

BEFORE THE CONTRACT REVIEW BOARD
OF THE METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING)
AN EXEMPTION TO METRO CODE CHAPTER)
2.04.041 (c) COMPETITIVE BIDDING)
PROCEDURES AND AUTHORIZING A SOLE)
SOURCE CONTRACT WITH THE URBAN)
STREAMS COUNCIL OF THE WETLANDS)
CONSERVANCY)

RESOLUTION NO. 92-1705-B

Introduced by Rena Cusma,
Executive Officer

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan has outlined the restoration of degraded natural areas as a priority; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Greenspaces Program has outlined a four-phase approach for inventorying, mapping, preserving, protecting and acquiring natural areas; and

WHEREAS, Phase 3 calls for restoration and enhancement demonstration projects as part of the Greenspaces Program; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has awarded Metro with funds to carry out the restoration and enhancement projects; and

WHEREAS, local agencies and nonprofit organizations are developing restoration and enhancement proposals; and

WHEREAS, Metro and the Urban Streams Council are providing local agencies and nonprofit organizations with technical assistance on their restoration and enhancement projects; and

WHEREAS, Metro, USFWS and the Urban Streams Council will be working together to monitor and evaluate the long-term benefits of the restoration projects; and

WHEREAS, Metro and local grantees will be required to monitor the restoration projects for three years following their completion; and

WHEREAS, Metro will require technical assistance on developing a monitoring and evaluation process for the restoration and enhancement projects; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Streams Council is uniquely qualified to work on such projects related to the restoration of degraded natural areas in an urban environment; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Streams Council, a branch of the nonprofit Wetlands Conservancy, was specifically established to work with local agencies, nonprofit organizations, neighborhood organizations, businesses and citizens in the protection and restoration of streams, riparian zones and wetlands; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Streams Council has access to nationally recognized resource people in the field of natural areas and stream restoration who will be available to work on the Greenspaces restoration projects; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Streams Council of the Wetlands Conservancy is a cooperator of the Metropolitan Greenspaces Program; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Stream Council is the only nonprofit organization in Metro's region able to match the requirements needed for the Greenspaces Restoration and Enhancement Program's design, implementation and evaluation/monitoring; and

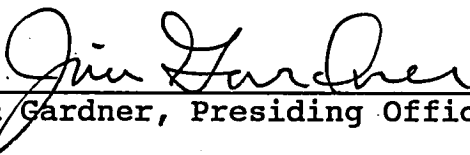
WHEREAS, it is unlikely that such exemption will encourage favoritism in the awarding of public contracts or substantially diminish competition for public contracts; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of public contracts pursuant to the exemption will result in substantial cost savings to the public contract agency, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED,

That based on the findings attached as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein, the Contract Review Board of the Metropolitan Service District hereby exempts the attached Contract No. 902696, for \$27,500, to be completed by March, 1994, to the Urban Streams Council of the Wetlands Conservancy from the competitive bidding requirements pursuant to Chapter 2.04.060 of the Code of the Metropolitan Service District.

ADOPTED by the Contract Review Board of the Metropolitan Service District this 24th day of November 1992.



Jim Gardner, Presiding Officer

EXHIBIT "A"

The Contract Review Board has considered the staff presentation in consideration of this Resolution and makes the following findings of fact:

1. Planning has a need for technical services for Phase 3 of its program for restoration of degraded natural areas including enhancement projects in wetlands, along stream corridors and riparian zones, and upland sites.
2. Restoration and enhancement concepts and methodologies are generally still in experimental phases because they are relatively new technologies for our region and the country in dealing with degraded natural areas.
3. Urban Streams Council was specifically established by the Wetlands Conservancy for the purpose of protection and restoration of streams, riparian zones and wetlands.
4. The Urban Streams Council is uniquely qualified because it and its resource people have carried out restoration activities locally and in California. Metro has observed their expertise in working with localities and community groups during two recent public workshops on restoration of degraded sites in the Metro area.
5. It is unlikely that this exemption will encourage favoritism or diminish competition for public contracts because: 1) the experimental nature of this work currently limits prospective bidders from participating and application of Urban Stream Council's expertise to this project will provide expanded opportunities for public contracts in the future, and 2) the grant source of funds for this project recognized Urban Stream Council's expertise as part of their approval of funds to Metro.
6. The award of this public contract based on exemption from competitive bidding will result in substantial cost savings to Metro and other public agencies because of the efficiencies created by Urban Streams Council's access to natural and internationally recognized experts in this new field.

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Jim Gardner, Presiding Officer

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ADOPTED by the Contract Review Board of the Metropolitan Service District this _____ day of _____ 1992.

Jim Gardner, Presiding Officer

TRANSPORTATION AND PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 92-1705-A, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING AN EXEMPTION TO METRO CODE CHAPTER 2.04.041(C) - COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROCEDURES, AND AUTHORIZING A SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT WITH THE URBAN STREAMS COUNCIL OF THE WETLANDS CONSERVANCY TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO METRO ON THE GREENSPACES RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT GRANTS PROGRAM

Date: November 17, 1992

Presented by: Councilor Devlin

Committee Recommendation: At the November 10 meeting, the Transportation and Planning Committee voted 4-0 to recommend Council adoption of Resolution No. 92-1705-A, as amended. Voting in favor: Councilors Devlin, McLain, Moore, and Washington. Excused: Councilor Buchanan.

Committee Issues/Discussion: Mel Huie, Senior Regional Planner, presented the staff report. He explained that restoration of degraded natural areas is a priority charge of the Greenspaces Master Plan. This resolution will enable Metro to provide a much higher level of technical assistance to cities, counties and special districts "friends" groups that are carrying out the 33 different restoration projects.

The Urban Streams Council will work with Metro staff to meet with the local project managers on a monthly one-to-one basis. Quarterly meetings of all project managers are anticipated to allow them to share ideas and information. The Urban Streams Council is uniquely qualified to provide such assistance, having already provided two technical workshops, utilizing the services of technical experts in other states.

For the third year program of restoration, Metro will be seeking projects within the inner city. Staff has already met with staff from the Portland Parks Bureau in this regard. Citizen outreach meetings are anticipated for January, 1993 to assist in this effort of finding Greenspaces projects for this area of the region.

Councilor Devlin clarified that this new approach is a result of vocalized concerns regarding the lack of projects located within northeast and north Portland. That area has now been targeted for the third year. There will still be a geographic dispersion of funds, but usually funds are distributed to suggested projects from interest groups. The City of Portland has made several suggestions, several of which have been funded, but has never suggested sites within this area.

Councilor Moore commented on the natural environment component in the Albina Plan. This resolution is very timely, especially if the Columbia Slough system becomes one of the areas for enhancement

restoration.

Councilor Moore also suggested an amendment to the resolution to include the time frame of the contract within the body of the resolution, rather than just referencing it within the staff report. Mr. Huie said the appropriate date to reference would be March, 1994.

Finally, Councilor Moore asked about comments made at last night's meeting in Beaverton regarding the spraying of Reed Canary Grass. Mr. Huie explained that the spraying may be being done with local funds. Metro's grants are only a portion of the funding available. This project calls for getting rid of the grass by natural methods. However, some chemicals have been approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. There is some experimentation going on to eradicate the grass by burning, excavation or chemical methods. The Department does not favor the use of chemicals.

Councilor Devlin elaborated on the extent of the grass problem. The Jackson Bottom area has the same difficulty, as do many areas.

Councilor Washington expressed his interest in being involved, particularly when considering the Columbia Slough system. This is an excellent opportunity to get young people involved and generally educate the public. He asked for a tour to be provided.

Councilor McLain asked how the Department intended to promote public knowledge of the program and individual projects. Mr. Huie explained it is done on an individual basis. Public involvement and education is not only required, but is of particular interest in pursuing. Councilor McLain commented that even with the failure of the Greenspaces Ballot Measure, 200,000 people support the effort. It is even more important now to cultivate media events to promote public education.

The resolution was approved for recommendation, as amended to add the date of the contract.

STAFF REPORT

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 92-1705 FOR THE
PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING AN EXEMPTION TO METRO CODE
CHAPTER 2.04.041 (c) COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROCEDURES
AND AUTHORIZING A SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT WITH THE URBAN
STREAMS COUNCIL OF THE WETLANDS CONSERVANCY

Date: November 10, 1992

Presented By: Mel Huie,
Planning Department

FACTUAL BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

Restoration of degraded natural areas is a priority activity of the Greenspaces Master Plan. The Greenspaces Program has outlined a four-phase approach to identify, map, protect, preserve and acquire natural areas in the region. Phase 3 specifically calls for the program to carry out restoration and enhancement projects in wetlands, along stream corridors and riparian zones, and in upland sites. Restoration projects are relatively new techniques for our region and the country in dealing with degraded natural areas. Restoration and enhancement concepts and methodologies are generally still in early experimental phases. We will be learning as we move forward on the projects. The activities, techniques and methodologies need to be carefully reviewed, evaluated and published in a report. Technical advice is needed to assist Metro, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the local grantees on how to develop and carry out effective restoration projects and monitoring programs.

The restoration projects require extensive program management, monitoring and technical assistance. Local project managers are generally untrained and unfamiliar with the new restoration, bio-engineering techniques, and sources for native plant materials and seeds which are essential components of the program. They also need background in reading the landscape, hydrology, biology and botany, fish and wildlife habitat, native plantings and naturoscaping techniques. Putting together an appropriate proposal, including project design, landscape and engineering drawings, placement of plants, earth moving techniques, etc., is also very difficult for local staff due to the lack of training, knowledge and experience in restoration and enhancement. Research is being conducted in how to eradicate invasive species such as Himalayan blackberry and Reed Canary Grass without chemical applications. Such technical research needs to be disseminated and explained to local project managers.

Technical assistance services include:

- a. Review program guidelines and grant application kit.
- b. Meet with local planners and project staff to develop appropriate restoration and enhancement projects.

- c. Conduct workshops for local jurisdictions and nonprofit organizations on how to put together appropriate restoration and enhancement projects.
- d. Review proposals/grant applications submitted to Metro for funding.
- e. Tour and evaluate the project sites.
- f. Participate in the interviews and advise Metro in which projects should be funded and how projects can be improved to better meet the objectives of the Greenspaces program.
- g. Provide guidance and project management advice to local staff on the implementation of the restoration and enhancement projects.
- h. Assist in developing a monitoring system for the projects to track long-term benefits of the projects.
- i. Assist in developing an evaluation system and form for the projects.
- j. Assist Metro in monthly and quarterly meetings with the local project managers.
- k. Coordinate other restoration projects funded by non-Metro funds and how they can share restoration techniques.
- l. Assist in preparing final reports on the restoration projects.
- m. Assist Metro in reviewing the Greenspaces natural areas and master plan map, and watershed maps to identify potential restoration/enhancement projects.
- n. Conduct literature search of restoration projects and techniques in other parts of the country and world. Share information with Metro and Greenspaces cooperators. Prepare a bibliography.

SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

Metro and The Wetlands Conservancy/Urban Streams Council worked cooperatively to secure the federal funds for the Greenspaces Program. In its contract with Metro, the USFWS recognized the Urban Stream's Council expertise as part of their approval of funds to Metro.

The Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan strongly encourages direct involvement of land trusts and non-profit organizations in implementation of the Master Plan. The Wetlands Conservancy is a local, private, non-profit land trust active in the protection, restoration and management of natural areas within the Portland/Vancouver metropolitan area. Within the last year, the Conservancy specifically created the Urban Streams Council to work directly with cities, counties, special districts, state and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, neighborhood associations, businesses and citizens in education, planning and project implementation activities related to streams and watersheds in the metropolitan area.

The Urban Streams Council and its resource people have carried out such activities locally and in California and are uniquely qualified to provide such technical assistance and advice to Metro and the grantee agencies/organizations in restoration project development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The Wetlands Conservancy has been an active partner in development of the Greenspaces Program

and is thoroughly aware of the objectives of the Master Plan and constituent expectations for its implementation. Metro previously collaborated with the Urban Streams Council in conducting two public workshops on restoration of degraded sites, organizing and sponsoring the October 17-18, 1992, Adopt-A-Stream Conference and we are working cooperatively in the publication of urban streams brochures and maps.

BUDGET IMPACT

Funding for the restoration and enhancement program comes from the USFWS. The grants may be awarded to cities, counties, special districts and nonprofit organizations located in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington Counties in Oregon, and Clark County in Washington (i.e., within the geographic area where the natural areas inventory was conducted and not the entire area of the counties).

Summary of funding for the Greenspaces restoration and enhancement program:

- Year 1: \$200,000 in grants funded 14 projects. The grants leveraged approximately \$1 million in local funds, donated materials and volunteer labor. Projects must be completed by March 31, 1993.
- Year 2: \$250,000 in grants will be awarded. Ten projects funded at \$133,590; eight additional projects are still being reviewed for potential funding of \$116,410. Projects must be completed by March 31, 1994.
- Year 3: \$200,000 in grants will be awarded (once a contract between Metro and the USFWS is signed). Metro may select a certain number of restoration projects which tie into the Greenspaces system map and Master Plan, and work directly with local agencies in developing, implementing and monitoring the projects. The balance of funds would be competitively bid out. Projects must be completed by March 31, 1995.

Funding for the \$27,500 contract would come from the USFWS's second year grant to Metro. Funds have been earmarked in this year's budget for this contract.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Officer recommends approval of Resolution No. 92-1705.