

BEFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE
METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENDORSING) RESOLUTION NO. 91-1435
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN)
INSTITUTE OF PORTLAND) INTRODUCED BY RENA CUSMA,
METROPOLITAN STUDIES AT PORTLAND) EXECUTIVE OFFICER
STATE UNIVERSITY AND OTHER)
INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION)
IN THE METROPOLITAN AREA)

WHEREAS, The Governor's Commission on Higher Education in the Portland Metropolitan Area recently issued its final report, "Working Together-A Community and Academic Partnership for Greater Portland"; and,

WHEREAS, The Report calls for the formation of a Council of Presidents of local colleges and universities, the development of Portland State University into an "Urban Grant University", focusing on the needs of the region, improving access and participation for students, and establishing a Greater Portland Trust to support implementation of the plan and seek new sources of funding, and enhance cooperation between institutions; and,

WHEREAS, The complexity of the issues confronting the governments of the metropolitan region requires a continuous search for innovative approaches to solutions, efficient mechanisms for service delivery, and a continuously updated information base; and,

WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Service District supports the establishment under the auspices of Higher Education of an independent research organization capable of conducting studies,

sponsoring policy seminars, and regularly disseminating information to all local governments in the region; and


WHEREAS, Portland State University has committed itself to work for the establishment of an Institute for Portland Metropolitan Studies to perform such functions; and,

WHEREAS, The Institute enhances the potential of cooperation, interactions and communication between government and higher education and provides an objective forum for dialogue and exchange of views regarding governmental service issues in the region; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Council of the Metropolitan Service District endorse the principle of establishing in the region an Institute of Portland Metropolitan Studies to be administered by Portland State University with participation of the Metropolitan Service District in such matters as the identification of the governing board and the development of an annual research agenda.

ADOPTED by the Council of the Metropolitan service District this 25th day of April, 1991.



Jim Gardner, Deputy Presiding Officer

STAFF REPORT

FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENDORSING RESOLUTION NO. 91-1435 FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INSTITUTE OR PORTLAND METROPOLITAN STUDIES AT PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE METROPOLITAN AREA.

Date: April 2, 1991

Presented by: Don Rocks

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

Over the last several months, some three meetings involving the Executive Officer, Rena Cusma; Multnomah County Chair, Gladys McCoy; City of Portland Mayor, Bud Clark; Portland State University President, Judith Ramaley; Dean of PSU Urban and Public Affairs, Nohad Toulan; and Oregonian Publisher, Fred Stickel have been initiated by PSU to discuss the formation of an Institute for Metropolitan Studies.

Dr. Ramaley has given the Institute a high priority on the University's urban agenda and the value of such a body has been endorsed by the jurisdictions involved.

More recently, Commissioner Ed Lindquist, Clackamas County has attended meetings along with Washington County Manager, Charles Cameron and staff representatives of Washington County. The intent is for the Institute to be able to respond to regional issues and problems.

Interim discussions with staff from the represented jurisdictions have produced a structural framework for the Institute. The resolution to be adopted by participating jurisdictions is presently being considered and adoption is anticipated.

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

RESOLUTION NO. 91-1435, ENDORSING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INSTITUTE OF PORTLAND METROPOLITAN STUDIES AT PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE METROPOLITAN AREA

Date: April 19, 1991

Presented by: Councilor DeJardin

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: At its April 18, 1991 meeting, the Governmental Affairs Committee unanimously recommended Council approval of Resolution No. 91-1435. Voting were Councilors Devlin, Knowles, Collier, DeJardin, and Hansen.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION/ISSUES: Professor Chuck Tracy of Portland State's School of Urban and Public Affairs gave a brief presentation on the proposed Institute of Metropolitan Studies. It is intended to identify expertise to address issues of importance to governments in the region. The Institute will serve as an umbrella unit, to coordinate student and faculty resources at member institutions, and will have a small staff of a director and clerical assistance. There will be a governing board to set the research agenda. The budget is expected to be some \$500,000 from private grants, some of which is already committed; they hope to get an endowment and assure financial independence.

The request of Council is to endorse the principle of establishing the Institute, and later to help select board members and establish the research agenda. The proposal has been endorsed by Clackamas County, will be considered soon by Multnomah County and the City of Portland, and will be presented to the State Board of Higher Education at its July meeting.

Councilor DeJardin asked if the funding was coming from foundations, and Professor Tracy said it was. Councilor DeJardin asked whether some of the studies the Institute would do could be done in conjunction with Metro and help eliminate the need for separate studies that Metro pays for; the answer again was yes.

Councilor Collier then moved the Resolution for Council approval.