

METROPOLITAN EXPOSITION RECREATION COMMISSION

Resolution No. 15-22A

For the purpose of approving the recommendations by the General Manager of Visitor Venues, as recommended by the First Opportunity Target Area (FOTA) Task Force, to adjust the geographic boundaries and income eligibility thresholds for Metro's FOTA hiring program.

WHEREAS, In 2013, the Commission directed staff to engage independent consultants to review and update the First Opportunity Target Area (FOTA) program and, as the result of a request for proposal (RFP), Cogan Owens Greene (formerly known as Cogan Owens Cogan) was selected to conduct the review and provide recommendations, and;

WHEREAS, after conducting thorough program review, historical, legislative and best practices research and stakeholder engagement, a set of FOTA policy and program recommendations were presented to and accepted by the Commission and Metro Council in a joint work session on February 13, 2015, and;

WHEREAS, one of such recommendation was for staff to convene a community task force to review and provide to the General Manager of Visitor Venues recommended updates to the FOTA boundaries and income eligibility thresholds, and;

WHEREAS, the FOTA Task Force was appointed in June 2015, met six times and, after assessing regional demographic and economic data, in addition to Metro employee recruitment and hiring information, developed recommendations to update the geographic boundaries and income eligibility thresholds for consideration by the General Manager of Visitor Venues, and;

WHEREAS, the current boundaries and income thresholds have not been updated since the program's inception in 1989 and the recommended updates will enhance the effectiveness of the FOTA hiring program.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission approves the following updates to the FOTA program geographic boundaries and income eligibility thresholds:

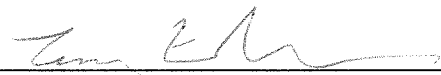
1. MERC shall increase the income eligibility threshold for the FOTA program from \$40,000 for a family of four to \$47,000 for a household of up to two;
2. MERC shall increase, for households of three and greater, the annual income eligibility threshold to \$65,000;
3. MERC shall update the income thresholds on an annual basis based upon the University of Washington (UW) Self-Sufficiency Index;
4. MERC hereby expands the geographic boundaries for the FOTA program north and east to include households that formerly lived within the original boundaries that have moved due to gentrification and other socio-economic factors, as well as traditionally underserved populations and communities in accordance with the map attached as Exhibit A; and

5. MERC shall evaluate and, if necessary, adjust the geographic boundaries every five years.

Passed by the Commission on January 6, 2016

Approved as to form:

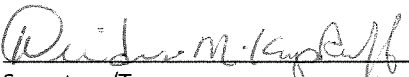
Alison R. Kean, Metro Attorney



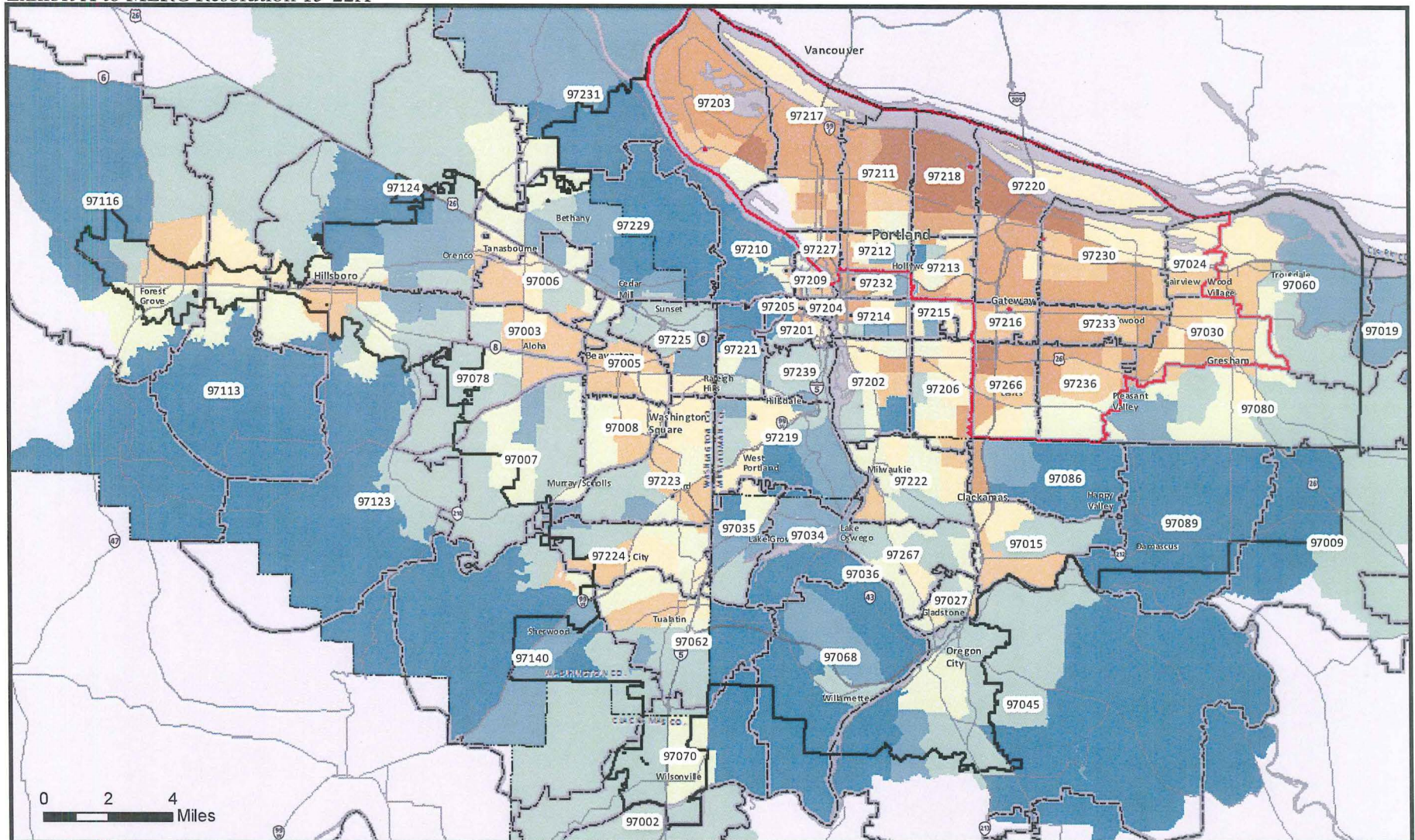
Chair

By: _____

Nathan A. S. Sykes, Deputy Metro Attorney



Secretary/Treasurer *vice-chair*



African American Population, Census 2010 and Low Income, ACS 2009-2013

"Low Income" defined as annual household income of less than \$50,000

June, 2015

Source: 2010 Census, 2009-2013 ACS, Metro RLIS Census Tracts



The information on this map was derived from digital databases on Metro's GIS. Care was taken in the creation of this map. Metro cannot accept any responsibility for errors, omissions, or positional accuracy. There are no warranties, expressed or implied, including the warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, accompanying this product. However, notification of any errors are appreciated.
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MERC Staff Report

Agenda Item/Issue: For the purpose of approving a correction to Resolution 15-22 which included an error in the recommendations by the General Manager of Visitor Venues, as recommended by the First Opportunity Target Area (FOTA) Task Force, for the adjusted income eligibility thresholds for Metro's FOTA hiring program.

Resolution No.: 15-22A

Presented By: Scott Robinson

Date: January 6, 2016

Background and Analysis:

Resolution 15-22 was originally presented to the MERC Commission at its December 2, 2015 meeting. After the Commission voted its approval, it was discovered that there was an error in the income threshold information as listed in item number 2. Resolution 15-22A corrects the FOTA income threshold recommendations to the General Manager of Visitor Venues to read as follows:

2. For households of three and greater, raise the annual income threshold to \$65,000;

All other recommendations as approved by the MERC as part of Resolution 15-22 are correct as presented and approved at the December 2, 2015 meeting.

Fiscal Impact: Minimal fiscal impacts, if any, are anticipated. Some administrative procedures will change in Metro's Human Resources Department and the Data Resource Center will be charged with generating demographic and economic updates in order to update the geographic boundary.

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission adopts the General Manager's corrected recommendation to update the income eligibility thresholds as outlined in Resolution 15-22A and described above and attached.