

NOT ADOPTED

BEFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE
METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

ENDORSING WATER ADJUDICATION
RIGHTS FOR THE LITTLE SANDY
RIVER

) RESOLUTION NO. 92-1727

) Introduced by Councilor Ruth
) McFarland

WHEREAS, The residents of the Metropolitan Service District require a reliable, continuous, clean source of drinking water; and

WHEREAS, The Bull Run Watershed and Buffer Zone has, until recently, produced a clean, dependable source of water for the Metropolitan Service District; and

WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Service District needs to be a participant with the City of Portland to obtain adjudication water rights to the Little Sandy River; and

WHEREAS, The Oregon Legislature passed an act in 1989 requiring all contested water rights to be in the adjudication process with the Oregon Water Resources Department by December 31, 1992; and

WHEREAS, The Portland Water Bureau and its customers are dependent on the Bull Run Watershed as the only reliable water source; and

WHEREAS, The Bull Run watershed is made up of the Bull Run River, its tributaries, and the north and south fork of the Little Sandy River, and was set aside by presidential proclamation in 1892 as the public domestic water source; and

WHEREAS, Portland water users cannot rely on the Columbia and Willamette Rivers or the East County Well system as a dependable source of water because of radioactive and chemical contamination; and

WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Service District has an obligation to protect its residents from growth that destroys our ability to plan for adequate use of our natural resources which are vital to our liveability; and

WHEREAS, Portland General Electric has made known its intent to obtain control of the Little Sandy River water rights by adjudication proceedings; and

WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Service District must limit growth and strictly enforce urban growth boundaries to conserve and protect our drinking water supplies; and

WHEREAS, Our congressional representatives, city council commissioners, and the Governor of Oregon have all supported the need to protect our water supply; and

WHEREAS, The Little Sandy River is an obtainable supply of clean water; and

WHEREAS, Time is of the essence to obtain the water adjudication rights from the State of Oregon Water Resources Department; and

WHEREAS, The deadline for obtaining water adjudication rights from the State of Oregon Water Resources Department is December 31, 1992; and

WHEREAS, The Portland City Council is voting to file for Water Adjudication Rights on the Little Sandy River with the Oregon Water Resources Department on December 16, 1992; and

WHEREAS, To ensure the livability and to protect the lifestyle of our Metropolitan Service District residents; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED,

That we, the Council of the Metropolitan Service District, present this mandate: To take the necessary steps, in cooperation and coordination with federal, state and City of Portland representatives, by condemnation, acquisition, legislation or ordinance to acquire the Little Sandy River water rights and any other reliable, pristine water source for the citizens of the Metropolitan Service District.

ADOPTED by the Council of the Metropolitan Service District this _____ day of December, 1992.

Jim Gardner, Presiding Officer