



WHEREAS, Metro recognizes that there are many citizens and public and private organizations interested in the Tri-Met/Metro relationship as well as governance at the regional level; and

WHEREAS, There is considerable community interest in the future provision of public services, including parks, libraries and jails, for the people of our metropolitan area; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED,

1. That the Metro Council supports the creation of a metropolitan study commission as proposed by the Metropolitan Citizens' League in the attached document to review and make recommendations on metropolitan government structure, functions and finance, such work to be completed by the end of August 1984.

2. That the Council directs the Executive Officer and Presiding Officer to work with the Metropolitan Citizens' League in establishing the Commission and obtaining financial support for the completion of the study.

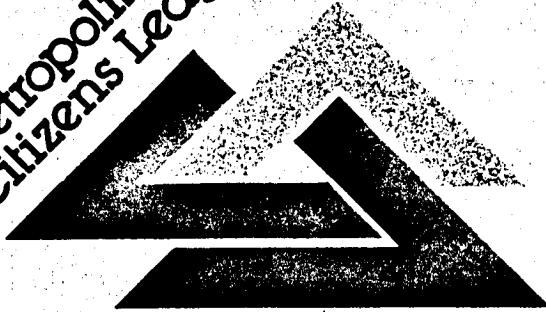
ADOPTED by the Council of the Metropolitan Service District  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1983.

*NOT ADOPTED*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer

DC/gl  
8735B/349  
06/15/83

Metropolitan  
Citizens League



June 15, 1983

Ms. Cindy Banzer, Presiding Officer  
Metropolitan Service District  
527 S.W. Hall Street  
Portland, Oregon 97201

Dear Cindy,

This letter is in response to your letter dated May 25, 1983 in which you requested that I put in writing my thoughts regarding an effort to study the regional level of government in the Portland metropolitan area and develop recommendations to appropriate bodies for improvements which will lead to more efficient, effective and responsive delivery of services at the metropolitan level. Please excuse the tardiness of my response as I wanted to formulate my thoughts and meet with the Board of Directors of the Citizens League prior to communicating with you.

The Board of Directors met and thoroughly discussed the proposal described below on June 15, 1983. The Board unanimously approved the proposal, and instructed me to send it to you and the Council. I will appear at the Council's June 23, 1983 meeting to discuss it with your Council at greater length.

#### PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A METROPOLITAN STUDY COMMISSION

It is the Citizens League intent to pursue the establishment of a metropolitan study commission in the coming months.

The study commission would be an independent group of community leaders (civic, business, labor and government) with a broad gauged mandate. Its focus would be on metropolitan issues, problems and governments--a look at problems and needs with a realistic look at the future. The commission would be a continuation of the efforts of the metropolitan community to provide effective means to solve area-wide problems started 20 years ago through the creation of the old Metropolitan Study Commission. That Commission, created in 1963, brought about, among other things, the creation of the Metropolitan Service District, the Portland Boundary Commission, and a City-County Charter Commission. A second step towards metropolitan government reform was taken in 1976 through the creation

Ms. Cindy Banzer  
June 15, 1983  
Page Two

of the Tri-County Local Government Commission. That body brought about the enabling legislation which resulted in the merger of CRAG into the Metropolitan Service District, thus creating the "new" Metro.

Creation of Commission - We propose that the Citizens League Board of Directors appoint the members of the Commission from a list of names developed by an Ad Hoc Nominating Committee. The Ad Hoc Nominating Committee would be chaired by the President or another representative of the Citizens League and be made up of representatives from each of the four regional entities (Tri-Met, Metro, Boundary Commission, and the Port), plus the Tri-County League of Women Voters, the Metropolitan Area Chambers of Commerce, Labor Councils, the Futures Group, and other interested organizations. The responsibility of the Nominating Committee would be to develop a list of names of community leaders from business, civic, labor and government sectors. The Study Commission should consist of 30 to 40 members.

Scope of Review: It is important that the mandate of the study be broadly gauged yet specific enough to develop realistic recommendations for improvements to our metropolitan governance system. The Commission should study and make recommendations on the following:

1. Metropolitan Government Structure:

- o What are the current and suggested relationships among Tri-Met, Metro, the Port, and the Boundary Commission?
- o What are the current and suggested relationships between the metropolitan governments and agencies and the counties?
- o Are there changes necessary to improve the existing structures and to accommodate the provision of additional functions at the regional level, i.e., parks, libraries, jails, etc.?

2. Metropolitan Government Functions:

- o Given the current local government situation, are there additional functions or needs which realistically are suited to be provided at the metropolitan level?
- o What changes need to be made to build metropolitan response?

3. Metropolitan Government Finance:

- o What sources and amounts of revenue are needed to assure stable, long-term funding of metropolitan area-wide services?
- o What changes need to be made to tap these revenue sources?

Ms. Cindy Banzer  
June 15, 1983  
Page Three

Timing of Review - The study commission will likely make recommendations which will require changes in state legislation. It is imperative that the commission's work be completed by the end of August 1984.

Funding of study commission - In order to do a credible job it is imperative that the commission have staff support--a full-time staff director and part-time clerical support at a minimum. We suggest a budget of \$50-75,000, these funds to be contributed from the governmental sector by Tri-Met, Metro, the Port, the Boundary Commission, and the State of Oregon, and from the business community and private foundations.

Summary - It is time for this community to reassess the functions and organizational relationships at the metropolitan level. Recent publicity about problems of funding parks, libraries and jails in this region are testimony that new ideas and approaches are needed for the provision of public services. Metro's current discussion of "taking over" Tri-Met also shows that relationships are changing. It is crucial that all the current interest and activity be channeled into an orderly and coordinated effort for a constructive outcome to occur. The metropolitan area does not have the time, energy or resources for individual efforts at governmental reform to become a reality. The "next step" in our evolving metropolitan governmental system will require the cooperation of all positive interested parties for the thought to become a reality.

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I hope the above information is of assistance to you and the Council. The League plans to move with all deliberate speed to establish this commission. If you have any additional questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Ronald C. Cease  
President  
Metropolitan Citizens League

cc: Metro Council  
Rick Gustafson, Executive Officer