

# REGIONAL WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Meeting Worksheet

**PRESENTATION DATE:** 11/19/2020      **LENGTH:**

**PRESENTATION TITLE:** Meeting 2. : Future West Recycling and Transfer Center Project–Cornelius Property Acquisition

**DECISION TYPE:** Guidance.

**RELATED REGIONAL WASTE PLAN GOALS:** Goals 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 13, 16, and especially 16.5: *“Evaluate the feasibility of establishing a publicly owned facility in Washington County to accept and transfer garbage, recycling, food scraps, household hazardous waste and other materials.”*

### PURPOSE OF PRESENTATION

This will be the second meeting on the topic of acquiring a piece of property in the City of Cornelius for a potential future new West Recycling and Transfer Center. Staff will revisit what was discussed at RWAC at the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, bring new information to RWAC related to additional community engagement work recently conducted, and provide ample time for RWAC to discuss the questions we provided at the last meeting (found below).

### ACTION REQUESTED

- Requesting feedback and guidance, see questions below.

### BACKGROUND

The Regional Waste Advisory Committee advises the Metro Council on implementation of the 2030 Regional Waste Plan which includes goals related to improving solid waste transfer system infrastructure in the south and west parts of the region. Over the last 16 months, Metro staff have identified, put under contract, and conducted extensive due diligence work related to a specific parcel in Cornelius Oregon (the Cornelius property). By Code, large capital acquisitions must be approved by a vote of Council. Staff intend to discuss the property acquisition with Council in a work session on December 8, and then Council would vote on the acquisition question on December 17.

For further context, should Council decide not to purchase the Cornelius property, the purchase and sale agreement will terminate, and the parcel will return to the market. Property investigation and community engagement has occurred over the last 12 months at considerable cost to Metro. Staff believe that given the scarcity of, and difficulty finding suitable industrial lands for solid waste facilities, that acquiring the Cornelius property at this time is both an economically safe and prudent step, especially given the encouraging support we have seen from the City of Cornelius and other local governments.

### QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- What are the key elements you think Council should know about this property acquisition and our process?
- What specific input would you like staff to share with Council before they make the decision?
- How would RWAC like to stay engaged with the facility siting projects going forward?

**NEXT STEPS**

- Staff will produce a staff report to include site investigation work and the results of this phase of community engagement work. This report will be made available to RWAC when ready. Initial findings will be summarized at the upcoming Council Work Session on December 8<sup>th</sup> and likely will be referenced again before Council considers the acquisition ordinance on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- None.