Forest Park and then connecting to Germantown/Old Germantown Rd. (or running along side it).

I didn't fill out the previous multiple choice questions because I don't have the expertise to rank them in order of importance - to me they all seem vitally important.

Alternative commuter routes into Portland from the westside should include routes free from automobiles. Thank you!

NO trail on the BPA powerline from Washington county to Germantown and Old Germantown. This is elk migration habitat: I have pic.

Please continue consideration of westside trails to connect Hillsboro to Portland. The rail to trail conversions being considered would be wonderful. Are there any off road, 4 season alternatives for westside cyclists?

I am most concerned about wildlife corridors from Forest Park to the Pacific Ocean.

The confluence areas have tremendous potential to strengthen wildlife corridors and to provide aquatic habitat. For example - Saltzman Creek - a few improvements to the channelized area through the industrial area would be a priority on my list - this stream (after Miller Cr) is the least culvertized of the West Hills streams that drain to into the Willamette and could net big improvements for f & w.

I would like to see a new effort towards putting single track mountain biking trails into the Park. I commute by bike from NE PDX to Beaverton everyday, and I would love to have a real MTB trail to use.

Single track mountain biking in Forest Park.

Mountain Bike singletrack trails! Mountain biking in Forest Park is something that Portlanders are truly missing. Leif does not count, it is a road! Well built trails will last a lifetime and there are organizations such as PUMP that will help build them!

KEEPING PEOPLE OUT OF NATURAL AREAS TO PRESERVE THE RIGHTS OF ANIMALS AND THIER NATURAL HABITAT IS A GOOD IDEA HOWEVER IT MUST BE BALANCED WITH THE PEOPLES RIGHT TO ENJOY THOSE NATURAL AREAS. I'M FOR INITIATING TRAIL FEES TO HELP RAISE REVENUE FOR PRESERVATION AND USING VOLUNTEERS EFFECTIVLY TO KEEP THE TRAILS CLEAN AND OPEN TO ALL OF US.

Ensuring public transportation access and limiting automobile traffic.

Developing trail systems through Metro acquisitions from 1995 to connect Forest Park proper to the old growth property owned by Friends of Forest Park.

Having worked on the Pacific Greenway through Friends of Forest Park, I would like to see a corridor reopen for possible coastal connection. Also a wildlife corridor at least 1-1/2 miles (in 1989 a trail worker spotted a bear and four cubs in Forest Park).

Map areas B & D are under most threats, while A is of critical long term importance, so all are important. Narrow portions of Forest Park need bolstering. I would focus on maintaining wildlife corridors, especially for larger animals like elk.

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.

Use the IMBA - International Mountain Bike Association.

Trust for Public Land is looking for properties in the area.

Friends of Forest Park might be more effective at fundraising as conservancy.

Columbia Land Trust has not been active on Sauvie Island and the land along Highway 30, but have expressed interest in expanding into this area.

Encourage Friends of Forest Park to raise money to specifically purchase more land in and adjacent to the park.

We are not funding experts. It seems to us that the two Metro greenspaces bonds (1995, 2006) may be a sufficient property tax request, in the present social and economic climate - but they could be renewed (if voters approve) after the initial term. New to investigate: a state park or wildlife area, adjacent to forest park, using lottery revenue? A special "by invitation" donation request and honored donor program? Most Tualatin Mtn. Residents are not actually wealthy, but SOME are.

Work closely with Friends of Forest Park and Trust for Public Lands.

HSBC, the company I work for, has demonstrated a commitment to protecting the environment and to connecting employees with volunteer opportunities. I would suggest working out partnership with HSBC (they have offices in Tigard locally). If there were a fundraiser for employees, with matching funds from the company (this sort of thing happens quite often), or getting work parties of employees to volunteer.

Make use of conservation easements to protect lands in private ownership.

Yes- hire a fundraiser - consider parks to multiply funding and funds raised

BTA, PUMP, African American Health Coalition.

Conservation easements.

Connect with the Nature Conservancy and the Sierra Club starting with local offices. Contract out to hire a grants person to submit applications for relevant grants throughout the country, but begin with Oregon-based foundations.

If the single track were considered a transportation route, wouldn't that mean funding could be secured through the massive DOT budgets?

International Mountain bicycling association, local outdoor businesses. REI, Keen, Adidas, Nike, etc. BTA, Portland transportation.

With mountain bike trails, local bike retailers and companies such as Chris King would be a resource. As well as IMBA grants.

NO

When I worked with Keith Hag of Conservation Fund, we got grants from local family foundations. All of my files are in Friends of Forest Park office.

Forest Park Neighborhood would like to continue to work with Metro to identify important habitat and natural resource areas, and to protect them.

Develop the case with PDX and Friends of Forest Park. That Linnton and the NW Industrial Neighborhood Association need Forest Heights and all the others along Skyline and visa versa – that they need each other in protecting Forest Park in between.

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

I'm pleased to see that the priorities listed regarding Forest Park appear to be well-conceived and thoughtfully gathered. Preserving Forest Park, its animal inhabitants, and the recreational opportunities present within it's boundaries will become increasingly important as the region's density magnifies.

Mountain bike singletrack trail access – separate from hiking/running.

Please promote more bicycle usage in forest park.

Work with Friends of Forest Park to be ready for spur of the moment opportunities, even if they are outside target areas. Metro MUST drop their efforts to bring Area 94 into the UGB. It's in direct conflict with this natural areas conservation effort.

Please don't bring any other land into UGB on west side of Forest Park.

If there is interest in acquiring conservation easements and/or more land on Sauvie Island, I would be very interested in helping.

It is an extremely valuable resource to wildlife. Its overuse threatens to disrupt its ability to function as a natural forested ecosystem; it needs to be protected from overuse

In addition to property improvement, long-term maintenance (control of invasives; trail main; restrooms, etc) is a key need for Forest Park and this need will only grow as more land is added. Forest park is a "Crown Jewel" and needs to be treated as such.

More educational outreach about the reasons for leash laws within the park. A lot of dog owners are unaware as to why such regulations are important, and how they specifically help protect the park (this could be done with signage near trailheads, along with something in the FoFP newsletter).

June 19, 2007 David Bragdon, Rex Burkholder and Metro Council Metro Regional Center 600 NE Grand Avenue Portland, OR 97232-2736 Dear Mr. Bragdon, Mr. Burkholder and other Council members, In May of 1989 the City of Portland along with neighborhood representatives began work on the East Columbia Neighborhood Natural Resources Plan. The Plan was adopted by Portland City Council on April 18, 1990. In that document it was recognized that the East Columbia Neighborhood is one of the most diverse areas in Portland and one of its most important characteristics is its wetlands and drainageways. Levees were constructed to assist in flood control and today a network of drainage ditches exist to divert water to one of two pump stations along the Columbia Slough. The diversity of wildlife in the area is remarkable – deer, fox, coyote, rabbits, birds, (hawks, blue heron, hummingbirds, and morning doves), hundreds of migrating geese and ducks are all found in open spaces in the neighborhood. While the city's Comprehensive Plan established increased residential densities on several of the area's vacant parcels and industrial zoning on the perimeter of the neighborhood there are still several pieces of land that are in need of protection as wetlands and wildlife habitat areas. Neighborhood residents have struggled over the past 15 years to deal with wetlands fills while participating in the confusing process of land development, city codes, and fill permit regulations. There is a current proposal by the Columbia Edgewater Country Club to develop land they refer to as "The Bean Field Property" and identified in the East Columbia Resources Plan as the Columbia Edgewater/Shragg Property. In the Natural Resources Plan this piece of property is identified as a wetland area of intermediate value and it is suggested that it has the potential to be useful for both wildlife and for sediment stabilization. In the plan the neighborhood's vision is that this wetland area be enhanced by planting emergent plant species and developed as a wildlife habitat and used as a site amenity for new residential developments. No enhancement has taken place and the site is generally mowed once a year. Metro's Natural Areas Program process of identifying the need to preserve natural areas for future generations is a perfect fit for this area in East Columbia Neighborhood. The neighborhood has an active group that works to maintain privately owned wetlands in the area. The Columbia Slough Watershed Council gave the Friends of Blue Heron an award in 2005 for their stewardship of their wetlands. This group could be a model to work with other neighbors in preserving the Columbia Edgewater/Shragg Property. We would work with Metro to enhance the Site with plantings and maintenance. East Columbia with its unique natural diversity has always been active in the preservation of natural areas and has a strong support base to continue that involvement. We believe this is an excellent opportunity for Metro to partner with citizens in preserving natural areas in our region. Sincerely, East Columbia Neighborhood Association Maryhelen Kincaid, Land Use Chairperson 503-286-3354 (home) jamasu88@msn.com

There are several undeveloped lots from Germantown Rd up to NW Wood... Its a beautiful area that I'd like to remain undeveloped.

There is a tract of land on the NW corner of NW Springville Rd. and NW Skyline Blvd. Which would seem to offer an ideal public park. Walking, wonderful views, kite flying, etc... Currently it's used as horse pasture. (It has been for sale in the past)

Keep trails in Forest Park open for hiking (all trails) and mt. biking (not the wild wood). Check out www.pump.org - (Portland United Mt. Pedalers is PUMP)

Thank you!

This has got to be one of the most important opportunities to provide additional protection to Forest Park and to provide headwater protections.

Make sure that the residents of the Linnton Neighborhood have a big say in what happens (no I don't live there). That neighborhood has been working very hard to build and maintain a strong community and connections – natural and human – are very important to them. They've done lots of work and thinking about this area and know it well.

If mountain bike trails were available in Forest Park less mountain bikers would be traveling away from Portland and more mountain bikers would travel to Portland to ride their bike. Also, if the trail was build in the right location it

could be used as alternative transportation over the mountain to Beaverton.

PLEASE, NO DEVELOPMENT!

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 probable likely buyer of the plywood mill site 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.

In my dreams I would like a walking bridge over W. Burnside to prevent fatalities. We tried to do this once. I think more clearly marked trailheads are needed. The more people using the park, the safer it will be for all. "Leif" is too congested.

I don't understand why Area D seems to stop well north of Springville Road. It should include at least the area down to Springville and possibly a little beyond that. One specific property – Beovich (in the big curve of Springville just west of Skyline) could be useful as a "connector" piece. Habitat quality on it isn't great today, but it lies in a narrow spot between other good habitats on the SW side of the hills.

SEPTEMBER 2007

NATURE NEXT DOOR

REGIONAL LAND INFORMATION SYSTEM

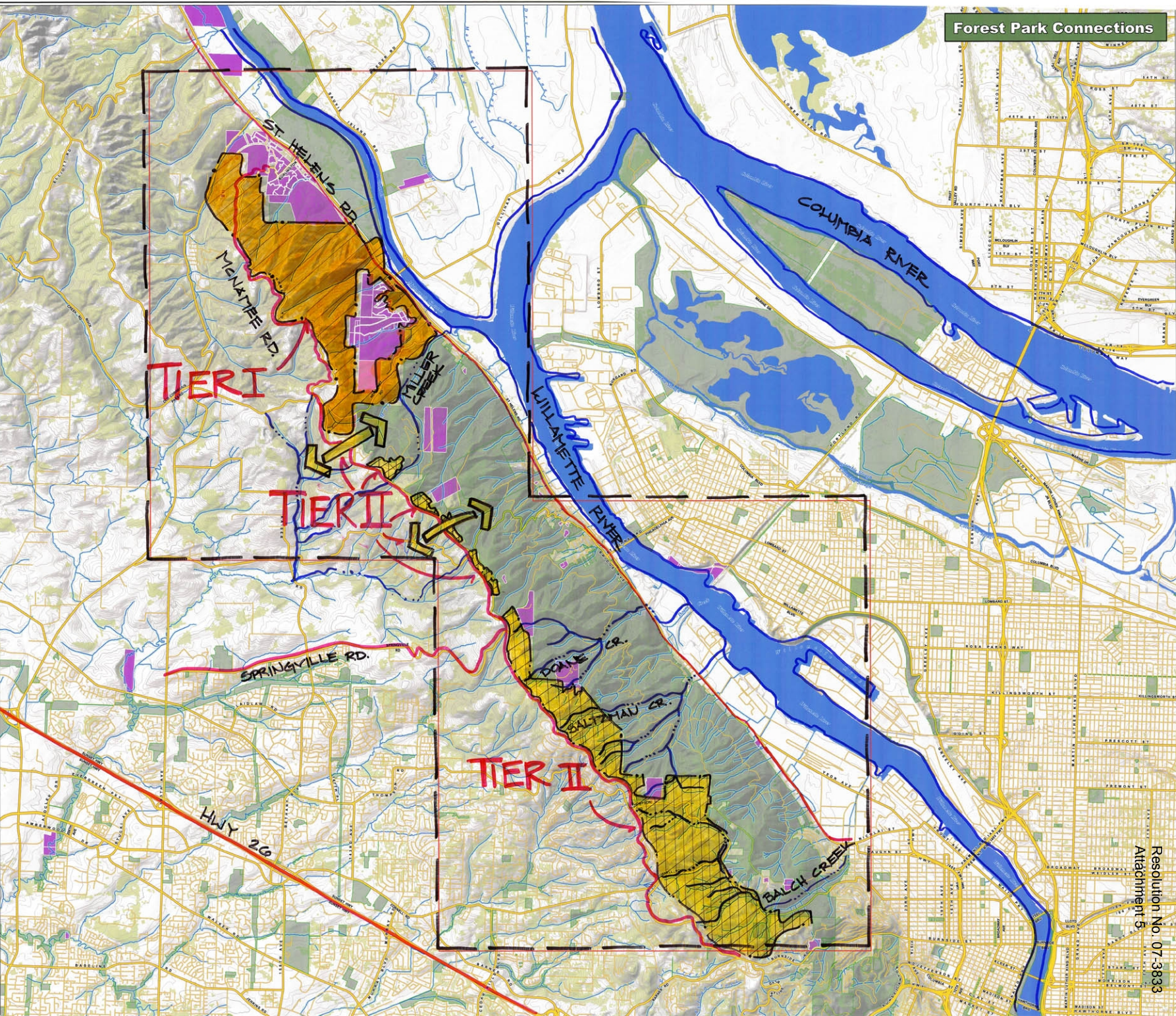
2006 Natural Areas Program
Forest Park Connections
Target Area

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

Scale: 1 inch = 0.5 miles



METRO
METRO DATA RESOURCE CENTER
800 NORTH EAST GRAND AVENUE FORTLAND, OREGON 97123-3739
TEL (503) 797-4142 FAX (503) 797-7009
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Resolution No. 07-3833
Attachment 5