

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF STATING INTENT)	RESOLUTION NO. 93-1844A
TO SUBMIT TO THE VOTERS THE)	
QUESTION OF A GENERAL OBLIGATION)	Introduced by
BOND INDEBTEDNESS FOR A REGIONAL)	Councilor Richard Devlin
SYSTEM OF GREENSPACES)	

WHEREAS, Metro has taken a leadership role in identifying remaining natural areas in the region and planning for their protection or potential acquisition; and

WHEREAS, Such activities have been and will continue to be coordinated with the affected federal, state, and local governments and citizens in the region; and

WHEREAS, Numerous planning efforts, studies, and recommendations have been proposed over the past 90 years to develop a system of interconnected Greenspaces for the Portland/Vancouver region; and

WHEREAS, On June 28, 1990, by Resolution No. 90-1261, the Metro Council established a Policy Advisory Committee to assist the Council in coordinating its Natural Areas Planning Program and to develop a regional consensus in the development of a Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, On December 13, 1990, by Resolution No. 90-1344, Metro established a Technical Advisory Committee to assist the Metro Council in coordinating the Metropolitan Greenspaces Program and Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, The Metro Council adopted the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan by Resolution No. 92-1637; and

WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan recommends that Metro seek a regional funding mechanism to assemble, through acquisition and other strategies, and develop a regional Greenspaces system and also assume operations and management responsibility for components of the system in cooperation with local governments; and

WHEREAS, On July 2, 1992, the Portland Metropolitan Area Local Government Boundary Commission approved Proposal AF-4 allowing Metro to seek voter approval to acquire, develop, maintain, and operate a system of parks, open space and recreational facilities of metropolitan significance; and

WHEREAS, On July 23, 1992, by Resolution No. 92-1639A, the Metro Council submitted a \$200 million general obligation bond for acquisition and development of a regional system of Greenspaces to the voters for approval; and

WHEREAS, On November 3, 1992, the voters of the Metro region did not approve the \$200 million bond measure; and

WHEREAS, On November 3, 1992, the voters approved with 61 percent of voters in favor the 1992 Metro Charter containing authorization for "Acquisition, development, maintenance and operation of* * *a system of parks, open spaces and recreational facilities of metropolitan concern"; and

WHEREAS, The Metro Council has consulted affected agencies and groups at the March 1993 Parks Forum, the Greenspaces Technical and Policy Advisory Committees concerning resubmitting a general obligation bond measure to the voters in 1994; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED,

1. That the Metro Council hereby states its intent to submit to the voters at the general or a special election between March and November, 1994, a general obligation bond measure for the acquisition and development of a regional system of Greenspaces consistent with the adopted Greenspaces Master Plan.

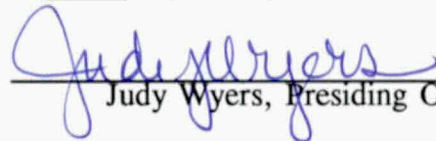
2. That the general obligation bond submitted to the voters be in an amount between \$135-175 million.

3. That policies in the Greenspaces Master Plan on restoration of Greenspaces and alternative means of acquisition and development of regional systems of Greenspaces and trails shall continue within the limits of the 1993-94 Metro budget.

4. That staff is directed to consult with local governments, interested individuals and groups for recommendations for the particular election date and bond measure amount, and return to the Metro Council by October 15, 1993, with a specific recommendation.

5. That staff is further directed to establish a process to consult with business and civic leaders for recommendations on the particular election date and bond measure amount, and return to the Metro Council by October 15, 1993, with a specific recommendation on the consultation process.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 23rd day of September, 1993.



Judy Wyers, Presiding Officer

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STAFF REPORT

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 93-1844 FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXPRESSING COUNCIL INTENT TO SUBMIT A GREENSPACES ACQUISITION AND IMPROVEMENT BOND MEASURE TO THE VOTERS OF THE REGION IN CALENDAR YEAR 1994.

Date: September 1, 1993

Presented by: Pat Lee

PROPOSED ACTION

This Resolution, if approved, would express Council's intent to refer a land acquisition and capital improvement bond measure before the voters of the region during the calendar year 1994 to assist implementation of the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan, which was adopted in July, 1992.

Approval of this Resolution does not constitute an actual bond referral, rather it directs staff to consult with a number of stakeholders and return to Council by October 15, 1993 with a recommended ballot title including specific amount of general obligation bonded indebtedness to be incurred, a recommended date of election, and estimated elections costs. While not binding, the Resolution of Intent cites a range of indebtedness between \$135 - 175 million be used to begin discussions with the stakeholders. Election dates available in 1994 include: March 22nd, May 17th, September 20th, and November 8th.

This resolution was recommended for Council adoption by the Greenspaces Technical Advisory Committee on August 20, 1993 and by the Greenspaces Policy Advisory Committee on August 25, 1993. Attached is a separate communication from the GPAC to the Council suggesting March 22, 1994 as the preferred election date and recommending that the bond be of sufficient size to accomplish one third of the acquisition program outlined in the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan, including a 25 percent local share.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

The Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan currently identifies fifty-seven (57) areas of regional significance and thirty-four (34) trails and/or greenway corridors of regional significance as the highest priorities to be protected, preserved and/or acquired as public open space. As the plan points out:

"The quality of life of this region is at a crossroads. It seems clear that, as communities continue to develop, the land supply available for open space and parks will be smaller and generally more expensive to purchase."

Some of those sites are under development pressure, now. Losing them will compromise the envisioned system of interconnected natural areas. As the master plan points out, these areas are still available. Action is required to move this process forward.

Advantages of the Resolution of Intent include:

1. A clear signal to steadfast cooperators and supporters that METRO is serious about aggressively implementing the Greenspaces Master Plan.
2. A basis for Metro to participate in county-wide tax coordination meetings required by Senate Bill - 59 (1993-1995 biennium).
3. A starting point from which non-METRO affiliated campaign interests can begin to develop a political strategy.
4. A notice to other taxing jurisdictions of the "window" in which METRO anticipates referring a funding measure.

RECOMMENDATION


The Executive Officer has no recommendation on Resolution No. 93-1844 at this time.



METRO

DATE: August 26, 1993

TO: Presiding Officer Judy Wyers
Executive Officer Rena Cusma

FROM: Councilor Richard Devlin, Chairman 
Metropolitan Greenspaces Policy Advisory Committee

SUBJECT: Resolution of Intent to refer a Greenspaces acquisition and capital improvement bond measure to the voters of the region in 1994

The Metropolitan Greenspaces Policy Advisory Committee, at the regularly scheduled meeting of August 25, unanimously recommended that the Metro Council adopt Resolution No. 93-1844 stating Metro's intent to refer a general obligation bond measure to the voters of the region in calendar year 1994. The resolution identifies for consideration a bond size range of between \$135 and \$175 million to be referred at any election between March and November 1994 at the Council's discretion.

The Policy Advisory Committee also voted to send this letter stating a specific recommendation for election date and bond amount. The Policy Advisory Committee recommends that Metro refer the Greenspaces acquisition and capital improvement bond to the March 22, 1994 election. Further, the Policy Advisory Committee recommends that the size be sufficient to accomplish 33% of the acquisition program, including the local share, outlined in the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan.

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

RESOLUTION NO. 93-1844, STATING INTENT TO SUBMIT TO THE VOTERS THE QUESTION OF A GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND INDEBTEDNESS FOR A REGIONAL SYSTEM OF GREENSPACES

Date: September 20, 1993

Presented by: Councilor Devlin

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: At its September 16, 1993 meeting the Governmental Affairs Committee voted 3-0 to recommend Council adoption of Resolution No. 93-1844. Voting were Councilors Gates, Hansen, and Wyers. Councilors Gardner and Moore were excused.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION/ISSUES: Regional Planning Supervisor Pat Lee presented the staff report. He said the purpose of this resolution is to begin a formal deliberation process before the Council to flesh out the specifics of the best approach to pursue a funding policy for greenspaces acquisition. He said the resolution creates a non-binding policy document stating Council's intent to place a bond measure for greenspaces acquisition on the ballot some time in 1994. The resolution includes a direction for staff to report to Council by October 15, 1993 with further recommendations on how to pursue the measure: when should it go on the ballot, and what should the amount be.

Councilor Hansen asked whether the funding formula for local governments would be revisited, or would it stay intact from the previous effort. Mr. Lee said the formulas would stay intact, as specified in the Greenspaces Master Plan.

Councilor Devlin said the Greenspaces Policy and Technical Advisory Committees favor a March election, for an amount sufficient to fund 1/3 of the acquisition program contained in the Master Plan. He said the principal point of the resolution is to have the Council focus on putting out a bond measure in 1994, to determine when to do so and for what amount.

Councilor Wyers asked whether the October 15 date for reporting back to Council was too soon. Mr. Lee said that date was included at the Policy Advisory Committee's recommendation, to ensure quick action in reporting to Council, and that he thought additional time would be beneficial. Councilor Devlin clarified by saying the October 15 recommendation might simply be that more time is needed.

Councilor Wyers expressed her support for the greenspaces program, but said it is essential to have further outreach to the business and development communities. She asked staff to prepare recommendations for conveying to those communities the importance of the greenspaces program. Planning Director Andy Cotugno suggested that staff begin regular reports to the Governmental

Affairs Committee on the greenspaces bond measure issue, which would include discussion of how to involve the business community. Chair Gates agreed to schedule those reports. Chair Gates then opened a public hearing.

Michael Carlson testified, representing the Portland Audubon Society as its urban conservationist. He said there are four aspects necessary to the proposed measure's success. Those are: form a task force to educate and gain support from the business community; approve the Multnomah County parks consolidation; contract with a professional open space advisor to help craft the campaign; and, put the measure on the ballot in 1994. Councilor Wyers said work is being done with the Portland Chamber of Commerce, and she said she would work to further cultivate the support of the business community.

Carol Pinegar, 2535 NE 13th in Portland, read her written testimony in favor of the resolution. (Her testimony is attached.)

Richard Meyer, Executive Director of the Portland Audubon Society, testified in support of the resolution. He said the ability to acquire greenspaces is perhaps the only way to save these spaces for the future. He said it is important to propose this measure soon because those areas are being developed, and most of them are not protected. He also encouraged more active leadership in the community from business and government leaders in order to pass the measure. He suggested using the successful program in support of the Westside Light Rail ballot measure as a model for gaining approval of the greenspaces measure.

Chris Beck of the Trust for Public Land spoke against the resolution. He said the Trust is committed to the Greenspaces program and to a future bond measure, and is working with Metro Greenspaces staff. He said his concerns are about timing and the amount of the measure. He said the lack of support and awareness among the civic and business leadership contributed to the failure of the 1992 measure. He said there are many soldiers contributing to the effort, but not enough generals; those people need to be identified and become involved. Mr. Beck suggested an alternative approach to the resolution being considered, which would be to create a task force including civic and business leaders to give the Council its recommendations on what and when the next Greenspaces ballot measure should be. He distributed an outline (attached) of a proposed task force's scope of work and membership. Mr. Beck also alluded to the groundwork which contributed to the success of the Westside Light Rail measure, which included participation from the business community to get their perspective and support. He said the resolution was premature because that broad support had not been established, and he feared a ballot measure would fail without it.

Councilor Gates asked Mr. Beck how much time would be needed to do what he suggested. Mr. Beck said most of the technical work

has been done, so it should only take three to six months. Councilor McLain said she didn't think his comments were inconsistent with the points in the resolution; he differed in the establishment of a time line and dollar amounts for the measure. Mr. Beck agreed those are his concerns. Councilor McLain asked how Mr. Beck saw this measure fitting with potential local government funding measures. He replied that there is a problem if the discussions between governments are not taking place.

Councilor Devlin said much of the potential membership of his proposed task force was the same as the Greenspaces Policy Advisory Committee. He added that the resolution was not inconsistent with the suggestions Mr. Beck and Councilor Wyers had made. Councilor Devlin said this resolution is important to adopt now in order to keep the process moving. He added that it's important not to wait for the generals, for fear the soldiers would not be there.

Chair Gates closed the public hearing, and referred the committee to Councilor Moore's memo of September 14, in support of the resolution. Councilor Hansen said the Council should adopt the resolution, in order to demonstrate to the business community that Metro is serious about the Greenspaces program; at that time it would be appropriate to approach business leaders to solicit their support. That way, they would know they wouldn't be wasting their time on the issue. She agreed that securing that leadership was important.

Councilor Wyers said Metro has learned the lessons of the last campaign, and will do what is necessary to pass the measure. But it is time to go forward with the statement of intent, and proceed with the necessary work from there.

CAROL PINEGAR

2535 NE 13th, Portland, OR 97212

September 16, 1993

Testimony before METRO Council re:
approve resolutions to submit Greenspaces bond measure to the people
and to consolidate with Multnomah County Parks.

My name is Carol Pinegar; I live at 2535 NE 13th in Portland. I am speaking to you today to urge a yes vote on the resolution before you to submit the Greenspaces bond measure to a vote of the people.

The METRO Greenspaces Plan and its implementation provide protection of the Portland metro region's quality of life by ensuring survival of its natural landscape, a prime contributor to our sense of place and emotional well-being.

I have studied, taught and played in many of our region's natural areas. As a student, I have studied Red-Legged Frogs in Beaverton, and inventoried the flora and fauna of a private wetland on Pete's Mountain and at Beggars Tick Marsh.

As a middle school science teacher, I have used natural areas as an outdoor classroom. I shall never forget our field trip to the Columbia South Shore area. Enroute our final destination, we travelled by van from our school in inner Northeast Portland along Goertz Road. The expressions on my students' faces and their sense of awe as they saw Canada Geese feed and a Great Blue Heron take wing stands out in my mind. It was a moment that teachers pray for; it spoke more to my students than any classroom lesson could ever hope for.

Since I spoke to the Council last, in July of 1992, urging you to put that bond measure on the ballot, my life has taken a turn that brings me a new sense of urgency in speaking for Greenspaces. About a month ago, my husband and I, after a long time waiting, suddenly became parents of a newborn son through adoption. This new parenthood brings memories of my childhood flooding back. My favorite place to play in my hometown of Seattle was a place we kids called "the canyon" two blocks from our home. The Piper's Creek watershed in the city limits has now been made more accessible to the public through Seattle's dedication of monies to provide a path alongside the Creek. My niece and nephews and brother and sister-in-law now frequently go to this area near their home to play, and to access Puget Sound by means of the path.

My husband, Craig, and I want our son, Alexander, to share these experiences that I had growing up by Piper's Creek and Craig had near Salmon Creek and

Whipple Creek in Clark County. We want to continue to live in the city, while providing Alexander with places to watch geese and Great Blues, muskrat and marshes.

There are three specifics I'd like to address before closing. First, the need for your approval of the consolidation measure with Multnomah County Parks. One of the criticisms leveled at Greenspaces during the first ballot measure campaign was that it was an attempt by METRO to grab power by expanding its activities; this from an agency that was primarily a planning agency. The consolidation resolution would put that argument to rest.

Second, the issue of support for the measure. Last year's campaign lacked the enlistment of the business community in an organized way. I ask that METRO fully support the effort this time by organizing the business community. After all, it's the metro area's quality of life that often attracts new business and quality employees from other parts of the country to our region.

And third, the time is now to put this measure on the ballot. The METRO service area has grown by 500,000 residents in the past 40 years. It is projected that it will take only another 20 years to add the next 500,000 residents. Green spaces are at the heart of what makes the Portland area "home" for me and many others like me. They are a prime attraction to tourists, and a part of the attraction that brings and keeps business here, and will encourage our children to stay here as adults. Time is of the essence and this Council is the one that should put its support behind the measure, not some other Council in some year in the future when there will be even fewer Greenspaces to save.

The area where my students and I watched the Canada Geese and the Great Blue Heron is being developed. Please seize this opportunity to let the citizenry of our region decide to save space for wildlife and enjoying nature. Preserve our quality of life now and in the future by voting your approval of the Greenspaces resolution.

Thank you for your time and attention.

PUBLIC PRIVATE TASK FORCE ON OPEN SPACE FINANCE
(proposed)

Goal: Organize a blue ribbon task force to discuss the best approaches toward funding the land acquisition component of the Metropolitan Greenspaces Program. End product would be a written report and recommendations to the Metro Council as to whether and when a bond measure should be referred.

Process: Hire a local meeting facilitator/consultant to organize regularly scheduled meetings (bi-weekly) to discuss the Greenspaces Program, Masterplan, funding options, etc. Polling may also need to be ordered and analyzed by the task force.

Timing: Meetings should begin within 6 weeks of approval of this proposal and should be completed within three months of the first meeting.

Funding: Funding for the consultant should come from Metro, counties, cities, TPL, and possibly private businesses. A poll may add substantial cost to the project.

Proposed Membership:

- Metro Executive Officer and/or Presiding Officer
- Metro Council Representative
- Three County Commissioners
- City of Portland
- One city from each county
- one park provider staff
- Trust for Public Land
- Audubon Society/Wetlands Conservancy
- two private citizens at large
- Representatives from large corporations/associations:
 - PGE
 - PP&L
 - Nike
 - Tektronix
 - Fred Meyer
 - US Bank
 - Bank of America
 - Precision Castparts
 - Real Estate Developer
 - Homebuilders Assoc.
 - Pendleton Woolen Mills
 - CH2M Hill
 - Portland Chamber of Commerce
 - Stoel, Rives



METRO

14 September 1993

Memorandum

To: Mike Gates, Chair, Government Affairs Committee
Committee Members

From: Terry Moore, Councilor, District 13 *Terry Moore*

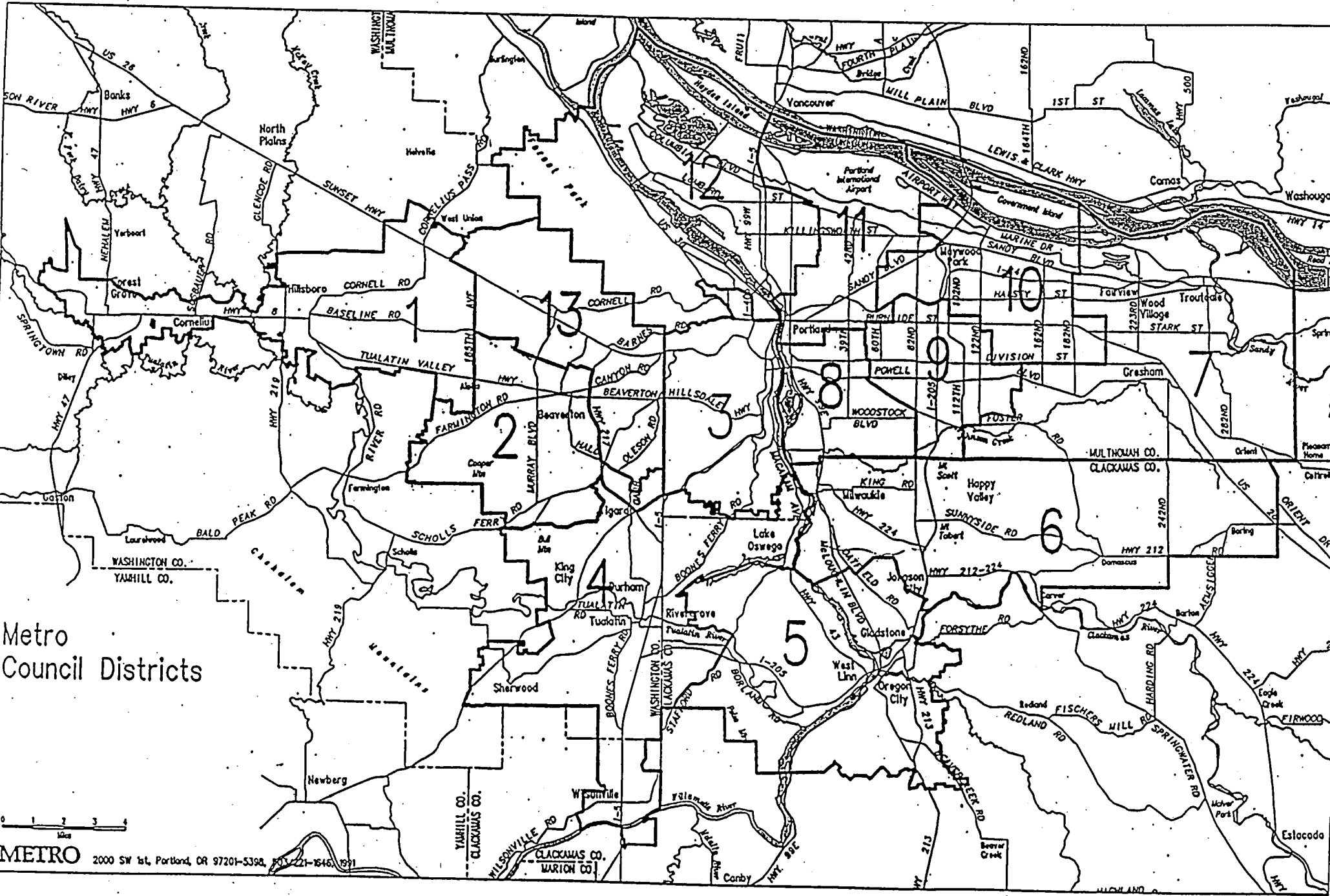
Subject: Matters Before You on September 16, 1993

I will be out of town for our September 16th meeting, but want to reinforce my hope that you will recommend to the Council adoption of resolutions 93-1844 and 93-1849. I have been meeting with both the Greenspaces TAC and PAC during the last month to discuss the Greenspaces bond measure and feel that we as a committee and as a full Council must make known our intentions for the future of the bond measure as soon as we can. To that end, I would hope the full Council could consider the resolution at its first October meeting.

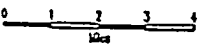
I also am attending MPAC as one of the Council liaisons and have had the opportunity to listen to some of its members argue their concerns about consolidation of Multnomah County's regional parks with the Metro Greenspaces department. As I indicated at our last meeting, I think it is best that we report the resolution to approve the MOU for Council action at the first meeting in October, rather than on September 23rd. I support adoption of the resolution as included in our agenda packet, but feel it best to allow the MPAC its full discussion on September 22nd with time to forward comments to us for our October (rather than September 23rd) consideration.

c Casey Short

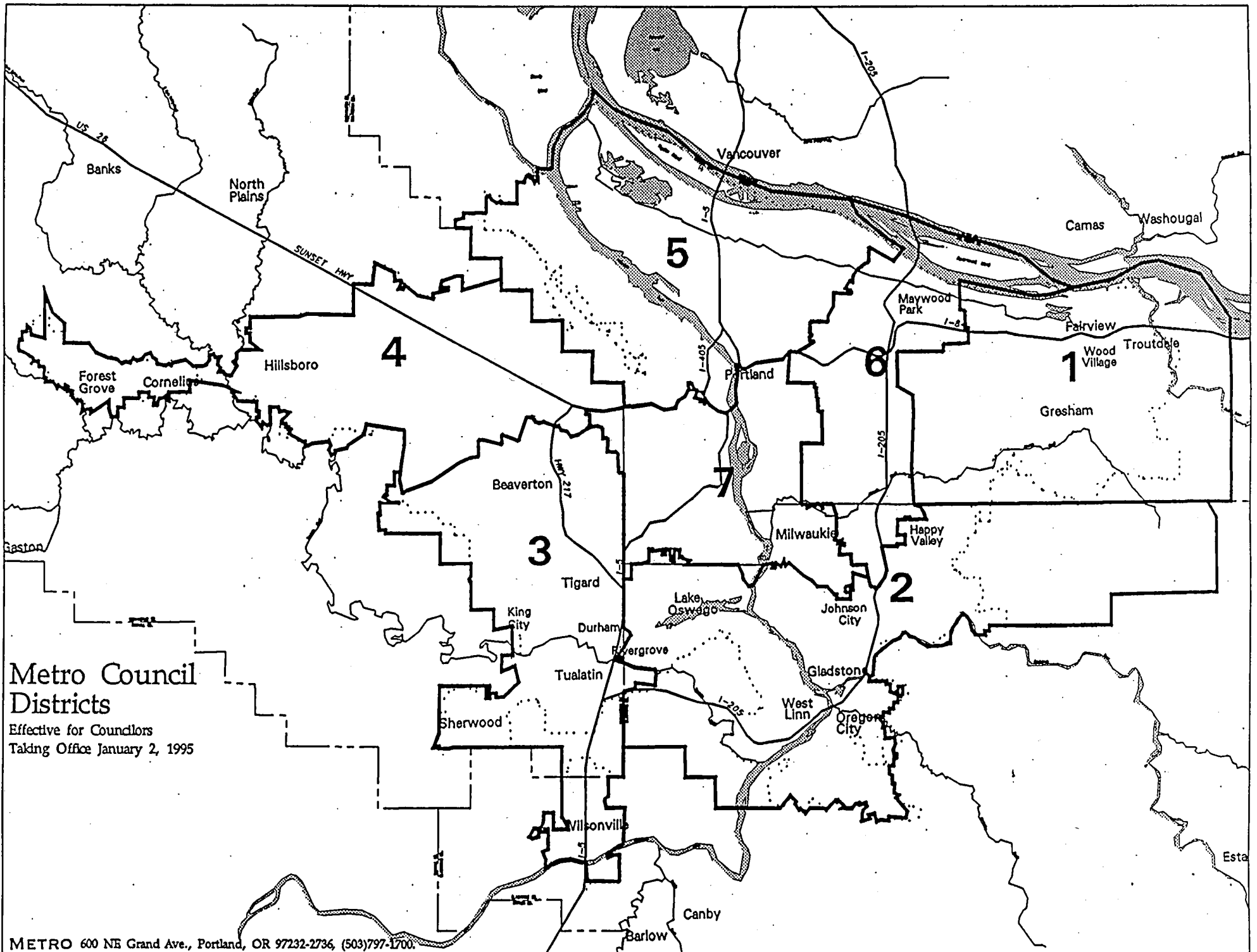
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Metro Council Districts



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Metro Council Districts

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BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF STATING INTENT)
TO SUBMIT TO THE VOTERS THE)
QUESTION OF A GENERAL OBLIGATION)
BOND INDEBTEDNESS FOR A REGIONAL)
SYSTEM OF GREENSPACES)

RESOLUTION NO. 93-1844

Introduced by
Councilor Richard Devlin

WHEREAS, Metro has taken a leadership role in identifying remaining natural areas in the region and planning for their protection or potential acquisition; and

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ADOPTED by the Metro Council this ____ day of September, 1993.

Judy Wyers, Presiding Officer

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