

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADOPTING AN ) RESOLUTION NO. 02-3253  
UPDATED REGIONAL GREENSPACES )  
SYSTEM CONCEPT MAP ) Introduced by Mike Burton, Executive Officer

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 92-1637, the Metro Council adopted the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan on July 23, 1992; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan articulated a vision for a cooperative, interconnected regional system of parks, natural areas, trails and greenways for fish, wildlife and people (the regional system); and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan included a map depicting regional trails and regional natural areas and parks as potential components of the envisioned regional system; and

WHEREAS, the recommendations related to the inventory, protection, and management of the regional system envisioned in the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan were included in Chapter 3 of the Regional Framework Plan, adopted by the Metro Council via Ordinance No. 97-715B in 1997; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Framework Plan did not include a map of the envisioned Regional System and instead directed Metro in Policy 3.1.1 to inventory and identify regional parks, natural areas, open spaces, vacant lands, trails and greenways at the watershed level using topographical, geologic and biologic functions and features, i.e. "landscape ecology", to ensure coordinated protection and enhancement of natural functions such as water quality and wildlife habitat across jurisdictional boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Framework Plan further directed Metro in Policy 3.1.2, to identify corridors that connect regional parks, natural areas, open spaces, trails and greenways including river and stream corridors, utility corridors, abandoned roads and railroads rights of way; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council has previously adopted an amended map depicting the conceptual regional trails component of the regional system envisioned in the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan and Chapter 3 of the Regional Framework Plan via Resolution No. 02-3192; and

WHEREAS, the Greenspaces Technical Advisory Committee has completed an inventory and a recommended Regional Greenspaces System Concept Map which identifies regional parks, natural areas, open space and the connecting corridors as directed by the Regional Framework Plan; and

WHEREAS, the purposes of the Regional Greenspaces System Concept Map are to:

- A) Clearly portray and reaffirm the long-term vision of a regional system as described in the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan and Chapter 3 of the Regional Framework Plan.
- B) Create a context from which regional funding and protection priorities may be collaboratively developed.
- C) Provide a basis for public land managers to cooperatively discuss roles and responsibilities related to the regional system.

D) Document progress towards achieving the vision over the past decade; and

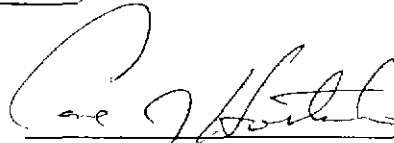
WHEREAS, the Regional Greenspaces System Concept Map has no regulatory impact and does not establish requirements or obligations for public or private landowners; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Committee reviewed the Regional Greenspaces System Concept Map on November 5, 2002 and recommended adoption by the Metro Council; now therefore

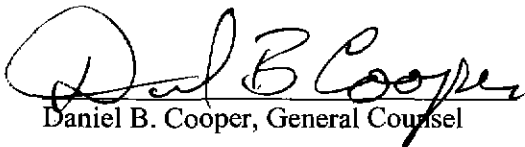
BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Metro Council approves and adopts the Regional Greenspaces System Concept Map as shown in Exhibit A.
- 2) Metro Council will consider amendments to the map based on the recommendations of the Greenspaces Technical Advisory Committee and the Regional Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Committee when such proposed amendments are shown to meet the criteria attached as Exhibit B.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2002.

  
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Carl Hosticka, Presiding Officer

Approved as to Form:

  
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Daniel B. Cooper, General Counsel

**EXHIBIT A**  
**Resolution No. 02-3253**

**Oversized Map 31" x 44-1/2"**

**REGIONAL GREENSPACES SYSTEM CONCEPT UPDATE**

**FINAL DRAFT 11/21/2002**

Exhibit A  
Resolution 02-3253

R L I S

REGIONAL LAND INFORMATION SYSTEM

Final Draft - 12/2/2002

# Regional Greenspaces System Concept Update

← Key connections to rural landscapes of high ecological value

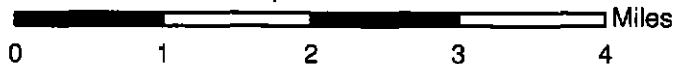
- Metro boundary
  - - - - Urban growth boundary
  - oooo Planning area boundary
  - + + + + Light rail lines
  - ⊙ ⊙ Portland harbor
  - Publicly owned parks and natural areas in the regional system
  - Other natural areas and connecting corridors in the regional system
  - Other publicly owned parks and natural areas
  - Ecologically important rural landscape
  - Rivers and streams
- Regional Trails**
- Existing
  - - - Proposed
  - Water Trail
  - ▲▲▲▲ Proposed Inter-Regional Trail
  - Proposed Greenway Corridor

PLEASE NOTE: This document (Exhibit A) was too large to scan. To view the document, please contact the Council Archivist.

Note: This map represents the vision originally described in the "Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan" (1992). The Plan describes a vision for a cooperative, interconnected, regional system of parks, natural areas, trails and greenways for fish, wildlife and people. This map is to be used primarily for planning purposes and has no regulatory authority.

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 accept any responsibility for errors, omissions, or positional accuracy. There are no warranties, expressed or implied, including the warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, accompanying this product. However, notification of any errors will be appreciated.

1 inch equals 1.31 miles



METRO

**EXHIBIT B**  
**Resolution No. 02-3253**

**Criteria used to evaluate regional parks and natural areas for inclusion in the  
Regional Greenspaces System Concept Map**

Ecological Values

Size of natural area  
Presence of wetlands and waterways  
Connection to other natural areas  
Species "richness" related to 56 species  
from the Oregon Natural Heritage database

Community Values

2015 population forecast within 1/2 mile  
Proximity to regional trail corridors  
Proximity to schools and universities  
Historical and cultural significance

## **METRO NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 02-3253, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADOPTING AN UPDATED REGIONAL GREENSPACES SYSTEM CONCEPT MAP**

Date: December 9, 2002

Presented by: Councilor McLain

**Committee Action:** At its December 4, 2002 meeting, the Metro Natural Resources Committee voted 4-0 to recommend Council adoption of Resolution 02-3253. Voting in favor: Councilors Atherton, Bragdon, Hosticka, and McLain.

**Background:** Resolution 02-3253 adopts the first update of the regional concept map since 1992, when the Greenspaces Master Plan was adopted. Specific policies were eventually adopted into the Regional Framework Plan in 1997, but an updated map of the regional system was not included. The Regional Framework Plan did include a call for the creation of an inventory of regional parks, natural areas, open spaces, vacant lands, trails and greenways at the watershed level.

The Greenspaces Technical Advisory Committee (GTAC) guided department staff in developing a process and criteria for mapping natural area components with the highest ecological and community values.

The Regional Greenspaces System Concept Map has no regulatory impact and does not establish requirements or obligations for public or private landowners. The exact nature of what the map does convey was the subject of meetings with local park jurisdictions throughout the region. Virtually all of them have sent letters supporting adoption of the map. Many were letters of unqualified support while others recommended further considerations.

- **Existing Law:** Greenspaces Master Plan (Resolution 92-1637)  
Regional Framework Plan (Ordinance 97-715B)
- **Budget Impact:** No budget impact.

**Committee Issues/Discussion:** Charlie Ciecko introduced the resolution and delivered the presentation via Powerpoint format. The committee heard further information on details of the map, for example how it depicts private from public ownership. The committee did direct that the key on the map clearly indicate that it is not a regulatory document.

## STAFF REPORT

Consideration of Resolution No. 02-3253 for the purpose of adopting an updated Regional Greenspaces System Concept Map

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Date: December 4, 2002

Prepared by: Charles Ciecko  
Jennifer Budhabhatti

## BACKGROUND

The Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan (MGMP), adopted by Resolution No. 92-1637 articulated a vision for a cooperative, interconnected regional system of parks, natural areas, open spaces, trails and greenways for fish, wildlife and people (the regional system). The MGMP included a map that depicted regional trails and regional natural areas as potential components of the envisioned regional system.

The recommendations of MGMP related to the inventory, protection and management of the regional system were subsequently included as policies of the Regional Framework Plan adopted by Ordinance No. 97-715B. The Regional Framework Plan did not include a map of the regional system that visually depicted the concept of the regional system. Instead it called for Metro in Policy 3.1.1 to inventory and identify regional parks, natural areas, open spaces, vacant lands, trails and greenways at the watershed level using topographical, geologic and biologic functions and features, i.e., "landscape ecology," to ensure coordinated protection and natural function such as water quality and wildlife habitat across jurisdictional boundaries.

The Greenspaces Technical Advisory Committee (GTAC), comprised of representatives from local park providers, state and federal agencies, non-profit and special interest groups, completed a process addressing the directives in the Regional Framework Plan. The process included identifying a planning boundary based on subregional watersheds, followed by an inventory of natural areas including an assessment of natural area change over the last decade. The GTAC and the public reviewed ecological and community criteria, as cited in the MGMP, to rate and select regional parks and natural areas components with the highest ecological and community values, to be included in the Regional Greenspaces System Concept Map. These criteria included:

### Ecological Values

Size of natural area  
Presence of wetlands and waterways  
Connection to other natural areas  
Species "richness" related to 56 species  
from the Oregon Natural Heritage database

### Community Values

2015 population forecast within 1/2 mile  
Proximity to regional trail corridors  
Proximity to schools and universities  
Historical and cultural significance

The GTAC reached a consensus on the parks, natural areas, open spaces and connecting corridors which should be included in the conceptual regional system. Discussion then centered on how to depict the connecting corridors. Ultimately, GTAC decided that corridors should be uniformly displayed to best symbolize the regional system concept.

As noted in the resolution, the Regional Greenspaces System Concept Map has no regulatory impact and does not establish requirements or obligations for public or private landowners.

Rather, the primary purposes of the Regional Greenspaces System Concept Map are to:

- A) Clearly portray and reaffirm the long-term vision of a regional system as described in the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan and Chapter 3 of the Regional Framework Plan.
- B) Create a context from which regional funding and protection priorities may be collaboratively developed.
- C) Provide a basis for public land managers to cooperatively discuss roles and responsibilities related to the regional system.
- D) Document progress towards achieving the vision over the past decade.

The Regional Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Committee (RPAGAC) considered the Regional Greenspaces System Map at their November 5, 2002 meeting and unanimously recommended council adoption of the map. The resolution includes a provision regarding future amendments to the Regional Greenspaces System Map when such amendments are found to meet the criteria and are recommended by GTAC and RPAGAC.

## ANALYSIS/INFORMATION

1. **Known Opposition** - Twenty-nine letters of support were collected from members of GTAC. Multnomah County did not endorse the concept map, expressing a number of concerns that will be addressed at a future time.

2. **Legal Antecedents**- On July 23, 1992, Metro Council adopted the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan (Resolution No. 92-1637) that identified the concept of a cooperative, interconnected regional system of parks, natural areas, open spaces, trails and greenways. In 1997, the Metro Council adopted the Regional Framework Plan (Ordinance No. 97-715B) directing Metro to inventory regional parks, natural areas, open spaces, vacant lands, trails and greenways at the watershed level using topographical, geological and biological functions and features, i.e., "landscape ecology," to ensure coordinated protection and natural function such as water quality and wildlife habitat across jurisdictional boundaries.

3. **Anticipated Effects** - The Regional Greenspaces System Concept Map has no regulatory impact and does not establish requirements or obligations for public or private landowners.

Rather, the primary purposes of the Regional Greenspaces System Concept Map are to:

- A) Clearly portray and reaffirm the long-term vision of a regional system as described in the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan and Chapter 3 of the Regional Framework Plan.
- B) Create a context from which regional funding and protection priorities may be collaboratively developed.



C) Provide a basis for public land managers to cooperatively discuss roles and responsibilities related to the regional system.

D) Document progress towards achieving the vision over the past decade

4. **Budget Impacts** - Adoption of the updated Regional Greenspaces System Concept Map has no budget impact.

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Executive Officer recommends adoption of Resolution No. 02-3253.