

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECOGNIZING THE	)	RESOLUTION NO. 13-4441
50 <sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF METRO'S BLUE LAKE	)	
AND OXBOW REGIONAL PARKS AND	)	Introduced by Paul Slyman, Parks and
DESIGNATING JULY AS PARKS AND	)	Environmental Services Director
RECREATION MONTH	)	

WHEREAS, Metro parks and natural areas are an integral part of the Portland metropolitan region; and

WHEREAS, Metro parks and natural areas are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our community, ensuring the health of all citizens, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of the region; and

WHEREAS, Metro parks and nature programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease and improve the mental and emotional health of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, Metro parks and natural areas increase the region's economic prosperity through increased property values, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

WHEREAS, Metro parks and natural areas are fundamental to the environmental well-being of our community; and

WHEREAS, Metro parks and natural areas improve water quality, protect groundwater, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and protect and improve habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, Metro parks and natural areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

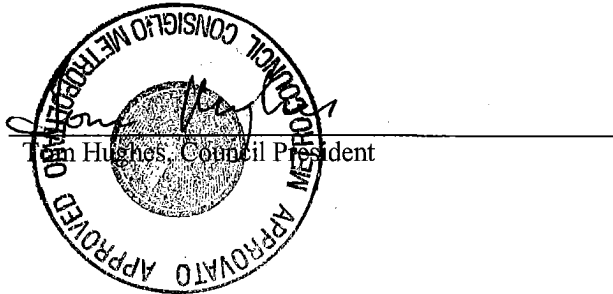
WHEREAS, Metro Council wishes to recognize that 2013 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of both Blue Lake and Oxbow regional parks; and

WHEREAS, Metro Council wishes to recognize the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the benefits derived from parks and natural areas by inviting the entire community to a free day in Blue Lake and Oxbow regional parks on Friday, July 12, 2013; and

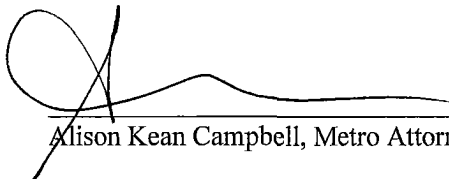
WHEREAS, the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council officially recognizes July as Parks and Recreation Month in the Portland metropolitan region, and recognizes and celebrates the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Blue Lake and Oxbow regional parks by providing free admission to both parks on July 12, 2013.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 20 day of June, 2013.



Approved as to Form:

  
Alison Kean Campbell, Metro Attorney

## STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 13-4441, FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
RECOGNIZING THE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF METRO'S BLUE LAKE AND OXBOW  
REGIONAL PARKS AND DESIGNATING JULY AS PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH

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Date: June 14, 2013

Prepared by: Paul Slyman x1510

### BACKGROUND

Metro parks and natural areas are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our community, ensuring the health of all citizens, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of the region. Two signature Parks, Blue Lake and Oxbow, have served the people of this region since 1963 and Metro is honoring them by through a series of promotions and by designating July as Parks and Recreation Month.

One promotion includes the designation of Friday July 12, 2013, as a free-entry day to Metro's Blue Lake and Oxbow Parks. Other promotions include new branding on park worker shirts, a geocache competition for commemorative coins, and enhanced media coverage.

Metro staff will present information on Oxbow and Blue Lake parks at the Metro Council meeting scheduled for July 11, 2013, at Gresham City Hall.

### ANALYSIS/INFORMATION

1. **Known Opposition** None.
2. **Legal Antecedents** U.S. House of Representatives 111<sup>th</sup> Congress (2009) Resolution 288 Recognizing July as National Park and Recreation Month; Metro Code Title X
3. **Anticipated Effects** If this Resolution is adopted, Metro Council will officially recognize the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries of Blue Lake and Oxbow Parks. They will also designate July as Parks and Recreation Month in the Metro Region and allow free access to Blue Lake and Oxbow Regional Parks on Friday, July 12, 2013.
4. **Budget Impacts** There is no cost to implementing this resolution. The missed revenue on the free day of July 12 is greatly exceeded by the good will, community building, and healthy benefits associated with serving our community and getting them outdoors.

### RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve the Resolution as drafted and join Metro staff in our parks and natural areas.