



METRO

Meeting: **FUTURE VISION COMMISSION**

Date: December 12, 1994

Day: Monday

Time: 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Place: Metro, Room 370

	<u>Approximate Time</u>
1. CALL TO ORDER	15 minutes
2. ROLL CALL	
3. PUBLIC COMMENT	
4. OTHER BUSINESS	10 minutes
• Review of schedule for Councilor meetings	
5. WORK SESSION	125 Minutes
• DISCUSSION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION SECTION OF THE DRAFT VISION DOCUMENT	
• FINALIZE THE FUTURE VISION MAP <i>(copy enclosed)</i>	

Upcoming Meetings:

Dec 19

Jan 9

Questions? Call 797-1562.

1 Line 585: Insert after 'educational" the words, 'and cultural'

2 INDICATORS

3 I believe that questions, such as posed in lines 584-595, are more to
4 the point than these indicators. The indicators call for
5 quantification which can oversimplify and even mislead. The numbers
6 drive the perception, and diminish and limit our broader intent.

7 QUESTION:

8 Will using the questions (as in lines 584-595) for all sections,
9 and not the indicators, be more helpful—could the quantitative
10 measures in the indicators narrow the entire Future Vision
11 statement? People may pick up on the numbers, perceiving them as
12 formulas, and ignore the full statement.

13 Here are some examples of the problems:

14 Line:

15 607: I-1 Children - Percentage of children living in poverty

16 I feel this leaves out too many kids, not in poverty, who are at
17 the short end of the stick. Our vision is not a negative—such as
18 being beyond poverty—it is a positive statement about being in
19 good shape, with hope and promise.

20 Suggest: I-1 Children - Healthy and ready to learn from birth onwards

21 (A lot of things have to be in place for this to happen.)

22 608: I-2 Education - Adult literacy rates; student skill achievement

23 Education includes literacy and skills, but is not defined by
24 them. Section I-2 covers, among other things, participating in
25 the performing arts, understanding of information technology,
26 higher education, cultural programs and participation.

27 Perhaps indicators that come closer to the mark would include:
28 percentage of children actively participating in the arts;
29 library, museum, gallery, nature center, theater activity;
30 (internet) users; adults in post-secondary schools; etc.

31 609: I-3 Participation - Voting rates

32 Suggest: I-3 Participation - Universal access to accurate information
33 and voting rates.

34 612: S-3 Diversity - Bias crime rate; number of annual ethnic/racial
35 community celebrations.

36 Nowhere in our statement are any of the above mentioned. Curbing
37 Yahoos from harassing Gays or elderly or people with green cards
38 or whose cars carry California plates or Liberals or Amish or
39 White males or Jewish females or Native Americans or children of
40 Asian and Black parents is more a question of safety and law, than
41 diversity.

42 614: S-4 Civic Life - Number of active community associations.

43 Civic life is much more than joining associations.

44 618: S-6 Roots - Number of annual celebrations...

45 This measure only a small part.

TO: Future Vision Commission Colleagues
FROM: Robert Liberty
DATE: 12 December 1994
RE: Comments on the Draft Map, Implementation Measures and Text

I am sorry that I am unable to join you this afternoon in your discussion. This memorandum will have to suffice.

A. The Draft Map & Associated Images (Icons)

The map and the arrangement of images around is very good. I think it clearly illustrates what we have come to understand; that our region is best understood in terms of our shared geography, ecology and economy, not the arbitrary political boundaries we have inherited from the 19th Century.

1. The Map

a. Identifying The Undesirable Alternative To Our Vision

My first concern with the map is that it does not clearly explain what our future will hold; it looks as much like a map of the present as the future. First and foremost, the map must display, somehow what we want to prevent; sprawl stretching in an uninterrupted band from Longview to Salem, absorbing those other communities which now remain distinct; Canby, Estacada, Woodburn, McMinnville and Longview. Because we are asking our fellow citizens to give sympathetic attention to an alternative future for our region, different most other regions, we must help them to appreciate what the future will inflict upon us if we don't take some action. Perhaps we can use some shading or tint to show the sprawl we wish to avoid. The University of Oregon Community Planning Workshop video projection of urban growth may provide the image or data needed to present this alternative.

b. More Specificity

The map does not provide much in the way of specificity. I think we should show actual population distribution by area, employment centers by number of employees, mode splits by community, affordability of housing by community and information about environmental indicators such as purity of air and water using (current) Federal standards. This kind of information might be presented in a table or box around the margin.

Providing this information is consistent with the Charter's requirement that we identify settlement patterns and address matters relating to transportation, the economy and natural resource carrying capacity. It will also answer the critics of our process who think what we are producing is a vague, "feel good" document with little substance.

2. Border Images and Information ("Icons")

a. Use Photographs

We should be sure to include images that have strong emotional appeal, such as the image of Mt. Hood, catching salmon on the Willamette or a successful, desirable neighborhood. I think photographs do a better job of evoking emotion than renderings and strongly urge my colleagues and the Metro staff to make provisions for them.

b. Categories

I feel uneasy with the current categories for the images, because of the amount of duplication between them and the absence of some important issue areas. I suggest using the following five categories to organize the icons and text around the border: Rural Lands; Jobs Housing and Neighborhoods; Transportation; The Environment; The Regional Perspective. I think these categories speak to peoples concerns about the impact of growth and are easily understood.

c. "Resource Lands"

The term "Resource Lands" is a technical term, confusing even to those conversant with planning issues. I would substitute "Rural Lands" and then include one image of each of the four types of these lands; commercial forest lands (farmlands continue to get a disproportionate share of the attention relative for forest lands); commercial farm lands, natural areas and rural residential areas and communities.

d. Community, Neighborhood and Density

There are too many renderings and references to higher (but still modest) density residential neighborhoods, a concept which is disturbing to many people, even those that actually live in such neighborhoods today. I think we should emphasize the choices of neighborhood types which our vision encompasses, including fairly low density residential neighborhoods. It is also very import to show people what the range of densities might be, using existing neighborhoods which are recognized as being popular, successful areas. Again, I would use photographs not renderings. If citizens see what these higher density neighborhoods look like and are reminded that they (or rather their children) will have a choice to pick between low and moderate densities, they will find our vision far more understandable and acceptable. I would have photographs showing three different neighborhood types/densities.

There needs to be some kind of image and information about "affordable housing" and explanation of the regional interest in its distribution throughout the urban area. Especially important is helping citizens understand that affordable housing does not mean just government built or subsidized housing but the affordability of housing for hard working families below the median income. A sentence or two would help dispel the assumption that housing affordability is promoted by an unlimited supply of land for low-density sprawl.

Finally, I think we need to say something about the philosophy of continuing concern and reinvestment in the older parts of the region. We need to make it clear that our region's success cannot be evaluated just by the design and lifestyle in affluent suburbs but the quality of life in the neighborhoods and communities of modest means. Our success is measured by what happens on Alberta St., Foster Boulevard and 82nd Avenue as well as what happens in the Sunset Corridor.

e. Transportation

As with the housing and neighborhood issues, it is important to both describe how we might do better at making walking, biking and public transit an attractive and efficient alternative to the automobile and yet reassure people who cannot imagine transportation without a car or have no alternative today, whether they want one or not. I think images of walking to the store or a child walking or biking to school would provide an added emphasis to these modes and have wholesome associations.

B. Implementation Measures (Benchmarks)

In previous memos (most recently, September) I have urged the Commission to adopt actual numeric targets for its implementation targets, not just descriptions of what those indicators are. It does not help us in evaluating our success if we do not identify our goal.

I do not have time or resources to suggest all of these target but I can provide an illustration with respect to the protection of farmland: *The Censuses of Agriculture will show no more than a 2% reduction in the amount of farmland which is part of a farm with gross sales of \$80,000 in 1992 dollars, over the next 50 years.*

Current (for how long, we no longer know) Federal standards in the Clean Air and Clean Water Act could be used to measure our success in protecting air and water quality. In the past I suggested using wildlife population surveys as direct and indirect measures of the health of our ecosystems.

C. Text

Although it may be too late now, I have some general comments to offer about the text. (I am sorry I missed the last meeting. Given the demands on my time made by the upcoming Legislature and fund raising I suspect my attendance will continue to be sporadic.)

I think we, as visionaries, need not only to describe our destination but at least provide some hints as to how we are going to get there. In this regard, I fear we are failing to offer anything very visionary about the changes needed to existing governmental structures which will be needed to fulfill our vision. As you know, I am very skeptical that the current highly fragmented arrangements of providing governmental services will be workable as our metropolitan government expands. Rep. Myron Orfield's presentations about conditions here and his review of extensive research on the subject, indicates that the fragmentation of government in metropolitan areas is not value neutral. Rather, it makes possible the hollowing out of our metropolitan areas, with wealth and investment moving to the outer edge leaving poverty and decay at the center.

Highly fragmented governmental authority also cannot address issues which affect our region's natural systems, because this fragmentation means no government structure has final or complete authority for stopping the degradation of these systems.

At the same time, there may not be enough authority delegated downward to the neighborhood level, provided neighborhoods are not allowed to override regional needs and objectives. Just as local governments are delegated the responsibility for carrying out state mandates in the fashion which works best for their circumstances, so too should neighborhoods be given some responsibility and freedom for carrying out regional objectives.

In addition, we need to address, rather than ignore the fact that a large share of our metropolitan community resides in a different state. As Washington State's share of the regional population and employment grows, I think we will find that informal and ad hoc forms of cooperation are insufficient to address our common concerns. Similar issues of governance and accountability have already arisen for the four other Oregon counties which are not parts of the Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area.

I am not asking us to describe an entirely different form of regional and local governance. However, at a minimum, it would be nice to express a little skepticism about the effectiveness of current arrangements. We cannot make changes without at least expressing the need for change.

D. Meeting With A Councillor

I would be glad to meet with a Councillor or the Executive about the Vision document. Given past contacts, it would make sense for me to meet with Burton, McCaig, Monroe or Washington.

Portland State University

P. O. Box 751, Portland, OR 97207-0751

December 6, 1994

To: Members of the Future Vision Commission
From: Ethan Seltzer
Re: Tasks Ahead

- 1) At our next meeting on December 12, please come prepared to discuss the following:
 - The map - Please review the map and the icons and bring your comments for David and Glen.
 - Implementation - Attached is a redrafted implementation section with a short list of benchmarks. Please review this section carefully, especially the proposed short list of benchmarks, and fax or bring your comments to us.
 - Glossary terms - Please get your list of "terms-that-need-to-be-in-the-document-no-matter-what" and, ideally, the definition you feel goes with them, to us as soon as possible.
 - Meetings with Councilors - Please set up any remaining appointments and bring the information along to share with the others.
- 2) We are working with Claire Levine, a professional writer and editor, to edit the Future Vision. She has worked on a wide range of projects and is currently editing the newest edition of the Oregon Blue Book. I'll have more information for you at the meeting.
- 3) Public Review - As we discussed the other night, there are a range of options before the Commission. At a minimum, the edited Future Vision should be put into a tabloid and mailed with a response form to Metro's 2040 list. I would also suggest that you plan on holding several public hearings to provide additional opportunities for comment. The tabloid should mail in mid-January and the hearings should occur in early February. This would allow time in February and March for the Commission to consider what it has heard, make changes, and submit the document to the Council by early April. Nonetheless, there are other options as well, and the Commission should discuss how it wants to pursue this. We will take this up on the 12th if the other items go fast enough.

Please note that if we finish our agenda for the next meeting at the next meeting, then our next meeting after that will not need to occur until after the first of the year. Feel free to contact me should you have any comments or questions. Otherwise I'll see you on December 12th, same time, same place.

Thanks!

IMPLEMENTATION

557

558

559 We recommend that the Metro Council, upon the adoption of the Future Vision, identify and act on
560 measures to implement the vision conscientiously, affirmatively, and proactively. The Metro
561 Charter calls for the Metro Council to adopt a Future Vision, and to “describe the relationship” of
562 the Regional Framework Plan to that Future Vision. Further, the Charter specifically prevents the
563 Future Vision from having any “effect that would allow court or agency review of it”.

564

565 Clearly, the ambition for implementation of the Future Vision, as expressed in the Charter, is quite
566 modest. However, we live in a landscape which is home to communities of substantially greater
567 ambition. In fact, our participation in this project has impressed on us that our nine-county, bi-
568 state region deserves the attention, affection, and stewardship to which we are singly and
569 collectively called.

570

571 We believe that implementing actions could include, but not be limited to, the following:

572

573 1) Regional Framework Plan - We have attempted to identify actions to implement
574 individual vision statements in conjunction with Regional Framework Plan elements. The
575 Council should use those proposed actions at the beginning of the process for creating
576 Framework Plan elements in order to ensure that there is a relationship between the Future
577 Vision and the Regional Framework Plan to “describe”.

578

579 2) Vision Index - The Metro Council can use the vision statements to create a Vision
580 Index for use as a diagnostic or evaluative tool in planning, policymaking and budgeting.
581 The Council could direct that the vision statements be used at the outset of new or ongoing
582 initiatives to guide the formulation of decision criteria. As examples, the following kinds of

583 questions might get asked:

- 584 • Will the action or plan assist in improving the welfare of children?
- 585 • Will the action or plan help to extend educational resources to the people of the
- 586 region more effectively or comprehensively?
- 587 • How, if at all, will the action or plan enable improve the ability of people
- 588 throughout the region to compete for jobs or other opportunities?
- 589 • Will the action or plan, through its development and implementation, serve as a
- 590 vehicle for enabling wider participation in policy formation and planning?
- 591 • Does the action or plan support and encourage efforts to engage citizens and
- 592 business to join with government to improve public safety?
- 593 • Will the action or plan add to efforts to diversify our economy and encourage the
- 594 creation of new enterprises best able to further other regional objectives?
- 595 ...and so on.

596 3) Annual State of the Region Review - of critical importance will be efforts to
597 promote, lead, and engage the citizens and communities of the region in an ongoing
598 discussion of our future. The Metro Council and Metro Executive should commit
599 themselves to a program of monitoring that is designed to provide the data needed to
600 evaluate whether the region is achieving the goals that it has set for itself. The best plans,
601 left unattended and unexamined, will not secure the future for this region that it deserves.
602 Metro should begin by developing a short list of indicators or benchmarks for assessing
603 progress towards implementing the Future Vision. This list is not meant to be exhaustive.
604 Rather, it should include key indicators that, when discussed in a public forum, would
605 direct attention to issues requiring urgent attention. We believe that the initial list of
606 indicators for this task should be:

- 607 • I-1 Children - Percentage of children living in poverty
- 608 • I-2 Education - Adult literacy rates; Student skill achievement

- 609 • I-3 Participation - Voting rates
- 610 • S-1 Safety - Crime rates; Perception of safety
- 611 • S-2 Economy - Percapita Income; Unemployment rate
- 612 • S-3 Diversity - Bias crime rate; Number of annual ethnic/racial community
- 613 celebrations
- 614 • S-4 Civic Life - Number of active community associations
- 615 • S-5 Capable Communities - Percentage of residents who feel that they are a part
- 616 of their community; Percentage of community residents with economic and
- 617 geographic access to health care
- 618 • S-6 Roots - Number of annual celebrations of regional history/sense of place
- 619 • P-1 Rural Land - Conversion of acres protected for farm and forest use to other
- 620 uses
- 621 • P-2 Choice - Percentage of housing units within a quarter-mile of parks,
- 622 shopping, transit, public buildings, and multifamily housing
- 623 • P-3 A Life in Nature - Biodiversity; Air Quality; Water Quality
- 624 • P-4 Walking - Mode split for walking
- 625 • P-5 Linkages - Goods movement; Buisness licenses granted to residential zones
- 626 • P-6 Downtowns - Vacancy rates; employment in downtowns
- 627 • P-7 Equity - Geographic distribution of children on free or reduced price school
- 628 lunch; Geographic distribution of households below median income spending less
- 629 than 30 percent of their household income on housing
- 630 • P-8 Growth Management - Number of citizens participating in annual "state of
- 631 the region" review

632 Note that in some cases Metro already collects the data required. In addition, a number of
633 these indicators are drawn from the Oregon Benchmarks and are monitored by the state. In
634 some instances Metro will need to initiate new data collection and surveying activities.

635 However, in all cases, the information collected will be of value to to Metro's other
636 planning efforts, and to those of other jurisdictions as well.

637
638 The Metro Executive and Metro Council can use these indicators in a public process to
639 discuss the state of the region, and whether we are moving further from or closer to our
640 goals as described by the Future Vision. The outcome of the monitoring effort and
641 discussion, on an annual basis, should be used by Metro to establish priorities for planning
642 and implementing activities in the coming year. The Executive and the Council should
643 appoint a technical advisory team to design the data collection methods and interpret the
644 results. The list of indicators or benchmarks should be kept short as a means for focusing
645 attention on the creation of an ongoing and informed public dialogue about our region as a
646 whole, rather than on the status of its individual parts.

647
648 4) Regional Study Fellowships - The region needs a consistent and ongoing research
649 program to better inform its planning efforts. One component of that program could be the
650 creation of Regional Study Fellowships, developed in collaboration with academic
651 institutions and funded through corporate donations and foundation grants. Fellows
652 would be drawn from the ranks of early to mid-career public sector professionals and
653 would develop projects linked to the implementation of the Future Vision and the Regional
654 Framework Plan. The fellows would be chosen through a competitive process and the
655 results of their work would be presented in a public forum. The fellowships would give
656 Metro and the region access to the experience and talents of area professionals, would give
657 the fellows the opportunity to "recharge" and explore an issue or set of issues in depth and
658 with few distractions, and would give area communities access to cutting-edge thinking
659 about the challenges of the future.

661 Whatever the course that is chosen, the fundamental objectives must always be to ensure that no
662 issue gets dealt with in isolation, and that a broad cross-section of our region's people are involved
663 in discussing, debating, and shaping our path to the future. Undoubtedly there are many more
664 ways to use the Future Vision to achieve these objectives. We offer the three outlined above as
665 proof that it can be done and in an efficient manner. As a region, our aspiration should be to match
666 the spectacular nature of our landscape with an equally spectacular and regular civic celebration of
667 our sense of the region, truly our sense of place. For it is only through the creation of a shared
668 and far-reaching culture of this place that we will be able to gracefully and magnificently rise to our
669 responsibilities for stewardship, and adapt to the dynamism of the world we live in, now and in
670 the future.

671

To: Future Vision Commission & 2040 Staff
From: Mike Houck
Re: 12-12-94 FVC Meeting

Robert Liberty and I are in New York City and unable to attend tonight's FVC meeting. I know that Robert will also be sending in comments sometime today.

Map Comments

I think you should probably change Resource Lands to Rural Lands and then have as separate categories Farm, Commercial Forest and Natural Resource Lands. The verbage should stress that it is also critical to protect natural resource values outside the UGB, especially wetlands, riparian zones and water quality and quantity. I am afraid that people are getting the notion that Greenspaces are to be protected only with the UGB, which is neither the case nor something we want to convey to people. I would add the following language:

"Rural Lands must be considered...sustainable region. (add) Sustainable resource utilization must respect the natural landscape, ensuring protection of wetlands, riparian zones and water quality. Lands must be..."

Greenspaces & Regional Tools

change this to read: "Protection, restoration and management of open space and the region's watersheds is crucial to the provision of fish and wildlife habitat, protection of water quality and quantity and the region's future livability."

Fishable/Swimmable Icon: Change the illustration to add wetlands adjacent to the stream (on left). Label the "stream channel" and label the "floodplain." Set the built structures out of the floodplain. These structures should be shown above and well out of the floodplain not as is is currently drawn.

Regional Landmarks: Make the "Natural Landscape" more natural and less linear looking. Add: "Each of the region's twenty-six watersheds and their associated wetlands, streams and upland forests bring nature near all the region's residents."

Illustrations vs Photographs: I think David Ausherman did an excellent job of developing the first cut at icons. However, we need to decide whether illustrations or photos best represent our icons. If photos are preferred I have several that would fit into the Greenspace and natural areas elements.

Text (Future Vision Document):

P. 17 ECONOMY I was asked to supply new language for this section since I was critical about the lack of mention of the economic

value of natural areas to the region. This was a big gap in Portland's Prosperous Portland document as well. I feel very strongly that we should not continue ignoring this important, although undervalued component of the region's economy. So, here's a cut at language to be added:

"The region recognizes the economic value of a protected and well managed natural landscape, including streams, rivers, wetlands and adjacent upland forests. These Greenspaces add significantly to property values throughout the region as well as contribute to the region's overall quality of life which is essential to maintaining a healthy regional economy."

P. 20 OUR PLACE: I still would like to see language which says we will work with the ag and forest agencies to ensure that natural resources (one component of the rural landscape) are protected and restored as part of ongoing stewardship efforts to protect and restore wetlands, riparian zones and other important natural resources. Given the Governor-elect's contemplation of establishing a new natural resources agency, it might be wise if we acknowledge there may be other agencies (either instead of or in addition to agriculture and forestry) that need to be included.

Whatever we do it is critical that it be made clear that just because rural lands are outside the UGB does not mean that anything goes with respect to natural areas. Both farm and forest operations can and do have tremendous negative impacts on natural resource lands.

Glossary Items: Floodplain; wetland; riparian zones; biodiversity; ecosystem; landscape ecology; greenspaces; natural areas; restore; watershed; multiple values.

Ethan's December 6th Memo:

Public Involvement: Other Options should include Neighborhood newspapers (stories and inserts in: Sellwood Bee, Neighbor, NW Examiner, Peninsula Review, Skanner, Portland Observer etc.); PSA's on radio and tv; cable access programs (PDX and Tualatin Valley Cable access, etc.); Oregonian insert.

Implementation:

P-1 Given that there are many reasons why we might want to convert some farm land and forest land back to wetland and stream habitat, not all conversions of farm land are bad. There are, in fact, current efforts on behalf of Oregon Dept of Ag., Soil Conservation Service (newly named as Natural Resources Conservation Service); U S Fish and Wildlife Service to work cooperatively/voluntarily with farmers to restore wetlands. There are federal incentives to "convert" farmland which was formerly "converted" from wetlands and streams, back to their original (or as close as we can get to "original") conditions.

P-2 add: "...within 1/4 mile of parks, Greenspaces, shopping, etc..."

P-3 A Life In Nature: I'd suggest the following specific indicators or benchmarks:

o Viable nesting colonies of Great Blue Herons will continue to exist at: Ross Island; Heron Lakes/James River; Clackamette Park (Goat Island); Bachelor Island (Clark Co); Government Island and Molalla State Park/Pudding River.

o Osprey are nesting on the Sandy, Clackamas, Lewis, Willamette and Columbia Rivers within the metropolitan region and populations of Osprey have increased over 1994 levels.

o Viable runs of Chinook fall salmon continue to spawn in the Sandy River and their numbers have risen to _____ since their low in 1994. Other species of anadromous fish are spawning in the Sandy, Tualatin, Clackamas Rivers and their primary tributaries.

o Native Cutthroat trout continue to thrive in Fanno, Balch and Johnson Creeks and have become reestablished in _____ streams.

o _____ miles of tributary streams to the Tualatin and Willamette Rivers have been restored riparian habitat. This habitat not only provides important shading to these streams and rivers but also contribute critical in-stream habitat for fish and other aquatic species.

o There are _____ acres of Greenspaces per individual and there is a Greenspace within 1/4 mile of each of the region's residents.

o The region will experience a net gain of 1200 acres of wetlands, both natural and water quality treatment.

o The number of species (biodiversity) of nesting, migratory and wintering birds are stable from the 1994 census and _____ species have become reintroduced into the region.

o The number of species (biodiversity) of mammals, amphibians and reptiles remains stable throughout the region. There have been no localized extinctions of these vertebrate groups since data was collected in the mid-1990's.

o All of the region's water quality programs are multiobjective in nature, ensuring that the multiple values of the region's waterways are considered when designing and implementing water quality and flood reduction programs.

o TMDL's (Total Maximum Daily Loads) have been determined for all major pollutants appearing on the state and federal water quality lists have been established for the majority of the region's waterbodies.

- o The majority of the region's waterbodies meet fishable and swimmable standards and those that do not have been targeted to be treated to meet fishable/swimmable standards by the year 2060.
- o All the region's streams and rivers have sufficient, cool summertime flows so as to support the full range of aquatic life native to those waterbodies.
- o Winter time flows have been attenuated in all the region's streams, thus ensuring their structural and biological integrity.

P-4 Walking: Mode split: You need to include bicycling, both on road and off road facilities (% of the region bicycles for commuting, pleasure or shopping).

Line 638: The National Academy of Science performs this sort of function and should be designated as an objective, non-political advisory group. The responsibility of this group should be to monitor, report and recommend. It would then be the political process that would determine what we are going to do with their recommendations. The Urban Growth Management & Livability Advisory Group would consist of university and community college reps; federal and state natural resource agency personnel; professionals in the transit and land use arenas, etc...

4) I like this idea and logically, PSU would perform much of this function. Might function in similar manner to Loeb Fellowships at Harvard.

Hope these comments prove useful.

Sustainable Oregon
26370 SW 45th Drive
Wilsonville, OR 97070
(503) 638-6999

December 12, 1994 -- via FAX

Len Freiser, Chair
Metro Future Vision Commission
600 Northeast Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Dear Mr. Freiser:

Enclosed are Sustainable Oregon's initial recommendations for the October 30, 1994 draft Future Vision. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sustainable Oregon is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the principles and practices of sustainable living. As part of our work we monitor sustainability efforts in the region, nationally, and internationally, particularly education, jobs, and livelihoods. We plan to participate in the process for completing the Future Vision and to support its implementation.

We appreciate and commend your work in putting together this document. The Future Vision will be critical in guiding the region in a sustainable direction.

Sincerely,

Loretta Pickerell

Enclosure: Recommendations for draft Future Vision (10/30/94)

Sustainable Oregon, Recommendations on Draft Future Vision (10-30-94), 1

Recommendations For Draft Future Vision (10/30/94)

General comments

The Future Vision sets forth ambitious guidelines for appropriate development of the region. Unfortunately, few, if any, metropolitan areas in the country would currently meet this vision or satisfy the indicators suggested. Portland currently does not, even with existing population levels. We recommend a clearer recognition in the document that maintaining the status quo will not alone be sufficient. We will need to innovatively and intelligently restore and improve our ecological, economic, and social systems if we are to sustain the current and future populations with an acceptable quality of life.

Values

line 66: After line 66 add new item:

We value innovative and flexible social structures and technologies that support efficient and renewable energy systems and efficient and cyclical material systems.

line 67: Insert: this liberty cannot be fully realized or long endure

line 76: Change as follows:

We value economic development because of the opportunities it affords us all, but that serves the welfare of the human community and the environment, and recognize that there can be

line 78: Insert: mechanisms to insure dignity and equity for all

line 79: Add the following new item:

We value material sufficiency and security for all people and a society that provides opportunities for fulfillment that do not rely on accumulation of material things.

line 85: Add: We value participatory and informed decisionmaking which

line 85: After line 85, add new item:

We value whole systems approaches to decisionmaking, which integrate social, economic, and ecological considerations and promote cooperative partnerships among public and private entities.

Education

line 256: Add: changing economic, social, and environmental conditions.

line 272: After line 272 add two new items:

-- we educate our children to understand the ecological context in which human beings live and to recognize limits and natural constraints with grace and economy (David Orr uses the term "ecological design intelligence")

-- our educational system includes ethics and social responsibility.

Sustainable Oregon, Recommendations on Draft Future Vision (10-30-94), 2

Safety

line 319: Add the following sentence to the end of the paragraph:

Our citizenry and governments are highly skilled in conflict resolution.

Economy

line 333: Change as follows:

that support the development of family wage jobs provide opportunities for all people to earn a sustainable livelihood in centers throughout the region.

line 343: Add:

foster and engage enterprises that assist existing industries and businesses to operate more sustainably; and that maximize sustainable technologies and materials and energy efficiency, emphasize waste and pollution prevention and are environmentally sound, are compatible with and represent long-term commitments to the community, support the local economy, and are attracted to

Civic Life

line 367: Insert new bullet after line 367:

-- Engage the media in reporting and informing the citizenry on efforts and events affecting the implementation of the Future Vision.

Rural Land.

line 404: Add:

supporting viable sustainable (or regenerative) farm and forest resource enterprises

line 413: Add:

products producers and about sustainable (or regenerative) agricultural and forest management practices and the urban consumer's role in supporting these practices.

Carrying Capacity

The draft appropriately recognizes that we have exceeded the carrying capacity of this region and that it would be somewhat arbitrary to represent a maximum sustainable population level for the region. However, it could be noted more clearly that with respect to several environmental factors, the absorptive capacities of the environment have already been legally determined (e.g., air quality standards for air sheds to protect public health and the environment). We can be more explicit than "advancing our values associated with livability" (line 157), as is done in the subsequent paragraph of the document. The following language may help clarify this point:

line 157: Add:

is occurring in a manner that will allow us to meet established criteria for protecting human health and the environment and our other values associated with....