

# METRO REGIONAL PARKS AND GREENSPACES

## **Greenspaces Technical Advisory Committee**

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### **Meeting Notes:**

GTAC meeting  
Jan. 9, 2002  
1 to 3 p.m.  
Metro Regional Center, rm. 370

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### **What it means to be in the regional system**

Charlie Ciecko opened this discussion with a review of GTAC's work on the regional system. The work began with the update of the natural areas inventory and development of the draft Regional Greenspaces System map. Before finalizing this draft Regional Greenspaces System map, GTAC members decided to better clarify what it would mean for public lands to be included in the regional system. This is what Metro staff and GTAC have been focused on for several months now.

Charlie also presented a memo from Michael Jordan, new chair of the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) to MPAC laying out their agenda for the next year. MPAC will play an important role in the land use decisions being made this year, including possible changes to the UGB. In their analysis of the 20-year land supply, MPAC will need to recommend how to estimate the amount of land that will be used for parks and open space purposes within the existing UGB and UGB expansion areas during the study period (2002-2022). Charlie said that he would like the Regional Greenspaces System map completed by GTAC and available for consideration during this process.

### **Motion**

Charlie posed a question to as to whether GTAC members are ready to finalize the work on policy guidelines about what it means to be in the regional system? Steve Bosak made a motion to recommend the final discussion draft and Dee Craig seconded.

### **Discussion**

Jim Sjulín said that he felt like the work still needed to be presented to management and potentially policymakers at other jurisdictions. GTAC members agreed that GTAC would only be voting to "end their internal discussion" on the subject and recommend and refer the discussion draft to the Metro Council, other policymakers and the public.

Mary Cook Swanson said that Clackamas County was comfortable with it being a discussion draft, but would like the best management practices to apply only to the natural area portions of parks in the system and not the recreational areas. Several GTAC members commented that they did not see the draft as being exclusive of this idea and that it seemed more like the level of detail that would be addressed if and when a jurisdiction became a formal cooperator through an IGA with Metro. Charlie added that the idea of the regional system is not that Metro would dictate what individual park providers do in their parks, but to develop a common recognition of the natural

resource attributes of these properties across the region and continue enhancing these attributes over time.

Barbara Fryer recommend that the draft include a paragraph in the introduction that more clearly explains the different scenarios and how they are connected to funding.

## **Vote**

GTAC voted unanimously to finalize the discussion draft with Jim and Barbara's amendments and to refer and recommend it to the Metro Council, other policy makers and the public. *The final draft of the recommendation is attached.*

## **The UGB and the 20-year land supply**

Jim Sjulín commented that there would most likely be more work required to prepare for MPAC and the coming UGB decisions. Charlie agreed and explained that the last time the projections for parks and open space were developed, they used just a straight ratio of acres to population based on current numbers. GTAC members agreed that they would work together to come up with a better way of calculating a number this time. Mike Houck commented that we need to look at types of parks as well as acreage.

Lots of individual jurisdictions have or are soon to have projections of needed parklands in current master plans, etc. Charlie asked people to describe what documents already exist in each jurisdiction that might help with this process.

- Mike Houck suggested that we might use the park deficient areas analysis developed by city of Portland.
- Mary Cook Swanson said a park system plan is being developed for Clackamas County.
- Dee Craig mentioned that in terms of acres per capita, Oregon City looks pretty good, but what is on those sites is a different story. Oregon City has a 1998 parks master plan that does include projections of future needs.
- Duane Roberts said that Tigard has a detailed master plan for their city and scenic areas.
- Valerie Lantz said that Troutdale has a system-wide plan from 1995 that identifies desirable sites and acreage for parks.
- Chris Neamtzu said that Wilsonville is updating a plan from 1994 but they do not have forecasts for the future at this time.
- Michelle Heally said that North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District is currently working on their parks master plan and that it should include projections.
- Chris Wayland said that Washington County completed a management plan two years ago that could include park information.
- Ric Catron said that Gresham has a 1995 master plan for parks and a 1996 plan for trails that include projections.

Charlie suggested that GTAC invite some Metro planning staff to a future meeting to discuss this topic further. In the meantime, please review your local plans and identify whatever projections your jurisdiction has about future land needs for parks during the next 20 years.

### **Regional Trails Map Update**

After a number of small technical changes were discussed or drawn on the map, Bob Akers made a motion that GTAC recommend the updated map to the Metro Council. There were several seconds and GTAC voted unanimously in favor. By the end of January, the data from the updated Regional Trails Map will be available with the draft Regional Greenspaces System map online at [http://mazama.metro-region.org/mapoptix\\_metromap/gtac.cfm](http://mazama.metro-region.org/mapoptix_metromap/gtac.cfm) (see below).

Mel Huie reminded people that February 1st is the deadline for the letters of support for nominated trails from impacted jurisdictions. For more information, call Mel at (503) 797-1731 or send e-mail to [huiem@metro.dst.or.us](mailto:huiem@metro.dst.or.us).

Metro Councilor Rex Burkholder commented that the map looked great but that it would also be helpful if GTAC were to forward some recommendations about priorities within the system and ideas about funding. Metro staff suggested that this be a topic at the next quarterly trails meeting. Metro staff also asked people to consider hosting the next trails meeting and combining it with a trail tour of some kind. Call Mel if you are interested.

### **Regional Greenspaces System Draft Map**

Jennifer Budhabhatti brought out the draft Regional Greenspaces System map and gave a quick review of what it shows and how it was developed. Metro staff asked GTAC members to spend some time reviewing the map and submit any final comments or changes to Jennifer before the next meeting. The map can be viewed at [http://mazama.metro-region.org/mapoptix\\_metromap/gtac.cfm](http://mazama.metro-region.org/mapoptix_metromap/gtac.cfm). Jennifer can be reached at (503) 797-1876 or [budhabhattij@metro.dst.or.us](mailto:budhabhattij@metro.dst.or.us). A number of TAC members requested printed versions of the map. Mike Houck brought up the issue of how the map will interact with the Goal 5 program.

### **Salmon-Safe Certification for Portland Parks**

Jim Sjulín reported on the progress of Portland Parks' Salmon-Safe certification project. Salmon-Safe is a program that certifies farms and dairies as "salmon safe", meaning that their agricultural practices do not endanger salmon-bearing streams or water quality. Portland Parks has contracted with Salmon-Safe to come up with a list of criteria or standards to be used to "certify" city of Portland parks and natural areas as "salmon safe". A draft program has been completed, and Jim will make it available to everyone as soon as he has permission to do so from the author. Once the draft is available, this topic will be scheduled for a full discussion at GTAC.

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**Next GTAC meeting:** Wednesday, Feb. 13, 1 to 3 p.m. at Metro Regional Center in Room 370.

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