

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING)
METRO CODE CHAPTER 7.01 TO REPEAL)
THE SUNSET DATE FOR THE AMOUNT OF)
ADDITIONAL EXCISE TAX DEDICATED)
TO FUNDING METRO'S REGIONAL PARKS)
AND GREENSPACES PROGRAMS)

ORDINANCE NO. 03-1012

Introduced by Rod Monroe
Metro Councilor

WHEREAS, In July 1992, the Metro Council approved Resolution No. 92-1637, thereby adopting the Metropolitan Greenspaces master plan that identifies a desired regional system of parks, natural areas, trails and greenways for fish, wildlife and people; and

WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan states that Metro will seek a regional funding mechanism to assemble and develop a regional greenspaces system and assume operations and management for components of the system in cooperation with local governments; and

WHEREAS, In December 1997, the Metro Council approved Resolution No. 97-715B, thereby adopting the Regional Framework Plan that set regional policy to inventory, protect and manage a regional system of parks, natural areas, trails and greenways for fish, wildlife and people; and

WHEREAS, The Regional Framework Plan states that Metro, in cooperation with local governments, shall pursue the identification and implementation of a long-term, stable funding source to support the planning, acquisition, development, management and maintenance of the regional greenspaces system; and

WHEREAS, on March 28, 2002, the Metro Council approved Ordinance No. 02-939A, amending the Metro Excise Tax set forth in Metro Code Chapter 7.01 to provide revenues for Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Programs; and

WHEREAS, An extended interim financial solution is necessary to provide the appropriate level of financial support for the regional system of parks, natural areas, trails and greenways until a voter-approved long-term solution is realized, and support of the Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department is an allowable use of Metro solid waste excise tax under the Metro Charter; now therefore,

THE METRO COUNCIL ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Metro Code Section 7.01.024 is repealed.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this _____ day of _____ 2003.

Withdrawn

David Bragdon, Council President

Attest:

Approved as to Form:

Christina Billington, Recording Secretary

Daniel B. Cooper, Metro Attorney

STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE NO. 03-1012 FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING METRO CODE CHAPTER 7.01 TO REPEAL THE SUNSET DATE FOR THE AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL EXCISE TAX DEDICATED TO FUNDING METRO'S REGIONAL PARKS AND GREENSPACES PROGRAMS

Date: June 18, 2003

Presented by: Councilor Rod Monroe

BACKGROUND

On March 28th, 2002, the Metro Council passed Ordinance 02-939A to provide for funding for Regional Parks and Greenspaces programs by increasing the Excise Tax on Solid Waste by \$1.00 per ton and dedicating that funding to the Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department. That ordinance provides that this additional excise tax is repealed June 30, 2004.

An alternative funding source has not been yet been identified. Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department needs some assurance of stability in funding beyond one year. It is not expected that alternative funding can be found prior to this section of the excise tax code being rescinded. This action will provide additional time to investigate and obtain that stable funding source.

ANALYSIS/INFORMATION

1. **Known Opposition** None
2. **Legal Antecedents** The Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan adopted by Council through Resolution No 92-1637 identifies a desired regional greenspaces system and the Regional Framework Plan adopted by Metro by Resolution No. 97-715B states Metro, in cooperation with local governments, shall pursue the identification and implementation of a long term, stable funding source to support the planning, acquisition, development, management and maintenance of the regional greenspaces system.
3. **Anticipated Effects** This action will allow more time to find alternative funding for the regional greenspaces system.
4. **Budget Impacts** The additional \$1.2 million provided in FY 2003-04 will remain available after the scheduled termination on June 30, 2004.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Councilor Monroe recommends passage of Ordinance No. 03-1012 for the purpose of amending Metro Code Chapter 7.01 to repeal the sunset date for the amount of additional excise tax dedicated to funding Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces programs.

RM:kf