

METRO

MEASURE	WHAT IT MEANS	PRO ARGUMENTS	CON ARGUMENTS
Measure 26-1: (Greenspaces)	A \$200 million greenspaces bond measure that would allow Metro to buy land for open spaces and natural areas.	Less than 10 percent of the remaining natural areas in the Portland area are in public ownership. Development pressure is continuing to erode what's left. The measure is needed to protect open space for human livability and natural habitat for wildlife. One-fourth of the bond money will go to local governments for local parks.	Other community needs, such as police protection, are more important. Metro has no source of operating money for the park system it wants to create. Reducing developable land inside the urban growth boundary will increase pressure to expand the boundary into farmland.
Measure 26-3: (Charter)	A proposed home rule charter would take control over Metro from the Legislature and give it to district voters.	Gives district voters, not the state Legislature, the power to shape regional government. Sets planning for growth as Metro's main mission. Gives local governments stronger role. Broadens taxing powers.	Fails to give clear definition of what issues are regional. Forces Metro to raise taxes to pay for planning mandate. Smaller council will increase influence of special interests. Gives local politicians too much power.
DISTRICT 5		DISTRICT 11	DISTRICT 13
Clackamas County: Bill Atherton , a Lake Oswego businessman, faces... Mike Gates , an insurance agent and West Linn city councilor.		Northeast Portland: Ed Washington , a retired marketing specialist for US West Communications, faces ... Joe Ross , a retired salesman and Tri-Met driver.	East Washington County: Terry Moore , former chairwoman of the Raleigh Hills-Garden Home Citizens Participation Organization and secretary to the Portland Planning Commission, faces... Wes Myllenbeck , former chairman of the Washington County Board of Commissioners.

Atherton best choice for Metro

To the Editor:

As a resident of West Linn, I was dismayed when our Councilman Gates decided to run for Metro Seat 5, as our city is facing unprecedented growth problems, many of them due to the council's actions. I was heartened, however, by Bill Atherton's filing for the same seat, as he is well known for his fair, informed and responsible actions.

Atherton can bring an experienced voice for our district to an ever growing portion of our government, and can aggressively represent our best interests at a crucial time. Gates should stay home and finish the rest of his four year term, doing the work he promised residents he'd do two years ago when he was elected to office.

Lorvin
10/29/92
Bibbi Lee
West Linn

Metro decisions face voters

By DOUG BROWNING
Of the Argus

In separate measures, local voters are asked to decide Nov. 3 whether to approve a charter for the Metropolitan Service District and whether to okay Metro's selling \$200 million in bonds to buy undeveloped land for parks and other uses.

The proposed charter was authorized by voters statewide so that voters in the metro area could decide for themselves what powers and duties Metro should have.

The Legislature now makes those decisions, and critics of this process say it gives lawmakers from such faraway places as Coos Bay and

Ontario an unfair voice in local affairs.

The proposed charter was drafted over a period of more than a year by a 17-person committee whose members were appointed by the Legislature, local governments and Metro.

Charter proponents include such elected officials as Washington County Board Chairman Bonnie Hays and Hillsboro Mayor Shirley Huffman.

They say the charter would require Metro "to cooperate and communicate with citizens and local governments on regional issues by establishing a citizen involvement committee, a local government committee and a tax review committee."

But three dissenting members of the committee which drafted the charter claims enacting it "would force Metro to immediately raise taxes" to pay for a growth-management program "that may be more restrictive than current state law."

One of those members is Wes Myllenbeck, who preceded Hays as chairman of the county board.

The dissenters also claim that the Metro Council would be more sus-

ceptible to special interests because it would have only seven members compared to the current 13.

"This would almost double the size of a council district to 150,000 persons (and) make it more difficult for councilors to represent the interest of citizens."

However, 11 other members of the charter committee have issued their own statement urging its adoption.

They say "it allows Metro to grow when voters decide they want new services or local governments (agree to) transfer services to Metro" and places "strict limits on Metro's ability to grow through other means."

The so-called Greenspaces bond measure would provide money for buying undeveloped land throughout the tri-county area so it can be used for parks, open space or wildlife habitat.

Proponents say recreational opportunities and open spaces are vital to the region's quality of life but that development is occurring so fast that we're in danger of running out of publicly accessible land.

"What will our region be like in the year 2010—will it take a two-hour drive to enjoy a walk in the woods?"

asks one supporter in a state Voter's Pamphlet ad. "How often have you driven past a favorite green space only to find it's been bulldozed for a new home, apartments or condominiums?"

Another supporter says, "We're the beneficiaries of a quality of life created by previous generations. It's our turn to pass it on."

But opponents of the measure say it's much too expensive. "Knock, knock, Metro-is anybody home?" begins a sarcastic ad in the Voter's Pamphlet. "While Oregon is still trying to learn to live within Measure Five's limitations, Metro is asking taxpayers to approve the state's largest bond measure ever."

Other opponents say the costs won't stop at \$200 million. They say that would pay for acquiring land but wouldn't pay for turning it into parks or maintaining them. "When will they be coming back for more (money)?" asks one.