

**METRO REGIONAL PARKS AND GREENSPACES  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RPAGAC)  
MEETING NOTICE**

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**Date:** Tuesday, September 9, 2003  
**Time:** 6:30 – 7:30 PM  
**Place:** Metro Regional Center, 600 NE Grand Ave, Portland, Room 270

**AGENDA**

- I. Introductory comments and announcements (10 minutes)
  
- II. Proposal to merge Metro parks committees into a new form and function (50 minutes)  
(Jim Desmond, Regional Parks Dept. Director)  
**Committee review and discussion**

III. Adjourn

Desmond will present the details of a proposal to end the service of the Regional Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Committee and Greenspaces Technical Advisory Committee and form a new parks committee with new and modified functions.

**Next RPAGAC meeting, October 7, 2003, Metro Regional Center, 6:30PM**

# M E M O R A N D U M

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**METRO**

Date: June 25, 2003  
To: Michael Jordan  
From: Jim Desmond  
Cc: Heather Nelson Kent  
Re: Combining GTAC and Regional Parks & Greenspaces Advisory Committee

Over the past seven years, Metro Parks has staffed two separate advisory committees:

- a) Greenspaces Technical Advisory Committee (GTAC) formed in 1990 (Resolution No. 90-1344), then extended and redefined pursuant to Resolution No.98-2698, is made up primarily of park planners and representatives of various non-profits and public agencies throughout the region.

(Note: This resolution stated that GTAC "shall be dissolved four years from the adoption of this resolution/exhibit unless otherwise extended by Metro Council". As the resolution was dated November 5, 1998, the committee should have been dissolved in November 2002.

- b) Regional Parks & Greenspaces Advisory Committee (RPGAC) formed pursuant to Resolution No. 94-2026A, is made up of 10 citizens, one each from the various Council districts, the unincorporated counties and Clark County, Washington.

GTAC has primarily concerned itself with the implementation of Chapter 3 of the Regional Framework Plan, the updated Natural Areas Inventory, trails issues and other matters of interest to local park providers. That committee has been chaired by the Metro Parks & Greenspaces Director.

The citizen advisory committee (RPGAC) has provided advice to both the Department, the Executive Officer and, on rare occasions, the Council. This committee dealt primarily with policy matters more internal to Metro Parks and its operations: e.g., master plans on Metro property, easements, annual budgets and similar matters.

As we move forward with our efforts to better serve the citizens of the region, the distinction is decreasing between what Metro does internally with its parks versus how we support and work with our local partners. To be obtaining advice from two different committees based on this distinction now appears outmoded. Furthermore, there is inefficiency in staffing two committees.

Therefore, I would like to propose that we combine these committees into one new advisory committee referred to as the Parks & Greenspaces Advisory Committee, which would make policy recommendations directly to the Metro Council on the following issues:

1. Continued development of a regional system of parks, natural areas, open spaces, trails and greenways.
2. Development of goals and funding recommendations for the regional system, including those properties and facilities in the regional system owned and/or operated by entities other than Metro.
3. Compliance with those specific portions of Title 12 concerning parks.
4. Parks Inventory Update as required every five years under the Regional Framework Plan.
5. Other questions related to the areas of parks or greenspaces which may be referred to this committee by either the Metro Council or the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC).

The membership of the new committee shall consist of:

- The park directors from the following seven (7) jurisdictions or districts: Metro, Portland, Gresham, Clackamas County, North Clackamas Parks & Recreation District, Washington County and Tualatin Hills Parks & Recreation District.
- One representative (park director or other senior staff member) from the jurisdictions not holding one of seven seats above, one each from the following counties: Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas.
- Three at-large citizen seats, one each from Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington counties as appointed by the Metro Council. During the first year of the committee, at least one of the citizen-at-large members shall be a recent member of the Regional Parks & Greenspaces Advisory Committee (RPGAC).

For the first year, the committee shall be chaired by the Metro Parks Director and in subsequent years the committee itself shall select a chair of its choosing.

We would like to implement this change as soon as possible, and would be prepared to submit a resolution and staff report to affect this change at your direction.