

METRO REGIONAL PARKS AND GREENSPACES
Greenspaces Technical Advisory Committee

MEETING NOTES:

*Wednesday, Dec 8, 1999
1 to 3 p.m.
Metro Regional Center*

Grant Announcements

Sean Loughran from Oregon Parks and Recreation announced the availability of \$900,000 for grants in 2000 for "on the ground" recreational trails projects. There is more information available online at <http://www.prd.state.or.us/>. He will notify GTAC about the timing and amounts of grant funds made available by passage of Measure 66 and from the Land & Water Conservation Fund. Sean can be reached at (503) 378-4168, ext. 246.

Peninsula Crossing Trail North Portland Road Segment - Project Update

Mel Huie of Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces gave an update on the progress of the Peninsula Crossing Trail construction. (The trail is a collaborative effort between the residents of North Portland, Metro, the 40-Mile Loop Land Trust, the City of Portland and the Oregon Department of Transportation). The first segment, which follows the Carey Boulevard corridor between North Willamette and Columbia boulevards along the eastern bluff above the Burlington-Northern railroad cut, is complete. Segment 2, which will cross the grounds of the Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant, is being constructed by Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services and is scheduled for completion by fall of 2001. The third segment of the trail will follow the east side of North Portland Road to Metro's Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area, the Columbia River and the 40-Mile Loop Trail. Completion of the third segment is expected by the end of 2000.

North Willamette River Greenway Trail Feasibility Study - Project Update

Jim Sjulín and Peg Butler from Portland Parks and Recreation presented a slide show and progress report on the North Willamette River Greenway Trail Feasibility Study. The North Willamette River Greenway Trail is a significant piece of the 40-Mile Loop greenway trail system and would connect the Eastbank Floating Trail (which ends at the Steel Bridge) with Cathedral Park (at the St. John's Bridge). The study has outlined in detail each segment of the proposed trail and the issues and obstacles involved. For more information, contact Jim Sjulín at 503-823-5122.

TEA-21: Getting Ready for the Next Round of Funding

Terry Whisler from the Metro Transportation Department provided some general information about how to get prepared to submit projects for the next allocation of state and federal transportation funds administered by Metro (some of which can be used to fund trail projects with transportation functionality). The next round of funding will be for projects in 2004 and 2005. More formal information will be available in July or August 2000. Terry presented the priorities developed for the last round of funding (Priorities 2000) and a list of the projects selected. These projects and priorities will be helpful in anticipating the criteria for the next round of funding. Terry emphasized the importance of showing that trail projects meet transportation needs as opposed to being primarily recreation based. Projects must also be included in the "financially constrained list" of projects in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) in order to be considered for funding.

Presentation by the Level of Service Subcommittee

Steve Bosak presented the draft Level of Service Standards document prepared by the Level of Service Subcommittee of GTAC. The standards are intended to be a tool for local jurisdictions to develop their own level of service standards and will allow for regional coordination with local control. The subcommittee will present the draft document at the December 13 meeting of the Metro Policy Advisory Committee Subcommittee on Parks. The draft document will be discussed in more detail over the course of the next two GTAC meetings.