

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVISING THE)	RESOLUTION NO. 12-4394
NORTH PORTLAND ENHANCEMENT)	
COMMITTEE POLICIES AND AUTHORIZING)	Introduced by Rex Burkholder
THE COMMITTEE TO CHARGE)	
EXPENDITURES TO THE FUND PRINCIPAL)	

WHEREAS, on January 23, 1986, the Metro Council adopted Resolution No. 86-620, For the Purpose of Establishing the North Portland Rehabilitation and Enhancement Advisory Committee, which created the North Portland Rehabilitation and Enhancement Advisory Committee to assist Metro in developing policies for the Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund program; and

WHEREAS, on August 28, 1986, the Metro Council adopted Resolution No. 86-682, For the Purpose of Creating the North Portland Rehabilitation and Enhancement Committee and established, among other things, the duties and responsibilities of the Committee and the Enhancement fund program policies and criteria; and

WHEREAS, in Resolution No. 86-682 the Metro Council established as an enumerated duty and responsibility of the Committee, that “[t]he Committee and Council shall endeavor to preserve the Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund principal”; and

WHEREAS, on November 10, 1988, the Metro Council adopted Resolution No. 88-1010, For the Purpose of Revising the Duties and Responsibilities of the North Portland Enhancement Committee as Established by Resolution No. 86-682, and revised the policy regarding expenditure of Enhancement fund principal to allow waiver of the policy to preserve the fund principal in limited circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Enhancement fund was generated from a \$0.50 charge collected on each ton of solid waste disposed at St. John’s Landfill and, since the landfill’s closure in 1990, the fund has generated revenue through the amount of interest earned on the principal; and

WHEREAS, the amount of funds disbursed by the Committee has decreased significantly since 2008 because of the decrease in interest rates; and

WHEREAS, on October 23, 2012, the Committee met to consider the future of the Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund and voted in favor of a recommendation to disburse the balance of the Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund, including the fund principal, by fiscal year 2018; and


WHEREAS, removing limits on the amount of time a Committee member may participate on the Committee is in the best interest of the public given the expected depletion of the fund by fiscal year 2018; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council

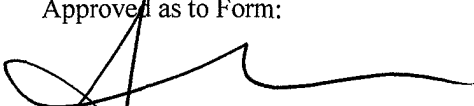
- (1) Adopts the recommendation of the North Portland Rehabilitation and Enhancement Committee and authorizes the Committee to disburse the balance of the Enhancement fund, including the principal, by fiscal year 2018;
- (2) Revises the Committee policies as set forth in Exhibit A;
- (3) Authorizes the Chief Operating Officer to issue revised policies in a form substantially similar to Exhibit B;

(4) Waives the application of Metro Code Section 2.19.030 (c)(1)-(3) (Membership of the Advisory Committees – Term) as to the North Portland Rehabilitation and Enhancement Committee (Metro Code Section 2.19.140).

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 6 day of December 2012.


Tom Hughes, Council President
COUNCIL
METRO

Approved as to Form:


Alison Kean Campbell, Metro Attorney

Section 3 of Resolution No. 86-682 is deleted in its entirety as follows:

~~3. That the Committee shall consist of seven members including:~~

- ~~a. Three members appointed by the Metro Council from a list presented by the Executive Officer all of whom shall reside within the rehabilitation and enhancement program boundary;~~
- ~~b. Three members appointed by the organization designated by the City of Portland to provide neighborhood participation services to north Portland. These members shall reside within the rehabilitation and enhancement program boundary; and~~
- ~~c. The Metro Councilor representing District 12, who shall be the chairman of the Committee.~~

~~—The initial term of service for members appointed under subsection a shall be for two years; all other appointments shall be for a term of four years. Except for the chairman no Committee member shall serve more than one full term except for members initially appointed under subsection a or member appointed to fill a vacancy.~~

Section 5a of Resolution No. 86-682, revised by 88-1010, is revised as follows:

- a. The committee shall propose an annual budget for the North Portland Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund for approval by the Metro Council. The budget shall at a minimum identify general program or project areas for the fiscal year, except that the Committee may recommend that no expenditures be made during a fiscal year. The committee and Council shall endeavor to preserve the Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund principal. The Committee may request the Council to waive the policy of preserving the fund principal when it determines a project for projects are of sufficient benefit to the residents or businesses in the Enhancement area. The committee may charge funding for projects and programs to the Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund principal.

Section 7 of Resolution No. 86-682 is revised as follows:

7. The ~~Executive~~Chief Operating Officer shall assign staff to assist The Committee in carrying out its duties and responsibilities at the level budgeted in the Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund. Before assigning staff, the ~~Executive~~Chief Operating Officer shall consult with the Committee about Committee needs and qualifications of proposed staff. Additional assistance may be acquired following Metro's contract procedures. Direct costs incurred to administer the rehabilitation and enhancement program shall be paid by the Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund. The Council shall not charge overhead costs to the Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund

Exhibit B to Resolution No. 12-4394

The Metro policies for the North Portland Rehabilitation and Enhancement Committee, established by Resolution No. 86-682 and revised by Resolution Nos. 88-1010 and 12-4394, are as follows:

1. That the Metro Council hereby creates the North Portland Rehabilitation and Enhancement Committee, hereinafter referred to as the "Committee" to advise the Metro Council on the development and implementation of the rehabilitation and enhancement program.
2. That the boundary of the rehabilitation and enhancement program encompasses the area between the Columbia and Willamette Rivers and the Interstate 5 and Interstate 405 Freeways as shown on Figure 1, attached.
3. That fees collected according to state law (\$.50 per ton of waste deposited at the St. Johns Landfill) shall be budgeted and accounted for in a separate fund. Revenue accruing to the fund shall be invested in accordance to Metro's investment policies.
4. That the specific duties and responsibilities of the Committee shall be as follows:
 - a. The committee shall propose an annual budget for the North Portland Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund for approval by the Metro Council. The budget shall at a minimum identify general program or project areas for the fiscal year, except that the Committee may recommend that no expenditures be made during a fiscal year. The committee may charge funding for projects and programs to the Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund principal.
 - b. The Committee may solicit requests for proposals or projects which may be funded from the Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund. Any project or proposal to be funded through the Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund shall be approved according to Metro contract procedures. Projects or proposals shall not be split into components when approved. No project or proposal shall be considered by Metro which has not been recommended by the Committee.
5. That the Metro Council approves the criteria described in Exhibit A, attached, which shall be used by the Committee and the Council in recommending and approving the Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund. The Committee may at any time request the Council to change or modify the criteria.
6. The Chief Operating Officer shall assign staff to assist the Committee in carrying out its duties and responsibilities at the level budgeted in the Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund. Before assigning staff, the Chief Operating Officer shall consult with the Committee about Committee needs and qualifications of proposed staff. Additional assistance may be acquired following Metro's contract procedures. Direct costs incurred to administer the rehabilitation and enhancement program shall be paid by the Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund. The Council shall not charge overhead costs to the Rehabilitation and Enhancement Fund.

EXHIBIT A

Criteria for Funding Projects/Programs

1. Projects/Programs will only be funded within the boundaries as specified in Figure 1.
2. Any person or any organization may submit proposals.
3. The Committee will provide an open public process for Project/program review and recommendation. It will coordinate with Metro's budget process.
4. The fund shall not substitute for projects/programs funded by other sources or to fund projects or programs connected with the St. Johns Closure Plan.
5. Projects/Programs may be funded in part or in full.
6. Projects/Programs that best enhance or rehabilitate areas most severely impacted by the landfill will receive priority consideration for approval.
7. Projects/Programs shall be directed to the aid of residents, non-profit corporations and businesses (as defined by the Small Business Administration) and shall meet one or more of the following guidelines:
 - a. Result in increased employment/economic opportunities for North Portland residents.
 - b. Result in rehabilitation, upgrading or direct increase in the market value of a significant portion of the housing stock of residential land in North Portland.
 - c. Result in the preservation or enhancement of existing wildlife and marine areas of North Portland, or improve public awareness or opportunity to enjoy them.
 - d. Result in improvement to or increase in recreational areas of North Portland.
 - e. Result in improvement in the safety of the area of North Portland.
 - f. Result in an improvement of the appearance or cleanliness of the areas of North Portland neighborhoods or a significant portion thereof.
 - g. Result in a significant increase in the utilization or occupancy of a North Portland commercial area.
 - h. Result in programs such as training opportunities to benefit North Portland youth and elderly.

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FIGURE 1



RETRO

*N. Portland Rehabilitation
& Enhancement Boundary*

STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 12-4394, FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING PROGRAM CHANGES TO THE NORTH PORTLAND ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

Date: December 6, 2012

Prepared by: Stacey Triplett, 503-797-1882

BACKGROUND

The North Portland Enhancement committee recommends allocating the entire balance of the rehabilitation and enhancement fund by the close of fiscal year 2017-2018. This action will not be in keeping with past practice of *endeavoring to protect the fund principal*. This change is required to address the developments of the recent (and not so recent) past: 1) the 1990 St. Johns landfill closure; 2) the economic downturn and drastic reduction in interest earned in the fund, and 3) Metro's administrative decision to reimburse annual program administrative costs from the current fund balance starting in fiscal year 2013. The fund allocation is recommended as between \$500,000 and \$1 million to the North Portland Greenway trail project and the remaining portion for community-driven grants and program administrative costs.

In the summer of 2012, the North Portland Enhancement Committee conducted various community conversations to receive help in addressing the current choices the committee identified to tackle the realities confronting the continuation of the North Portland community enhancement grant program. The committee completed its deliberations and reached the above recommendation in October 2012. The North Portland Enhancement committee conducted a geographically-limited Opt In panel survey. The survey was conducted for one month in September and October 2012. More than 700 existing Opt In panel members reside in the area served by the North Portland grant program; these people received multiple invitations to participate in the survey. Almost 150 panel members replied.

In addition, and at the direction of the committee, staff promoted the survey at Riverfest 2012 in Cathedral Park, through emails sent to past grantees and applicants, and in news releases that appeared in e-newsletters and on websites of other local organizations and elected officials. Committee members also actively promoted the survey to their respective networks. These efforts netted approximately 100 more survey responses. Of those respondents, almost half voluntarily joined the Opt In panel upon completion of this survey to be available for future engagement. The Opt In survey results are included as Attachment 1.

At the October 23, 2012 meeting of the North Portland Enhancement Committee, members voiced their desire to use the remaining grant awards to address community needs that have surfaced in past grant cycles. Recognizing that these awards will likely be larger than in the recent past, the committee expressed interest in soliciting advice about administering funds from the local grant-making community.

To help bring about long-term, maximum benefits in the community, the committee would like to explore various approaches that include (but are not limited to) the following:

- awarding multi-year contracts
- projects and programs that significantly leverage other funds and partnerships amongst service providers, government agencies, private philanthropy and others
- support for projects and program responsive to existing funding goals
- building capacity of local organizations (e.g., leadership development of staff and boards, outcome measurement and evaluation tools and techniques)

Additionally, the committee validated the results of the community survey by voicing support for North Portland Greenway regional trail improvements. This capital project was seen as desirable for some portion of the remaining fund balance.

ANALYSIS/INFORMATION

1. Known Opposition

Throughout the final years of the grant program, there will likely be applicants that would prefer that the fund continue into the future, beyond 2018, for their own purposes.

2. Legal Antecedents

This recommendation requests a change from Metro Council Resolution No. 86-682 (which detailed specific duties and responsibilities of the North Portland Enhancement committee, including “preserve the rehabilitation and enhancement fund principal”).

3. Anticipated Effects

Staff will work with the North Portland Enhancement Committee to reach agreement on what portion of the existing funds will be dedicated to the future grants and what portion will be dedicated to North Portland Greenway trail project costs. This contribution will likely greatly leverage other funds for the project. Additionally, staff support is expected to research and discuss grant-making practices with the committee to make program changes that are supportive of the likelihood of increased award amounts in the next rounds of grant awards and the committee’s stated desire to use future awards to address building community capacity for the time when the fund has been depleted.

4. Budget Impacts

Enhancement grant program administrative costs have been identified; the staff time committed to the program that will be reimbursed by the fund may be sufficient to support implementation of the program changes. If there are additional resources required, those would be reimbursed by the fund balance.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Sustainability Center suggests moving forward with the committee’s recommendations. There will be staff support to the committee to accomplish the final disbursements from the fund. Without some program change, the annual interest earnings of the rehabilitation and enhancement fund would continue to be far less than the costs required to cover Metro’s grant program administration. Without program changes, the current situation leaves no opportunity for annual awards and no opportunity for protection of the fund principal. The committee’s recommendation provides a path forward to address the current situation.

Metro Opt In – North Enhancement Grant Survey

Davis, Hibbitts, & Midghall, Inc. (DHM Research) conducted an online survey among Opt In members and others who are residents of Arbor Lodge, Cathedral Park, Kenton, Overlook, Portsmouth, St. Johns and, University Park neighborhoods.

Research Design: DHM Research emailed 703 Opt In members with North Portland addresses and invited them to participate in the survey between September 19 and October 15, 2012. Metro also promoted the link to residents of the North Portland area. In total, 241 residents participated in the survey.

Majority of North Portland residents have not heard of the Enhancement Grant Program (Q1).

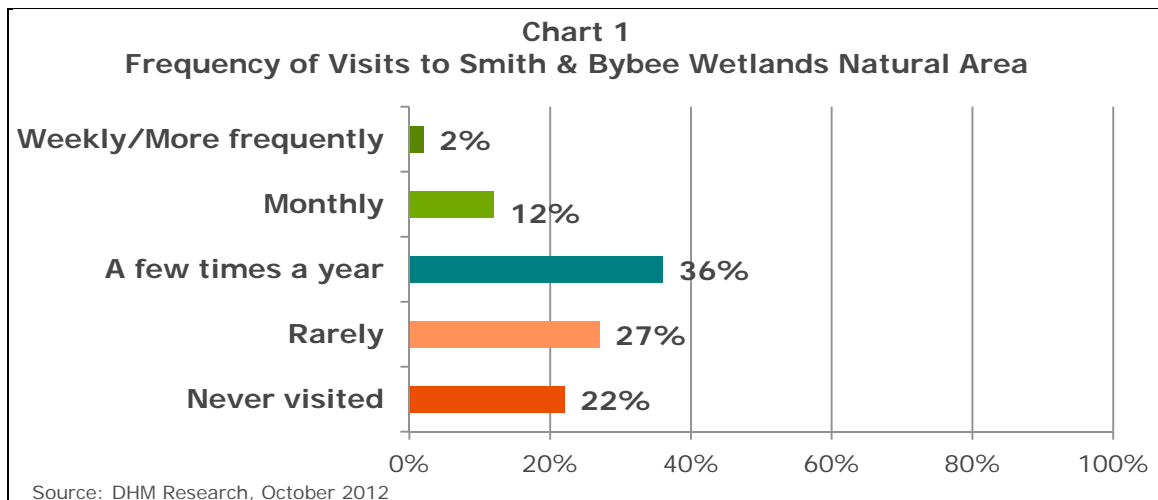
Overall, 59% of North Portland residents were unaware of Metro’s Enhancement Grant Program. Of those that were aware, 61% consider themselves very or somewhat familiar with the program. Top sources of awareness include being an active member of a neighborhood association (26%), being an applicant or recipient of the grant (18%), and being a volunteer or staff for an organization that has applied or received grant funds (17%).

- Residents age 35 and older are more likely than those younger to have heard of the Enhancement Grant Program (42% vs. 24%).

Most did not visit the St. Johns landfill before it closed in 1990, but half frequent Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area at least a few times a year.

Nine in ten (88%) did not visit the St. John’s landfill before it was closed in 1990. However, half (50%) visit the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area at least a few times a year. One in five (22%) have never visited the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area.

- Residents age 55 and older are more likely than those younger to have visited the St. Johns landfill before it was closed (35% vs. 3%).



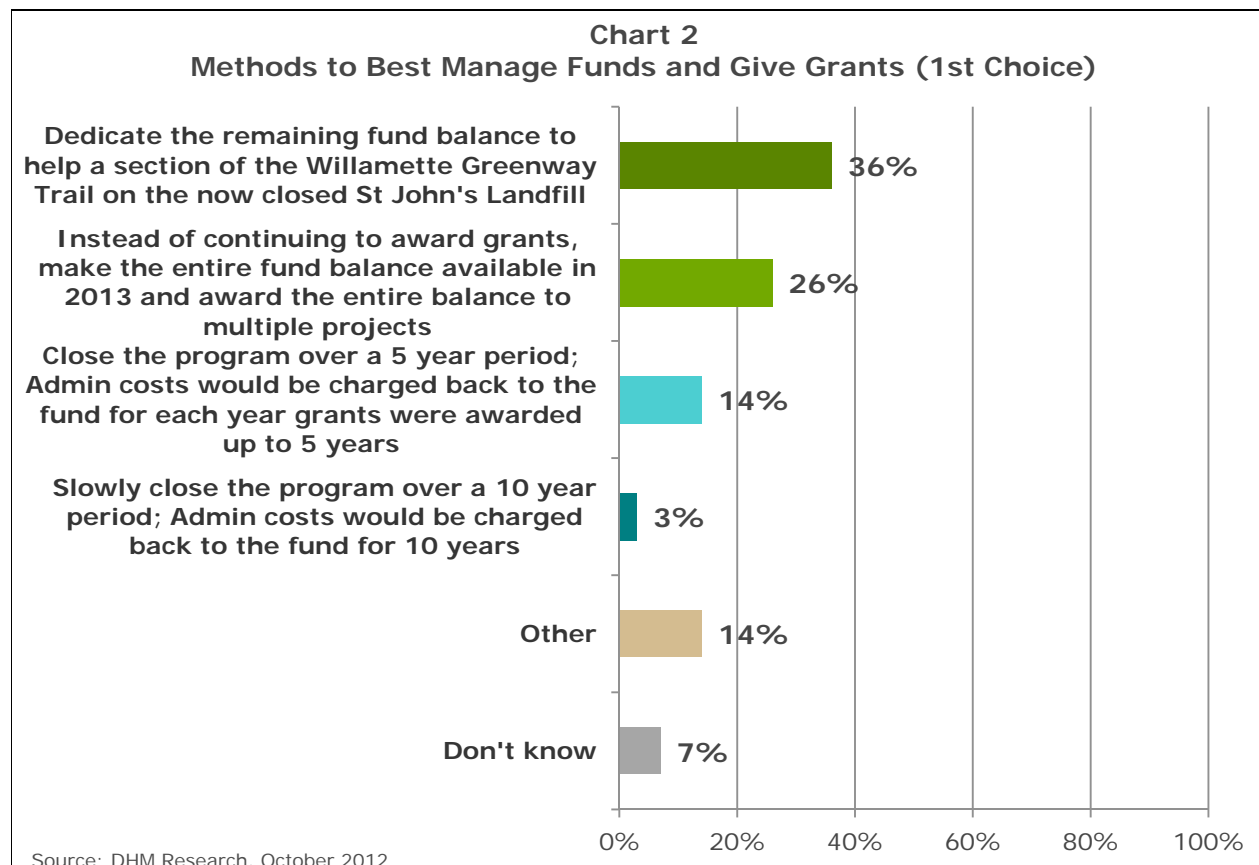
Residents want remaining funds to help build a section of the Willamette Greenway Trail

More than one third (36%) of North Portland residents said their top choice for the remaining fund balance was to build a section of the Willamette Greenway Trail. More than one in four (26%) would prefer to have the entire fund balance available and used in 2013 for multiple projects. About 14% of residents would prefer to see the program closed over a five year period of awarding grants. Some of the more prominent alternative ideas include keeping the fund around until the economy and interest rates recover, and lowering administrative costs. By far, the option that was prioritized below all others was slowly closing the program over a ten year period.

Many do not understand why the cost of running the grant program is so high.

"It seems silly to waste \$52,000 each year when you don't have to. I'd rather see the money spent on good projects than thrown away on fees."

- Those that had previously heard of the fund, as well as females, are more likely than their counterparts to support closing the fund over a 5 year period.
- Residents who visit the Smith and Bybee Wetlands are more likely to support dedicating the remaining balance to help build a section of the Willamette Greenway Trail.



When residents were asked why they selected their first choice, some common themes arose.

Dedicate the remaining fund balance to help build a section of the Willamette Greenway Trail on the now-closed St. John's Landfill. This section would be part of the 40-mile loop. (36%)

"It is my first choice because it would benefit the whole community, in addition to North Portland, provide a temporary economic boost because of construction jobs, support regional active transit plans, and bring more people to St. John's businesses."

"It was the only one of these projects with as much potential lasting permanence as the initial grant was intended to give back to the community. Closing out the grant - whether it's over 1 year, 5, or 10 - means the end of this fund's ability to give to the community."

"This will be a long-standing benefit to people of the region and visitors."

"Likely more impactful than many small projects; creates something lasting; builds a project that will serve many people over time"

Instead of continuing to award grants year after year, make the entire fund balance available in 2013. The entire fund balance would be awarded to multiple projects. (26%)

"Spending at a time of a sluggish economy and with interest rates low gives us the biggest bang for our buck. Distributing a large amount across the neighborhoods can make a lasting difference for numerous projects."

"This option minimizes administration costs (although I don't see how annual administration costs would be the same for managing 1.6 million in one year as managing a tenth of that amount). Also, this option is preferable to the North Portland Greenway investment, because it allows the whole North Portland community to compete for funding. This more closely reflects the spirit of the grants program."

"Allows time for grant proposals to come in, including proposals for use by the Greenway fund, but minimizes administration costs. Thus maximizing the remaining funds."

"I feel like there would be great change with the money being awarded in just one year. To me, that seems very powerful for the community. A lot of change in a small period of time would give so much pride and hope in our community."

Close the program over a 5-year period. Administration costs would be charged back to the fund each year grants were awarded for up to 5 years. The yearly administration cost is currently \$52,000 a year (14%).

"It would continue to provide some funding out to the community without an abrupt end point, and allow programs and projects that had previously been grant funded time to pursue options to sustain them, if appropriate."

"I'm in favor of spending the money down to zero and feel that a 5-year plan both infuses a lot of money into North Portland and does so over a multi-year period ensuring a significant impact. One year is too short and ten too long."

"It seems like it makes the most sense to eliminate these grants as an ongoing source. I selected the five year option because I think it will give the best balance and return on investment in terms of investment in the community over time. Ten years seems like too long to continue to pay the administrative costs of the program given the level of grants, and one year seems too short, and I would suspect it might not generate the best long term outcomes to grant out all the money this year."

Other Suggestions

“Purchase the white oak heritage tree and land adjacent to Overlook Terrace to protect this green space that is threatened for development.”

“Award grants every 3 or 5 years until interest rates are higher and can offset the admin costs.”

“Reduce yearly administration costs and seek sources of additional income allowing for ongoing civic improvement projects.”

Residents place the highest priority on preserving and enhancing existing wildlife and marine areas, and improving and increasing recreational areas

Respondents were presented with a list of funding goals and asked to rate them on a five point scale where a 5 represents a very high priority. Looking at top scores, respondents place the highest priority (4+5) on:

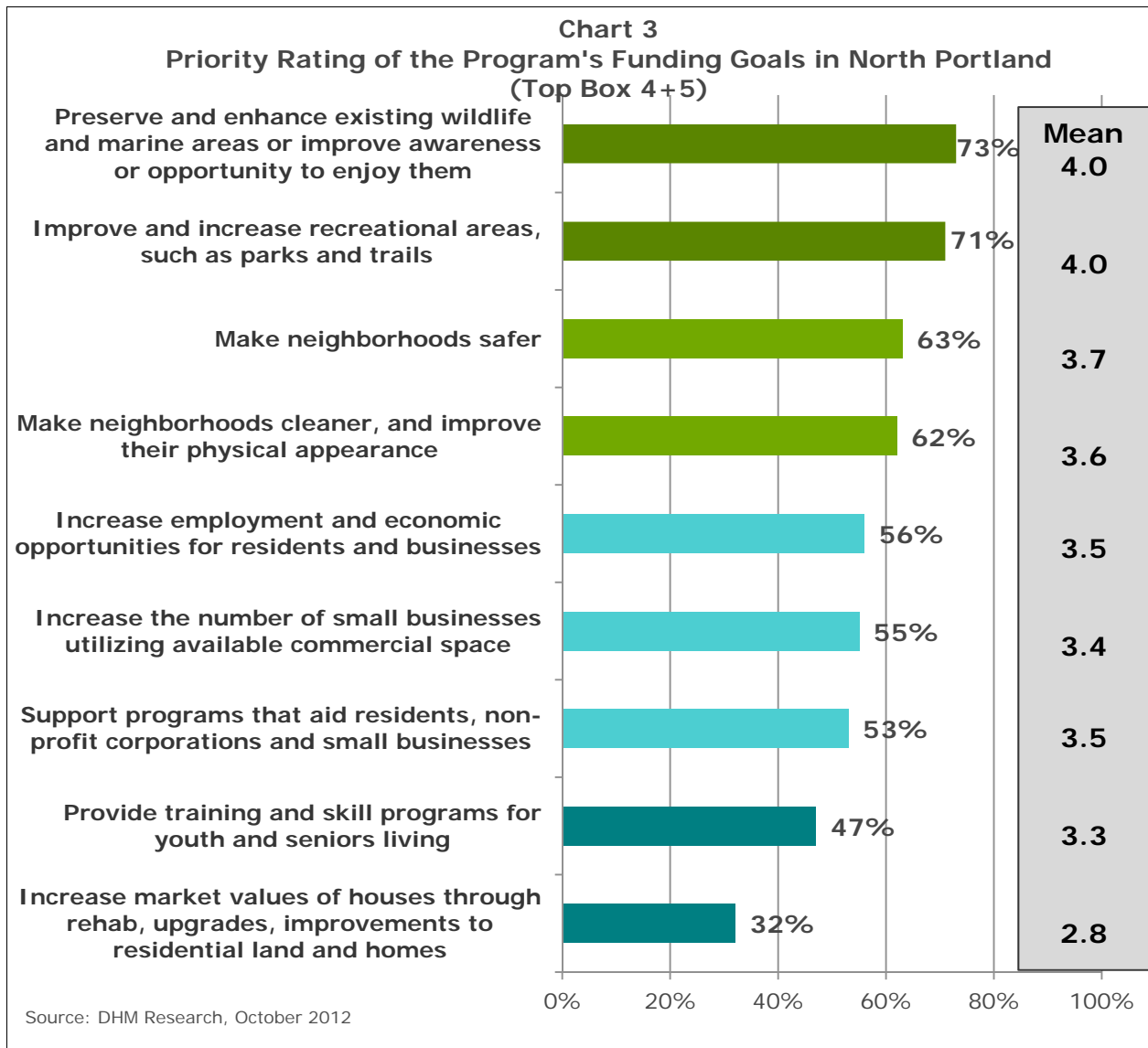
- Preserving and enhancing existing wildlife and marine areas (73%)
- Improving and increasing recreational areas, such as parks and trails (71%)

Second tier priorities:

- Making North Portland neighborhoods safer (63%) and cleaner (62%)
- Increasing employment and economic opportunities (56%)
- Increasing the number of small businesses in North Portland (55%)

The lowest priority:

- Increasing market values of houses through rehabilitation (32%)



1 | INTRODUCTION & METHODOLOGY/ANNOTATED QUESTIONNAIRE

Davis, Hibbitts, & Midghall, Inc. (DHM Research) conducted an online survey among Opt In members and others who are residents of Arbor Lodge, Cathedral Park, Kenton, Overlook, Portsmouth, St. Johns and, University Park neighborhoods.

Research Design: DHM Research emailed 703 Opt In members with North Portland addresses and invited them to participate in the survey between September 19 and October 15, 2012. Metro also promoted the link to residents of the North Portland area. In total, 241 residents participated in the survey.

The surveys were hosted on an independent and secure DHM server and was available to respondents 24 hours a day. In gathering responses, DHM employed quality control measures including pre-testing and monitoring the online survey to identify potential browser issues.

Note to the Reader: The Opt In panel is a form of public engagement. Responses to Opt In feedback opportunities are meant to engage residents in the public planning and decision-making processes.

DHM Research: DHM Research has been providing opinion research and consultation throughout the Pacific Northwest and other regions of the United States for over three decades. The firm is non-partisan and independent and specializes in research projects to support public policy-making. www.dhmresearch.com

2 | ANNOTATED QUESTIONNAIRE

Metro Opt In North Enhancement Grant Survey September 2012; Opt In members in qualifying areas DHM Research

OPT IN INTRODUCTION

Survey to target the following neighborhoods:

- Arbor Lodge
- Cathedral Park
- Kenton
- Overlook
- Portsmouth
- St. Johns
- University Park

Your neighborhood is eligible for grants aimed at making the community greener, cleaner, safer, and healthier through Metro's North Portland Enhancement Program.

Back in 1985, the Oregon Legislature created the North Portland Enhancement Grant Program to help fund projects to improve your community, which at the time was affected by the St. John's Landfill. The landfill closed in 1990. The enhancement program has supported 465 local projects with \$2.2 million in investments since 1985, including:

- After school programs for youth
- Adult education at community centers
- Tool lending library to make gardening and home repairs more affordable
- Concerts in Cathedral Park

The enhancement program was created by a 50-cent surcharge on each ton of garbage disposed at the now-closed St. John's Landfill beginning in 1985. The interest earned on the fund created by the surcharge pays for the grants.

Due to falling interest rates, the grant program is in a position of potential change. **Your opinions and ideas will help shape decisions about how nearly \$2 million in the North Portland Enhancement fund will be invested in your community.**

SURVEY

1. Before today, had you heard of Metro's North Portland Enhancement Grant Program?

Response Category	N=241
Yes	37%
No	59%
Don' t know	5%

2. **(If yes)** How familiar are you with Metro's North Portland Enhancement Grant Program?

Response Category	N=88
Very familiar	28%
Somewhat familiar	33%
Not too familiar	32%
Not at all familiar	7%
Don' t know	0%

3. **(If familiar)** How do you know about the program? Please check all that apply.

Response Category	N=82
You are or were an Enhancement committee member	7%
You are or were an applicant or recipient of an Enhancement Grant	18%
You volunteer or are staff at an organization that has applied for or received Grant funds	17%
You are an active member of a neighborhood association	26%
Other (please specify) (provide text box)	40%
Don' t know	12%

4. Did you ever go to the St. John's Landfill before it closed in 1990?

Response Category	N=241
Yes	12%
No	88%
Don' t know	1%

5. The Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area is across from the now-closed St. John's Landfill. How often do you visit this natural area:

Response Category	N=241
Weekly or more frequently	2%
Monthly	12%
A few times a year	36%
Rarely	27%
Never visited	22%
Don' t know	0%

The Challenge

Metro and the committee that helps manage the enhancement grant program face some tough decisions.

The major problem is this: the cost of awarding grants currently exceeds the amount of money the enhancement fund generates.

The following things have caused decreases in the amount of interest earned by the fund:

- The St. John's Landfill is closed, so the fund is no longer receiving the 50-cent enhancement fee per ton to fund the grant program
- Interest rates are falling, especially after the downturn in the economy, so the amount of money available for grants continues to decrease
- Metro's budget is limited, so starting next year Metro will no longer cover the administrative cost of the program. This means the administrative cost will need to be covered by the fund.

By the Numbers

Current Fund Balance:	\$1.6 million
Annual Grant Giving:	\$15,000 in 2011 (compared to \$159,000 paid out in 1990)
Interest earned:	\$9,800 in 2011 (compared to \$138,000 in 1990)
Annual Management Cost:	\$52,000 (estimated for 2012)

6. Neighbors who serve on the North Portland Enhancement Committee brainstormed some options for how best to manage the fund and give grants moving forward, given current conditions. Please rank the following by your preference. 1=first choice, 4=last choice. If you have a better idea, please list it and provide a rank (programmer, allow 1-5. Randomize. Do not force to rank)

Response Category	1 st choice	2 nd choice	3 rd choice	4 th choice	5 th choice
Dedicate the remaining fund balance (about \$1.6 million) to help build a section of the Willamette Greenway Trail on the now-closed St. John's Landfill. This section would be part of the 40-mile loop.	36%	27%	10%	14%	4%
Instead of continuing to award grants year after year, make the entire fund balance (about \$1.6 million) available in 2013. The entire fund balance would be awarded to multiple projects. After 2013, no more grants will be available. This would require a \$52,000 administration cost for one year only.	26%	28%	17%	13%	3%

Response Category	1 st choice	2 nd choice	3 rd choice	4 th choice	5 th choice
Slowly close the program over a 10-year period. Administration costs would be charged back to the fund each year for 10 years. The yearly administration cost is currently \$52,000 a year.	3%	11%	18%	44%	11%
Close the program over a 5-year period. Administration costs would be charged back to the fund each year grants were awarded for up to 5 years. The yearly administration cost is currently \$52,000 a year.	14%	17%	39%	15%	2%
Other (please specify)	14%	7%	4%	0%	3%
Don't know	7%	11%	12%	14%	77%

7. Why was (insert option given first choice) your first choice? (Open, provide text box)

The goal of the program is to make communities in the area greener, cleaner, safer, and healthier. The enhancement committee evaluates project proposals based on how well they meet the program's funding guidelines. While they are all interconnected, each guideline is somewhat distinct.

Below are the program's funding goals. Please rank each of following goals using a 0=not at all a priority to 5=a very high priority. (Randomize) Projects that will...

Response Category	Top Box (4+5)	Mean	Don't know
8. Increase employment and economic opportunities for North Portland residents and businesses.	56%	3.5	1%
9. Increase market values of houses through rehabilitation, upgrades and improvements to residential land and homes in North Portland.	32%	2.8	2%
10. Preserve and enhance existing wildlife and marine areas in North Portland or improve public awareness or opportunity to enjoy them.	73%	4.0	1%
11. Improve and increase recreational areas, such as parks and trails in North Portland.	71%	4.0	2%
12. Make neighborhoods safer in North Portland.	63%	3.7	1%
13. Make neighborhoods in North Portland cleaner, and improve their physical appearance.	62%	3.6	1%
14. Increase the number of small businesses utilizing available commercial space in North Portland.	55%	3.4	1%
15. Support programs that aid residents, non profit corporations and small businesses.	53%	3.5	2%
16. Provide training and skill programs for youth and seniors living in North Portland.	47%	3.3	2%

17. Do you have any other thoughts you'd like to share about the North Portland Grant Enhancement Program? (Open, provide text box)

18. Would you like us to email you updates about the North Portland Enhancement Grant Program (For non-Opt In members, provide text box)?

Response Category	N=241
Yes	67%
No	33%

Learn more about the North Portland enhancement grant program:

(hyper link: <http://www.oregonmetro.gov/index.cfm/go/by.web/id=6796>)

Learn about the stewardship of natural area investments in North Portland:

(hyper link: <http://www.oregonmetro.gov/index.cfm/go/by.web/id=33853>)

Age

Response Category	N=241
18-24	1%
35-34	23%
35-54	37%
55-64	12%
65+	7%
Refused	20%

Gender

Response Category	N=241
Male	30%
Female	50%
Refused	20%

County

Response Category	N=241
Multnomah	100%

When it comes to politics, do you consider yourself...

Response Category	N=241
More of a Democrat	52%
More of a Republican	3%
More of an Independent/Other party	22%
Refused	22%

Education

Response Category	N=241
Some high school	0%
High School graduate	1%
Some college/technical/ community college/2-yr degree	10%
College degree/4-yr degree	28%
Post graduate	39%
Refused	20%

Ethnicity

Response Category	N=241
Native American/American Indian	2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2%
Black/African American	2%
Hispanic/Latino	2%
Slavic	1%
White/Caucasian	71%
Two or more races	0%
Other	1%
Refused	24%

Source

Response Category	N=241
Opt In	60%
Other	40%

Additional Open-Ended Responses

Dedicate the remaining fund balance to help build a section of the Willamette Greenway Trail on the now-closed St. John's Landfill. This section would be part of the 40-mile loop. (36%)

"It would provide direct access from peninsula to downtown, much needed for bicycle safety and other activities."

"Doing something significant and dramatic with it that benefits North Portland residents seems appropriate."

"It seems like a good use of the money that you have left. Spending \$52,000 on the administrative to keep annual grants going doesn't seem as effective as just donating the money towards a Greenway Trail that will serve as a regional asset for years to come."

"This seems like a much better use of the funds. I would want to see the evaluation and monitoring reports from projects that received funds to accurately measure their impact."

"Most lasting impact on the neighborhood and directly connected (literally) to the landfill."

"It is my first choice because it would benefit the whole community, in addition to North Portland, provide a temporary economic boost because of construction jobs, support regional active transit plans, and bring more people to St. John's businesses."

"It was the only one of these projects with as much potential lasting permanence as the initial grant was intended to give back to the community. Closing out the grant - whether it's over 1 year, 5, or 10 - means the end of this fund's ability to give to the community."

"It would provide the most bang for the buck."

"I use part of the 40 mile loop for riding my bike."

"The Greenway Trail will be a permanent enhancement to the environment and people will use and enjoy it forever."

"This is a specific project that I know about and want to see happen. I would use the trail."

"Because I would be very likely to use it regularly, it is a good project, and it is a known outcome."

"It's connected to a larger metro plan and specifically improves livability for North Portland residents."

Because the landfill is quite beautiful now and i love natural places that provide homes for wildlife where people can also visit."

"Continuing to pay administrative costs diminishes the fund. This way it goes to a project that enhances the entire area."

"I need a new place to run, this will be an amazing addition to North Portland. It would make living here so much better and would make trail and running areas safer."

"This completes a project and does not leave a pending obligation over additional years."

"It would be a long lasting improvement to the neighborhood. It would improve quality of life and attract people to the neighborhood. It would expose more people to the neighborhood who normally would not come here."

"This is a great idea and a wonderful effort, as a bike rider I look forward to seeing this completed."

"Seems like the best use of funds to serve the most people. Small grants don't leverage many resources."

"I think the 40-mile loop will receive much greater use when it is complete."

"Because I think that would add value to the community and would be a fitting use of the money earned from the landfill. I would love to use that trail."

"An appropriate use of money generated by the land the trail would be built on."

"Developers have been turning every available inch into row housing, apartments, etc. The increasing population needs more green space for recreation."

"Ties into the original intent of the grant, and eliminates the administrative costs over the years, AND closes a 40 mile bike loop. Win, win and win."

"It seems since the fund came from the landfill, restoring and repurposing the area as part of the greenway would be one of the most equitable uses of the money."

"The money came from landfill, it should return there."

"Let's put the money in one place to make a significant impact. As far as I know, there aren't other obvious options to fund the remaining parts of the trail system so it would be nice to get this part done."

"The planning for the trail is nearing completion, so the money could be used to build the trail in the near future. It would provide an excellent new route for pedestrians and cyclists between downtown Portland and St. Johns."

"Beautification of the area and transportation and recreation for its citizens is of utmost importance."

"The Willamette Greenway Trail will be a huge gain in connectivity for Portland's off-road trail system. Completing it will be a great step forward for our bike/pedestrian facilities, which are stellar by U.S. standards, but sad compared to some European countries. Considering the cost of administrating the trust is exceeding the amount of grants given, it seems more beneficial to the community to spend the bulk of the remaining funds on projects, not administration."

"This most closely aligns to the spirit of the fund, as I see it, by directly benefiting the landfill's neighbors and North Portland in general with as little administrative cost as possible."

"As a bike commuter and recreational cyclist, I am invested in the completion of this travel option."

"The landfill property is one of the links needed for the North Portland Greenway Trail between Kelley Point Park and the Eastbank Esplanade, and would help provide a lasting positive legacy making up for the long-term impact that St. Johns Landfill had on North Portland."

"This would have the most lasting impact now and in the future. It is large enough to make an impact."

"I believe the trail to be a very, if not the most important part of North Portland and river community and conservation. The end product will serve people and nature."

"This will benefit not just North Portland but the whole region."

"That would be a good use of the money that the maximum number of people could enjoy. The completion of the Greenway Trail is a huge benefit to the community and will be a source of pride for the entire city."

"Likely more impactful than many small projects; creates something lasting; builds a project that will serve many people over time; least administrative costs; has a connection to the original landfill."

"Extending the Greenway will make good use, for now and the future, of what is now wasted space. I would strongly oppose development of that space for industrial, retail/commercial or residential use!"

"I use the trails frequently as a runner, and also love having trails available for my family. If it is an option to use the remaining money to open up more trails then I think that is the best option."

"I use bike and hiking trails frequently and I think dedicating the funds to this sort of environmental and recreational enhancement makes sense and is desirable. The funds were clearly meant to improve the community in this manner. I do think the North Portland Greenway is the trail that could provide the community with the best possible recreational and commuting connection."

"This will be a long-standing benefit to people of the region and visitors."

Additional Open-Ended Responses (cont.)

Instead of continuing to award grants year after year, make the entire fund balance available in 2013. The entire fund balance would be awarded to multiple projects. (26%)

"Labor capacity and materials costs are at an all-time low due to the economic downturn. Good projects have been identified that we can spend this money on. There has not been a better time to take action on infrastructure projects in the last 80 years, so let's take action rather than squander the money on administrative procedures."

"I would want community organizations to be able to apply for the funds for specific projects, rather than the managers deciding to fund only one project without other input. Also, it would be the least amount of overhead costs."

"Minimizes administration costs and maximizes benefit to the community."

"It seems silly to waste 52,000 each year when you don't have to. I'd rather see the money spent on good projects than thrown away on fees."

"Spending at a time of a sluggish economy and with interest rates low gives us the biggest bang for our buck. Distributing a large amount across the neighborhoods can make a lasting difference for numerous projects. One last year of administrative spending means the excellent staff won't be left in the lurch."

"The administration cost seems wasteful to continue year after year. It only takes away from the mission of the grants."

"Don't waste money on administrative costs. Get all the money out there and doing as much good as possible."

"Reduces administrative costs, allows for many projects to happen during a recession. It may also create jobs."

"This option minimizes administration costs. Also this option is preferable to the North Portland Greenway investment, because it allows the whole North Portland community to compete for funding. This more closely reflects the spirit of the grants program."

"It would be more fair than giving it all to the Greenway project or to any other one project."

"It seems like the best use of the money considering it is costing so much to manage. I also imagine using the money now would create much needed jobs."

"More of the grant funds would go towards making changes rather than being eaten up by administration costs."

"It would be cool to see North Portland community projects get a big shot in the arm for this year. It would be important to make sure the projects funded weren't relying on this funding to be continued, but that it could go to one-time projects that could provide their own ongoing maintenance through volunteerism or other existing program funds."

"The option of closing the program over a 5 - 10 year time frame is not convincing in terms of added cost; my assumption would be that continuing these programs would be more costly over the long term. Rather, provide assistance for those projects that need it now."

"Continuing to administer the fund uses dollars that could instead be allocated to projects beneficial to the community. This seems wasteful and irresponsible in the current economic climate."

"I think it maximizes the impact it can have now, rather than having inflation and materials costs eat further into the grant funds in future years."

"It would allow multiple projects access to the money, administrative costs would be kept down, and it would tie up the loose ends quickly and cleanly."

Allows time for grant proposals to come in, including proposals for use by the Greenway fund, but minimizes administration costs, thus maximizing the remaining funds."

"Less would be lost to administrative costs. I would rather see similar programs funded than the greenway trail."

“\$1.6M is not a sustainable grant fund, and a 3.25% admin costs is way too high. This way 1) more of the fund goes to support N Portland. 2) The larger influx of grant money to this area may assist in the local economic recovery more than several years of smaller grants.”

“This choice allows projects to be completed across the peninsula and not just along the trail area.”

“I would say that a good portion of the money could be spent on the trail, but also allowing for other community projects.”

“I feel like there would be great change with the money being awarded in just one year. To me, that seems very powerful for the community. A lot of change in a small period of time would give so much pride and hope in our community.”

“It costs too much money to manage the fund. \$52K is too expensive to maintain a dwindling and clearly running out fund. That \$52K over how many years can be put to good use on other projects, then turn off the lights on the fund.”

“There may be other project I'm not aware of that could use the grant instead of it going to just one place.”

“The money will be used for multiple projects that better our community. It does make me sad, though, that the administrators could lose their jobs, and also that this important fund will no longer be in place.”

“The relatively small amount in the fund should not be depleted by administrative costs. Let them program sunset, but go out with a bang and generate enthusiasm for North Portland.”

“This option provides the biggest bang for the buck, without sinking more of limited funds into administrative costs. The amount is large enough that it could be distributed amongst many different projects and programs and have a real, immediate impact.”

“It allows for in large influx of money into community programs to make a real, measurable impact on our neighborhoods almost immediately, instead of spreading it out over many years. Portland has so many wonderful nonprofits and community programs that could benefit, especially in a time when grant awards are down overall.”

“It would save the administration costs and put more money into projects.”

Additional Open-Ended Responses (cont.)

Close the program over a 5-year period. Administration costs would be charged back to the fund each year grants were awarded for up to 5 years. The yearly administration cost is currently \$52,000 a year (14%).

"It would continue to provide some funding out to the community without an abrupt end point, and allow programs and projects that had previously been grant funded time to pursue options to sustain themselves, if appropriate."

"Because I think doing it all at once is too soon to appropriately plan, but I hate to spend the extra money for too many years."

"It maximizes the amount available for the community in a variety of potential projects while balancing admin. costs. Dedicating all the money to one project doesn't distribute the dollars equitably over the broad N PDX geography. And while 10 years' worth of projects would get this distribution, it is at an extreme administrative cost."

"This will keep the program going for 5 years, after which the economic picture may be different, and funds might become available to continue the program in future years."

"I would like to see smaller projects continue to be funded in the short term as the economy struggles so that underserved youth and families can continue to benefit from the program."

This seemed like the best option; not to drag it on over too much time, but also not to close it immediately since there could be new projects to surface."

"It would allow for more people to apply for the grant but keep administration costs down, and not put it all to one project."

"Seems like the most moderate choice. We never know what will happen in the next five years, so it'd be nice to have some funding just in case for the next five years. In the meantime, the fund can be phased out for good too."

"As an award recipient, this seemed to be the option that would best serve our organization. Grant sizes would be larger than if it was spread out over 10 years, but funding would continue to be a possible funding source for 5 years."

"Would create a continued funding stream for longer than one year, but not use up as much of the available dollars on admin (compared to the 10 year plan)."

"Because the math seemed to make more sense than the other options. Plus I would like the money to be spread throughout North Portland and not just in one area (i.e., St. Johns)."

"Slow but not too slow phase out of the program so people can adjust to the change and begin finding new funding sources."

"Continue funding and allow time to determine new funding sources without spending significant amounts on continued administration funds without additional income."

"I would like to see grant funding for a variety of projects be available for as long as possible, even if the grants are small."

"To allow time for more growth in the positive ways this neighborhood has been changing lately. Ten years is too long, one is too short."

"Because I think too many people do not even know this is an option. I think it should be advertised, and then used over a period of time that allows people to prepare for it being gone."

"I'm in favor of spending the money down to zero and feel that a 5-year plan both infuses a lot of money into North Portland and does so over a multi-year period ensuring a significant impact. One year is too short and ten too long."