METRO REGIONAL PARKS AND GREENSPACES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE

A meeting of the Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Citizen Advisory Committee has been scheduled as follows:

Date:

Tuesday, January 16, 1996

Time:

5:30PM - 8:30PM

Place:

Metro Regional Center

600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland

Room 270

AGENDA

5:30PM - 6:30PM General Meeting

- I. Introductory Comments and Announcements (10 minutes)
- II. FY96-97 Director's Requested Budget: committee recommendation on policy issues [evaluation of Greenspaces Program; open spaces operating needs (land banking)]
 (Charles Ciecko / Karen Feher) (45 minutes)

6:30PM - 7:30PM Forest Park Target Area Refinement Plan

- III. Presentation of Forest Park Refinement Plan (Mike Faha & Associates) (15 minutes)
- IV. Citizen comments (30 minutes)
- V. Committee discussion and recommendation to Metro Council (15 minutes)

7:30PM - 8:30PM Cooper Mountain Target Area Refinement Plan

- VI. Presentation of Cooper Mt Refinement Plan (J.D. Walsh & Associates) (15 minutes)
- VII. Citizen comments (30 minutes)
- VIII. Committee discussion and recommendation to Metro Council (15 minutes)

The committee will discuss policy issues facing the department and make recommendations.

The committee will hear presentations of the staff report for the Forest Park and Cooper Mountain Target Area Refinement Plans. The plans will be forwarded to Metro Council for final approval along with the committee recommendation. Citizens will have an opportunity to testify before the committee and Metro Council.

Please give Ron Klein a call at 797-1774 for additional information.

Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Committee next meeting is scheduled for February 20, 1996, 6PM to 8PM, Metro Regional Center, Room 270.



TO:

Regional Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Committee

FROM:

Charles Ciecko, Director

DATE:

December 22, 1995

I. SUBJECT: Staff Report - Agenda Item II, January 16, 1996

Introduction:

At the December 19, 1995 meeting, discussion was initiated regarding the "Director's Proposed Budget" for FY 1996-97. An overview of the budget proposal was presented followed by the presentation of three (3) policy issues for Committee deliberation and action.

This report is intended to facilitate your continued consideration of the three (3) policy issues at your January 16, 1996 meeting and includes a staff recommendation for each item.

POLICY ISSUE #1:

Funding for Regional Parks

(see attached narrative and questions)

Discussion:

The narrative on the attached sheet accurately reflects the current situation. The funding relationship between Expo and Parks was initiated by Multnomah County shortly after the passage of Ballot Measure 5. The Expo funds replaced a portion of "general funds" which had been supporting facility maintenance and other Parks programs.

This relationship has carried over to Metro, however, the amount has been adjusted and formalized by Council resolution. Currently, Regional Parks and Greenspaces receives a base amount of \$325,000. plus all non-food concession related excise tax generated from Expo operations (i.e. \$108,000. projected for FY 1996-97). This policy is scheduled for re-evaluation and possible sunset prior to the end of FY 1996-97. Currently no replacement source of funds is under study and therefore it is unlikely that a source will be identified and implemented by the end of FY 1996-97. Currently these funds support the following:

- a.) Administration Division- \$135,164. (41.5 % of the division budget)
- b.) Operations and Maintenance Division- \$175,000 (6% of the division budget) Within this division, these funds support the Pioneer Cemeteries (47.3%) and Operations and Maintenance Support (1.8%) Programs.
- c.) Planning and Capital Development Division- \$125,000. (5.3% of the Division budget).

Within this division, these funds support the Outreach and Education program (28.7%).

Staff Recommendations:

- a.) Continue subsidy from Expo at \$325,000.? Yes, subsidy should continue until suitable replacement funds are identified and available for use.
- b.) Continue dedication of parks generated excise tax to Metro Parks Department? Yes, policy consistent with public opinion (i.e. user fees are acceptable as long as proceeds are used to support park facilities and programs rather than general government).
- c.) Continue dedication of Expo generated excise tax? See (a) above.
- d.) Re-evaluate current sunset policy on Expo subsidy in relationship to Metro Council long range funding discussions, negotiations with Multnomah County, and discussions on MERC structure? Yes, see (a) above and decisions on MERC structure should assume continued subsidy until suitable replacement funds are available.
- e.) Continue investigation and evaluation of funding source(s) for Metro Parks
 Department operations and capital maintenance? Yes, however, scope should be
 broadened to include landbanking needs and future Operations and Maintenance needs
 for lands acquired through Measure 26-26.

POLICY ISSUE # 2

Re-evaluation of the Greenspaces Program (see attached narrative and questions)

Discussion:

The narrative on the attached sheet is accurate, however it omits the financial support "General Funds" provide to the Outreach and Education Program (38.3%) and Government Coordination/Land Use Program (100%).

In the latter program area, we note the requested staff position will work primarily on natural resource components of the 2040 Framework Plan-Metro's highest priority. This work will be closely coordinated with the Growth Management Department.

As part of the budget development process, all uses of "general funds" were thoroughly evaluated. As a result of this evaluation, we have concluded that programs proposed for "general fund" support are directly related to the implementation of the Greenspaces Master Plan or the development of the 2040 Framework Plan (both are integrally related to each other).

Nonetheless, adjustments were found to be appropriate and are reflected in the proposed budget. They include:

- Acquistion and Trails/Greenways activities transferred to Open Space Acquisition Division.
- Activation of Capital Improvement program to begin implementation of Multnomah County local share projects.
- Restoration and Education Grants programs combined into one program with responsibility assigned to one staff member.
- Re-assignment of several senior staff members to Open Spaces Acquisition

 Division
- Re-classification of vacated senior level positions to assistant or associate level positions.

Staff Recommendation:

- a.) Have traditional uses of these funds been superseded by the Open Spaces Program? No, Greenspaces Master Plan directs activities on a variety of fronts including acquisition, restoration, education, management, land use, advocacy, etc.. Passage of the bond measure is a major element but not the only focus of the plan.
- b.) Can these funds be redirected to coordinate with the Open Spaces Program to provide the needed management plans necessary for the future development of the land purchased? Management Plans cannot be developed until acquisitions are completed. Therefore this issue appears to be premature.
- c.) Are all aspects of the program still valid, necessary or a priority in light of the Open Spaces Program? Yes, as previously noted all activities are consistent with the implementation of the Greenspaces Master Plan or the development of the 2040 Framework Plan.

d.) Could any of these funds be redirected to a landbanking operating reserve? No, redirecting these funds would significantly impact implementation of other Master Plan policies and inhibit Regional Parks and Greenspaces participation in the development of the 2040 Framework Plan.

POLICY ISSUE #3

Open Spaces Operating Needs (Landbanking)

(see attached narrative and questions)

Discussion:

The narrative on the attached sheet accurately reflects the current situation. The \$500,000. figure represents what staff believes would be a "worst case scenario". Staff will make every effort to reduce this amount by attempting to utilize the following strategies:

- Recruitment of volunteers/"friends" groups to assist with maintenance activities.
- Management agreements with local parks providers.
- Rent or lease acquired lands.
- Life estates or "first right of refusal" to purchase.
- Limited public use during the landbanking phase.

Staff Recommendations:

- a.) Set aside "reimbursed bond proceeds for local landbanking needs?

 The amount is estimated be approximately \$75,000. Staff supports earmarking these funds for landbanking.
- b.) Set aside revenue produced from lands acquired through Measure 26-26?

 Although we are uncertain of how much will be generated, we support the concept.
- c.) Re-direct "general fund" support to landbanking?

 No, as discussed under Policy Issue #2, staff believes these funds are appropriately directed as proposed.
- d.) Should landbanking costs be segregated from Measure 26-26?

 Yes, proposed budget includes this cost as a discrete program within the Operations and Maintenance Division.
- e.) How should proceeds of potential land sales be reinvested?

 Staff believes this issue/question is premature. Determination of "excess land" will occur as part of the Master/Management planning process for each area.

 These plans will not be initiated until acquisitions are completed.

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Policy Issue #1: Funding for Regional Parks

The regional parks functions require an annual subsidy to meet operating needs. The department has maintained operations at a minimal level and has deferred capital maintenance needs for several years to keep the subsidy requirement at a minimal level. Current Metro Council long range funding discussions have identified the Regional Parks and Greenspaces department operating needs as a priority, but have not reached any conclusions regarding the manner, type or timing of funding replacement. Unless changed by Metro Council, the current adopted policy terminates the Expo annual subsidy at the end of FY96-97.

- Continue subsidy from Expo at \$325,000?
- Continue dedication of parks generated excise tax to the Metro Parks Department?
- Continue dedication of Expo non-concessions generated excise tax to the Metro Parks Department?
- Re-evaluate current sunset policy on Expo subsidy in relationship to Metro Council long range funding discussions, negotiations with Multnomah County, and discussions on MERC structure?
- Continue investigation and evaluation of funding source for Metro Parks Department operations and capital maintenance?

Policy Issue #2: Re-evaluation of the Greenspaces Program

The Metro Parks Department receives approximately \$500,000 annually for costs associated with the traditional Metropolitan Greenspaces Program. These funds have been used to pay for administrative costs associated with the program, leverage federal grant funds for education and restoration programs and provide for various management and master planning activities including trails and greenways feasibility studies. In FY95-96, these funds were supplemented to provide an adequate contingency for the department.

- Have the traditional uses of these funds been superseded by the Open Spaces Program?
- Can these funds be redirected to coordinate with the Open Spaces Program to provide the needed management plans necessary for the future development of the land purchased?
- Are all aspects of the program still valid, necessary or a priority in light of the Open Spaces Program?
- Could any of these funds be redirected to a land banking operating reserve?

Policy Issue #3: Open Spaces Operating Needs (Land Banking)

Open space and trail corridor lands purchased will have basic land maintenance needs. The Metro Council has pledged General Fund excise tax to this purpose until another source can be identified and secured. Land banking costs will escalate as open spaces are purchased. The estimated total annual need once all acquisition goals are met is approximately \$500,000. To plan for the future needs, policies considered are:

- Reimbursed bond proceeds be set aside in a reserve for future open spaces land banking needs.
- Revenue produced from any open spaces purchased (e.g. rental revenue from existing structures) be used for open spaces land banking.
- Consider redirecting existing Metropolitan Greenspaces Program excise tax based on re-evaluation of program.
- Open spaces land banking and other operating needs be portrayed in the Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces department budget (not in the Open Spaces Fund) potentially in a separate division if desirable.
- How should various revenues produced from open spaces land be reinvested? For example, if additional land must be purchased in order to acquire a particular piece of property, will the excess land be sold? Will land proceeds be reinvested back into the Open Spaces Program acquisition efforts?

Regional Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Committee General Meeting Procedures

- I. Chairman calls the meeting to order
- II. Chairman requests introductions and brief announcements
- III. Chairman calls the agenda item for staff presentation
 - A. Staff presentation¹
 - B. Questions and Answers of staff
 - C. Request for citizen comment²
 - D. Chairman asks for a motion³
 - E. Chairman asks for a second to the motion
 - F. Committee discussion of motion
 - G. Chairman calls the question, vote
- IV. Chairman calls agenda item for information only or project updates
- V. Chairman calls for new business⁴
- VI. Chairman sets next meeting date
- VII. Closing comments
- VIII. Adjourn

¹ Materials will be sent to committee members in advance for agenda items that require committee action. Materials may be distributed at the time of presentations for project updates and information only

²Chairman may consider time limits for public testimony

³ Staff will suggest motion language if action item is staff-originated

⁴Chairman may establish new business requests as future meeting agenda items



METRO CRITERIA FOR REGIONAL TARGET AREAS

Regional target areas are based on the following criteria, established in Master Plan, bond documents, and council resolutions:

- 1. Habitat value: supports a diversity of plant and animal life.
- 2. Contributes to watershed protection and water quality protection/enhancement
- 3. Unique natural features / relative rarity of ecosystem
- 4. Size: Able to sustain key biological features
- 5. Potential for restoration
- 6. Linkage to other sites: potential for connections with systems of trails, greenways, wildlife and stream corridors
- 7. Scenic resources: visibility in and out
- 8. Public access and education:
- 9. Citizen support
- 10. Partnerships: potential to coordinate Metro participation with investments and actions of other governments, non-profit organizations, land trusts, interested businesses and citizens

CRITERIA FOR REGIONAL TARGET AREAS

Acquisition within regional target areas is based on the criteria established in the Greenspaces Master Plan, bond documents, and Metro Council resolutions. These are listed and discussed below.

1. Habitat value: supports a diversity of plant and animal life

The habitat value of a site is what it currently supports as well as its highest potential for supporting. A diverse population of flora and fauna, particularly native species, is generally more desirable for ecosystem stability. If the habitat is available, then the wildlife can be expected to prosper, either through natural or human-facilitated introduction. Habitat diversity is a function of its structural diversity; that is, a mixture of living (vegetation) and non-living (water, minerals, soils). For example, in a forested ecosystem, diverse structure would include a range of plant species at different canopy levels and a mixture of large and small trees, snags, and downed and dead wood. Principal factors that determine habitat value are size, soils, slope, aspect (general direction it faces), local climate, susceptibility to edge effects, degree of fragmentation, and connectivity. Maintaining rich and diverse flora within the region enriches the lives of all and provides diverse visual and recreational experiences for all segments of the population.

2. Contributes to watershed protection/water quality

Protecting the riparian area of streams, rivers, wetlands, and lakes is most critical for water quality and aquatic habitat protection. However, without adequate watershed protection, the aquatic system can be severely degraded with the best riparian protection. Examples are found highly urbanized streams, where most of the watershed drainage area is impervious (i.e. paved with asphalt, commercial and residential structures), resulting in flash flows of high volume and low flows during the drier season. Following riparian areas, protection of the headwaters of streams will generally be a higher priority for water quality protection. Floodplain wetlands also serve significant water quality enhancement purposes.

3. Unique natural features / relative rarity of ecosystem

The protection of rare and endangered species is a high priority. With very few opportunities to protect habitat for these species in our region, more opportunities exist for protection of natural features that are relatively rare in our region. For example, protecting a stream that continues to support a healthy steelhead population within our urban region is very important although the species itself is not endangered. Likewise, protecting an oak/madrone forested habitat may be prioritized over a fir/hemlock/cedar forest given the latter is commonly found throughout our region while the former is not.

4. Size

Protection of large blocks of natural areas of a sufficient size to sustain key biological features is a high priority at the regional level. A regionally significant natural area must be of sufficient size to support a viable and diverse community of flora and fauna. In some circumstances, protecting smaller parcels may have regional significance, such as closing gaps along a linear corridor. In most instances, protection of large natural areas will allow greater opportunities for colonization, persistence, and breeding of a greater number of species. Actual size of an area needed to support viable populations of plants and wildlife is specific to the species. Some generalizations can be made; for example, literature suggest that the minimum forested area needed to support land vertebrate communities ranges from 50 to 75 acres. Many of our migratory birds require a minimum of 75 to 250 acres of forested area for nesting, breeding, and foraging.

Along with shape, an area's size can reduce the deleterious effect on habitat caused by "edge effect". The transitional edge between a natural area and development (houses, roads) provides different character and properties than the natural area interior. Edge habitats are more exposed to climatic stress, invasive of exotic species, and predation (domestic as well as natural). An example of "edge effect" has been documented in Pacific Northwest forests, where it is commonly assumed to occur 500 feet into forest patches from the forest/opening interface. Control of human impacts become problematic with increasing uncontrolled access inherent with a high edge/interior ratio. Generally, the smaller and narrower the natural area, the higher the ratio of edge to interior species. While these habitat edges are not lacking in our region, large intact habitat interiors are becoming increasingly scarce.

5. Restoration potential

Ecological restoration is the process of intentionally altering a site to establish a defined indigenous, historical ecosystem. The goal of this process is to emulate the structure, function, diversity and dynamics of a specified system. Restoration canot be evaluated

solely on current conditions but must include the potential which ultimately can be achieved at a site.

The feasibility of ecological restoration of a site is dependent on the size of the area and the level of degradation. The degree of difficulty for restoration is dependent on the condition of the soils, water resources, degree of pest invasion, and human-induced disturbances (i.e. dams, fragmentation by streets). For example, a smaller, relatively-undisturbed area may have less restoration potential compared to a larger, disturbed area assuming that the larger area can ultimately support greater habitat diversity with greater control over pest species. With restoration efforts, the site should have high potential for sustainability as an ecosystem given its adjacent land uses. The site should also contribute significantly to other beneficial functions, such as water quantity/quality and floodplain protection.

6. Linkage to other sites

Even large, self-supporting natural areas are more valuable as a resource when connected to other natural areas by linkages, such as wildlife and stream corridors. Sites that have existing or potential linkages for wildlife and a system of trails will have higher regional significance.

7. Scenic resources

The scenic value of a site describes both its visibility from the region and well as the views from the site.

8. Public access and education

Access to a regional natural area should be made available by foot, bicycle, public transportation, and personal motorized vehicle, ideally in that order. Rating public access includes evaluating feasible as well as existing linkages. Regional target areas were selected throughout the region to help make regional-significant natural areas accessible on a regional basisA regional site's existing or potential linkage with a local or regional trail will give it a higher rating than a site with primarily car access.

As a function of landscape form, size and type of habitat, natural areas may accommodate limited to no public use without significant degradation of its natural values. A balance must be achieved to promote public appreciation of the natural areas while protecting the natural qualities to which the public has invested and is drawn to appreciate.

The ability of a site to promote citizen involvement and environmental education can be gauged by evaluating access to site from large population groups, proximity to schools, potential linkage to regional trail system, and community support for this type of project.

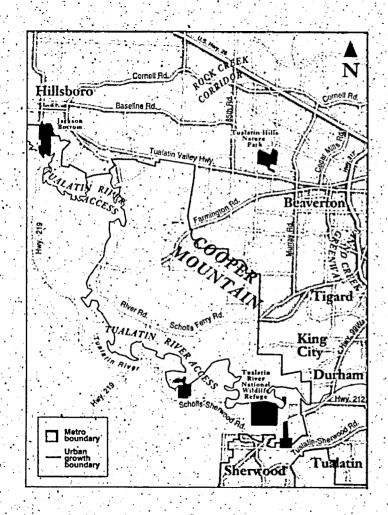
9. Public support

Though public support of acquisitions in the target areas was expressed through passage of the bond measure, continued public support is needed during the refinement process to ensure regional objectives are met and long-term stewardship is promoted.

10. Partnerships

Natural area sites will be evaluated according to their potential for participation of other governments, non-profit organization, land trusts, interested businesses and citizens in protecting the natural areas. The ability for Metro to leverage acquisition of a natural area through the investments and actions of cooperators will enhance the program's efforts.

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Cooper Mountain Open Spaces Workshop

You're invited to a public workshop on Metro's proposed plans for the Cooper Mountain regional target area. This important natural area was identified for acquisition in Metro's open spaces bond measure.

7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 9, 1996 Stuhr Adult Center 5550 SW Hall Blvd. Beaverton

Come and give your input on a vision for the Cooper Mountain area – now and in the future!



Call Metro's open spaces hotline, (503) 797-1919, for more information or to leave a comment.

Cooper Mountain Open Spaces Workshop

Metro's Greenspaces Master Plan was adopted in 1992. It identified important natural areas, greenways and trails throughout the region for protection.

Last May, Metro's open spaces bond measure (Measure 26-26) was approved by voters. The measure included money to acquire property in 14 regional target areas and six greenways and trail corridors, as envisioned in the master plan.

The Cooper Mountain regional target area is one of those 14 regional sites. It consists of about 1,700 acres that are being studied for possible acquisition.

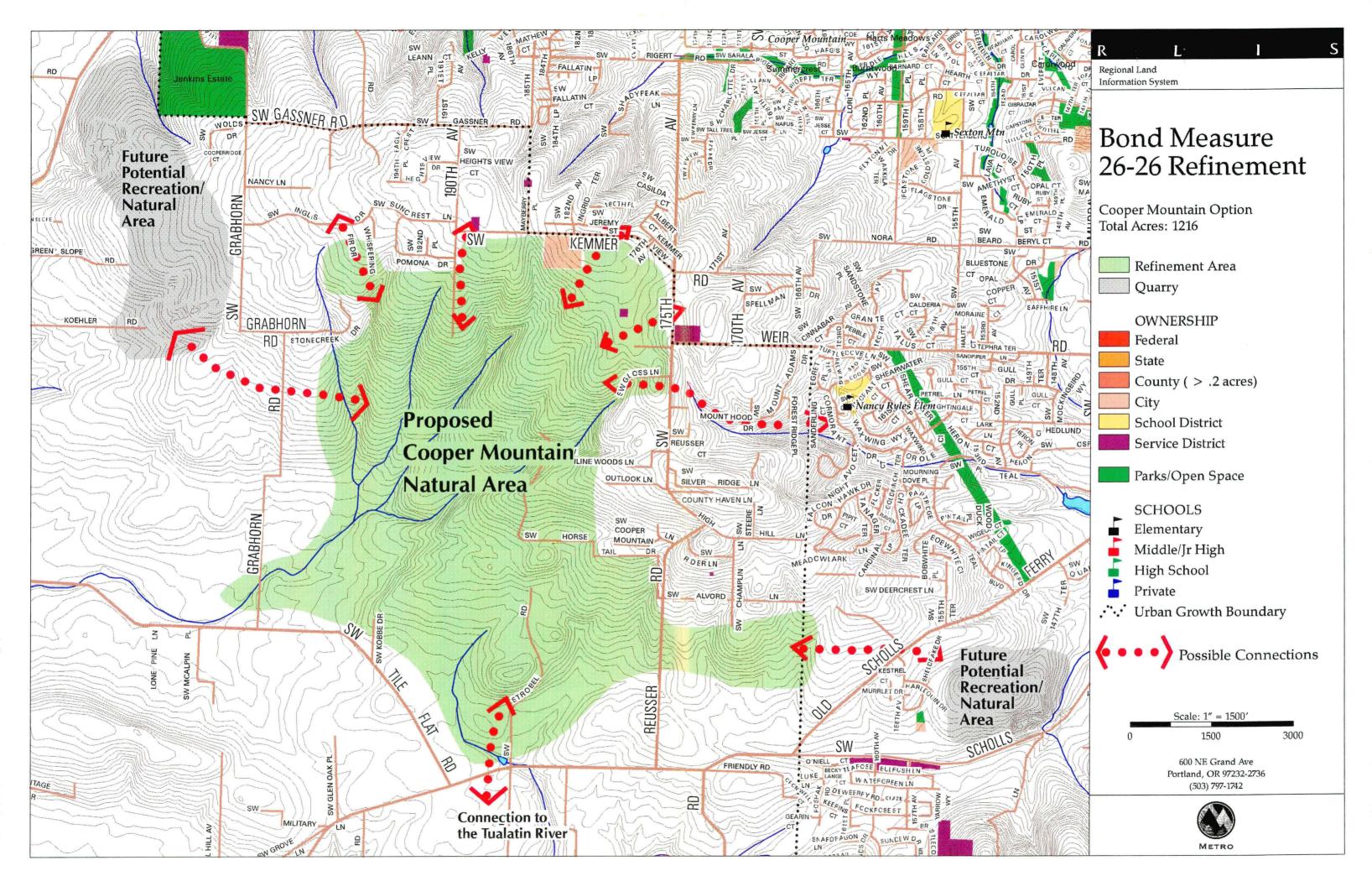
Metro's open spaces bond measure and the Greenspaces Master Plan established the goals for the Cooper Mountain regional target area to include:

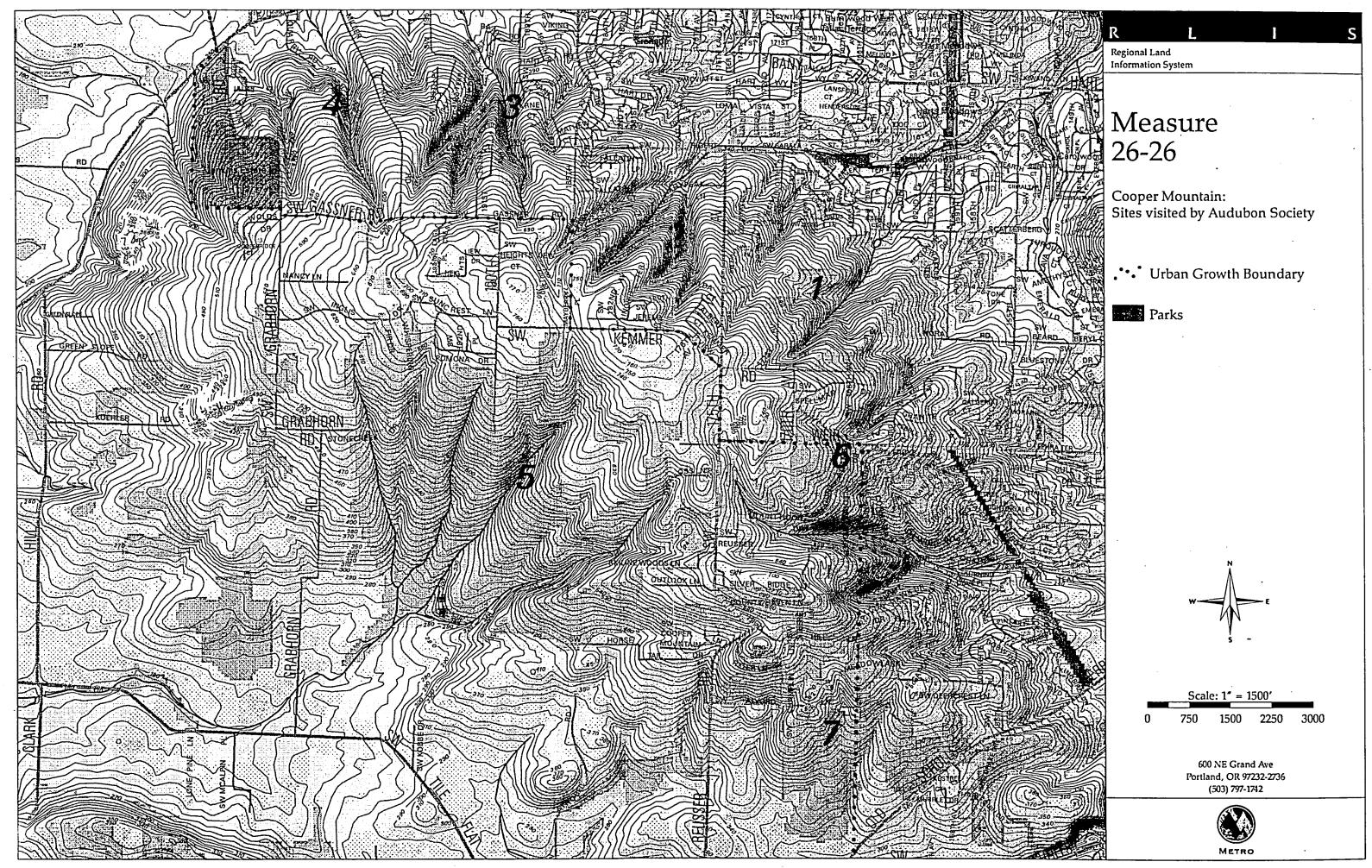
- · Acquiring 428 acres
- Protecting wildlife habitat
- Protecting water quality
- Providing linkages to other natural areas
- Providing opportunities for natural resource-based recreation



Come and give your input on a vision for the Cooper Mountain area – now and in the future!

600 NE Grand Ave. Portland, OR 97232-27:





Staff Report

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 96, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADOPTING TARGET AREA BOUNDARIES AND OBJECTIVES FOR COOPER MOUNTAIN

Date: January 16, 1996 Presented by: Jim Desmond

Charles Ciecko

PROPOSED ACTION

Resolution No. 96 - requests the adoption of Target Area boundaries and objectives for Cooper Mountain. These target area boundaries and objectives will be used to guide Metro in the implementation of the Open Space Bond Measure.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

The target area description in the <u>Bond Measure Fact Sheet</u> (authorized by Council Resolutions 95-2113, 94-2050 and 94-2029B) was as follows:

"Cooper Mountain. Acquire 428 acres of forest natural area".

In the 1992 Green Spaces Master Plan, the target area was described as follows:

COOPER MOUNTAIN (Tualatin River and Fanno Creek watersheds)
One of the highest points in the Fanno Creek watershed. Some uncommon ponderosa pine stands remain. Remnants of forested headwaters of numerous streams draining into the Tualatin River are rapidly being lost or altered by surrounding development.

Target Area Description:

Cooper Mountain lies within Washington County and is approximately three miles southwest of downtown Beaverton. The target area is roughly bounded by Murray Boulevard on the east, Farmington Road on the north, Tile Flat Road on the south and Grabhorn Road on the west.

The mountain rises to an elevation of 700' and has historically been a part of the rural farm and forest activities of the Tualatin Valley. In recent years however, the north and east slopes, which are within the Urban Growth Boundary, have been developed with single family homes. Currently, additional portions of the north and east quadrants of the mountain are being studied for potential inclusion in the Urban Growth Boundary in the 2040 planning process. There are headwaters to a number of small creeks on both the north and south portions of the mountain. Timber harvest and aggregate mining have also been factors impacting the natural habitat conditions on the mountain.

The initial biological assessment identified seven existing natural areas within the Cooper Mountain target area with approximately 1200 to 1600 total acres. See Attachment "Evaluation of Wildlife Habitat Value..." prepared by Esther Lev, an independent biological consultant.

Refinement Process:

Public involvement - A variety of public information and involvement activities were conducted to ensure public awareness and input regarding the Cooper Mountain Refinement Process. In October of 1995, twelve key stakeholders were interviewed to identify key issues pertaining to the Cooper Mountain greenspace area. These interviews included representatives of Friends of Cooper Mountain, property owners, government agencies, and natural resource experts (see summary in appendix). Subsequently, Metro staff and consultants met with representatives of key stakeholder groups, in a series of three meetings, to provide information on the proposed open space plans and solicit input. These groups included Friends of Cooper Mountain, area neighborhood associations and CPOs and natural resources experts. In addition to the stakeholder interviews and meetings, discussion through dozens of phone calls and individual meetings were conducted by Metro staff with representatives of Friends of Cooper Mountain and various government agencies.

Finally, a public workshop was held on January 9th, 1996 to present Metro staff's proposed plans for Cooper Mountain. The workshop was well attended with approximately 100 participants (over 3900 notices were mailed to area residents and other interested stakeholders). A questionnaire (see Attachment) regarding preferences on regional resource key elements and site specific connectivity issues was distributed, eliciting 27 responses. The results are summarized as follows: *

Q. #1. Prioritization of Key Elements	First Preference	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Large size	42%	33%	4%	0%	17%	4%
Watershed Protection	31%	35%	23%	8%	5%	0%
Linkage issues	15%	23%	31%	19%	8%	4%
Oak/Madrone habitat	8%	4%	29%	21%	17%	21%
Public access & education	4%	8%	16%	32%	36%	4%
Views "in and out"	0 %	5%	0%	13%	17%	65%

^{*} Not all respondents answered all questions - the number of responses varies from 18 to 26.

Q. #2 Desired Linkages	First Preference	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
N and NE to neighborhoods	38%	17%	17%	11%	17%
SW to Tualatin River Refuge Area	30%	25%	20%	5%	20%
Link NW to Jenkins Estate	20%	35%	25%	10%	10%
E to BPA trail & Murray Hill	11%	11%	17%	42%	21%
SE to Scholls Ferry and BPA trail	5%	17%	26%	26%	26%

Additionally, questions and comments from the floor are summarized in the Attachment "Cooper Mountain Refinement Plan Meeting Notes".

Natural Resources - In addition to the report by Ester Lev, a Metro staff biologist evaluated the same seven sites based on the regional target area criteria (see Attachment "Evaluation of Target Area Based on Regional Target Area Criteria"). These two evaluations are the key components leading to the staff's recommended Refinement Area.

Staff Recommendation:

The Staff recommendation of Site 5 (southern area of Cooper Mountain-see attached Map) for the Cooper Mountain Refinement Plan accomplishes several important objectives of the Bond Measure and Greenspaces Master Plan. Its approximate 800 to 1200 acres includes a variety of habitat types, evidenced by the relatively undisturbed closed canopy cedar/fir areas and unique oak/madrone forest. characteristics, wetlands, crop fields, meadows and recently cleared portions. The entire watershed of a perennial stream which flows to Lindlow Creek and the Tualatin River originates in the area, and four intermittent streams may become perennial if segments of the forest canopy are restored. The Site is the last opportunity for Metro to create a major assemblage in the area that will be accessible to the greatest number of citizens of the region, due to several major roads in close proximity. The Refinement Plan articulates a long range goal of a dynamic regional natural area anchored by a large contiguous assemblage of 700 acres with the potential for numerous physical. linkages, financial and management partnerships. The proposed Refinement Plan focuses on the crest and southern portion of the mountain (roughly Site 5 - see attached map) and is directly responsive to the policies and natural area selection criteria contained in the Greenspaces Master Plan.

The following are specific objectives of the Cooper Mountain proposed Refinement Plan:

Tier I.

Establish a regionally significant natural area with a core component of 700 acres that will support a diversity of plant and animal life and sustain key biological features referred to as the Cooper Mountain Refinement Area. The initial acquisition goal will be 428 acres. Attainment of this acquisition goal will contribute to the protection and enhancement of Cooper Mountain's unique

woodland aspects and also the Tualatin River water quality by protecting the headwaters of its tributaries.

Protect areas that allow scenic vistas both "in and out" of the Cooper Mountain Refinement Plan Area.

Tier II.

Provide linkages from the Cooper Mountain Refinement Area to other trails, greenways, parks, habitat areas, schools and community centers. Particular emphasis should be given to connections with the Tualatin River Wildlife Refuge, the Jenkins Estate, and local neighborhoods. This may be accomplished through easements, leases, dedications, donations and other property-owner agreements in addition to fee acquisitions and local land use designations.

Work with adjacent rock and quarry owners and local jurisdictions on the long term reclamation plans for those quarry areas with the goal of expanding the open space potential of the Refinement Area.

Partnership Objectives:

Develop partnerships to assist in implementing the long range vision for the Cooper Mountain Refinement Plan. Metro will work with appropriate local governments in supporting the concept of this Refinement Plan and the regional natural area site on the south slope of Cooper Mountain through complementary land use policies. In addition, Metro will work in cooperation with local governments to identify additional funding sources, devise cooperative management agreements and similar inter-governmental partnerships.

METROPOLITAN GREENSPACES PROGRAM

Included within this document are ten pages of information concerning Metro staffs inaccurate interpretation of the Greenspace Master Plan. Proper analysis, as a citizen, can only occur by reading the complete Master Plan and Metro's Implementation Work Plan.

Implementation Work Plan takes precedence over the <u>Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan</u> (Measure 26-26) as stated by the Metro Staff on January 9th, 1996.

Master Plan Policy - It is designed to protect urban and rural lands. It serves as an advocate for protection, restoration, conservation and management of natural areas <u>in</u> and <u>adjacent</u> to the metropolitan area.

Metro staff has predetermined objectives without using biological and human considerations.

Public/Citizen Involvement - Citizens in the Master Plan are to have involvement in implementation, land acquisition, and resource development.

Metro, in their Work Plan, has provided interview of three to eight people, provided their own priorities, allowed A public workshop, and a atmosphere where we "should be afforded" the opportunity to be involved. The policy level of the Master Plan is based upon what Metro <u>WILL</u> accomplish. It is not a policy of "should" or "might have information" or "A public hearing opportunity.

Site Selection - In the Master Plan it is based upon biological and human components with short, medium, and long term decisions.

Metro staff has "created" their own definitions separate from the Master Plan. For example, they have put in place a rating system integrating trails as a higher rating than cars for site acquisition when trails are separated from site acquisition within parameters of the Master Plan.

- Financing Use of confidential refinement maps and confidential negotiations without any public/citizen input or observation. Where is the open meeting parameters in the spirit of willing buyer willing seller?
- Early Acquisition Only occurs, according to Work Plan, if the parcel has high certainty of being included in <u>final</u> refinement plan. If Metro staff has their own "recommendation," what chances would public/citizen input have on the <u>final</u> plan, therefor early acquisition would not occur.

Public/citizens inside the UGB voted for bond money. It is our money, not Metro's. URBAN people and URBAN money (our money) belongs in the URBAN environment.

Ouestions:

Where in the Master Plan, Ruggo's, or 2040 concept is language supporting a rural but regional Greenspace that is a buffer to prevent further expansion of the urban growth boundary?

When did the Implementation Work Plan, as accepted by Metro Council, take precedence over the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan as stated by staff in the public forum of January 9, 1996

Why is Metro buying land in the region (outside UGB [area five]) when the ballot states: "Buying open spaces for public use will balance private development in the region?" Private development is an activity occurring inside the UGB.

Metro has decided in a letter dated January 3, 1996 that: "There is not enough money in the Open Space budget to acquire both choices (area one and five in the Cooper Mountain area)." The public process on all other sites have been excluded and Metro's "staff recommendation" leaves only site five. Why?

METROPOLITAN GREENSPACES

Measure No. 26-26 passed Tuesday, May 16th, 1995 allowing the use of bond money to "PRESERVE OPEN SPACE, PARKS; PROTECT STREAMS, FISH, WILDLIFE." "PROVIDE AREAS FOR WALKING, PICNICKING AND OTHER OUTDOOR RECREATION." "BUYING OPEN SPACES FOR PUBLIC USE WILL BALANCE PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION."

Passage begins implementation of a plan, the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan (which includes Regional Urban Growth Goals and Objectives [RUGGO], and the 2040 Concept Plan) {July 1992}. METRO has also established the Open Space Implementation Work Plan {November 1995}, which provides the Metro Staff framework for the implementation activities.

In this document reference will consciously be made to both documents to support Greenspaces as it applies to the North side of Cooper Mountain. Any words *italicized* is only for emphasis by the writer.

Master Plan VISION: It is our vision to balance our *urban* focus and drive for economic health and prosperity with an array of wildlife habitat in the midst of a flourishing *cosmopolitan* region. We seek to maintain our cities as places to live where we forge a unique *ecological* relationship between human and natural communities.

We must nurture - rather than destroy - nature's landscape. We must institutionalize a daily sense of stewardship for our *remaining greenspaces*.

Work Plan: Implementation of Measure 26-26 directly supports the policies and goals of the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan, Regional Urban Growth Goals and Objectives (RUGGO) and the 2040 Concept Plan.

Information in this document will indicate *lack of* "direct support of the policies and goals of the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan.

The upper reaches and headwater of Fanno Creek slowly flow through densely forested, privately owned residential lands that contain tributaries to the creek. There are still scattered wetlands throughout the upper reaches of the creek. Cutthroat trout are known to spawn in the *few* remaining silt-free gravel beds.

Portions of... Cooper mountain are at the highest point in this watershed and are some of the most rapidly developing suburban residential area in the Portland metropolitan area. Because of this, protection and enhancement of the headwaters of Fanno Creek should be a top priority. {page 99 - 100 Master Plan}

Sub Point -- Where in the Master Plan, RUGGO's, or 2040 Concept is language supporting a rural but regional Greenspace that is a buffer to prevent further expansion of the urban growth boundary?

FIRST consideration -- Master Plan Policies

Master Plan policy - Metro and Citizens will:

- 1.1 Establish a natural area system *based on ecological* principles that encourage biodiversity and connections between water sheds.
- 1.3 Prepare *site-specific* management plan for *areas* assembled as part of the Greenspaces system.
- 1.15 Consider lands outside the urban growth boundary and Metro's jurisdictional boundary for protection and potential addition to the regional system when these lands are determined to be of direct benefit to citizens of the regions and enhance the system and protect natural resources or features of regional significance.
- 1.17 Potentially acquire and protect historic or cultural resource sites associated with *urban* natural areas.
- 2.32 Serve as advocates for protection, restoration, conservation and management of natural areas *in and adjacent to the metropolitan* area, including management of passive recreational opportunities where appropriate.

Work Plan policies:

There is a need to prioritize acquisition efforts in each target area to achieve pre-determined objectives (hereafter referred to as "Refinement")

Metro acquisitions *should* protect regional scale open space and natural areas consistent with the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan.

The properties within many of the target areas and trail corridors are subject to intense development pressure and <u>cost inflation</u>. Consequently, there is a need to begin *refinement* and acquisition in all the areas as soon as possible in order to achieve or exceed the acreage goals of Measure 26-26.

Discussion of the policies stated above:

Master Plan documentation that supports policy:

With more than 91 percent of the inventoried natural areas unprotected, many greenspaces can be developed tomorrow according to the local land use and zoning plan. It is the greenspace vision to balance urban focus and drive for economic health and prosperity with an array of wildlife habitat in the midst of a flourishing cosmopolitan region. Greenspace seeks to maintain cities as places where nature is valued in and of itself and is an integral element in daily life.

The northern area of Cooper Mountain in conjunction with the Master Plan for Greenspaces are continuing planning and *implementation activities* based upon some overriding goals which are found on page one of the Master Plan.

Create a cooperative regional system of natural areas, open space, trails and greenways for wildlife and people in the four-county *metropolitan area*.

Preserve the diversity of plant and animal life in the *urban environment*, using watersheds as the basis for *ecological planning*.

Establish a system of trails, greenways and wildlife corridors that are interconnected.

Restore green and open spaces in neighborhoods where natural areas are all but eliminated.

In other words the goals embellish the VISION of the Master Plan followed by policy.

The patches of natural area within the human-dominated urban landscape support the remnant systems of native flora and fauna that once flourished throughout the area. They also form an integral part of the visual setting associated with the metropolitan region. In a balance of the Greenspace Vision, Goals and Policy as stated above how does area five on the reverse or back side of the region adhere to the Master Plan?

Work Plan discusses:

Where in the Master Plan was prioritization of pre-determined objectives based on land versus dollars available? Page 29 of the Master Plan expands the goals into prioritization through *biological and human* consideration with some variables based on short to long term decisions.

Work Plan uses <u>should protect</u> land as a term. The Master Plan as adopted by Metro, is not based upon the probability of <u>should</u>.

The Master Plan notes development pressure as a basis for acquisition in the light of protection of natural areas not <u>cost inflation</u>. Cost is a Metro staff priority not the Master Plan. The Master Plan wants to maximize financial and land-resource <u>potential</u>. If land is under development pressure it will be more expensive - it is an expense the Master Plan accepts.

- Sub point -- When did the Implementation Work Plan, as accepted by Metro Council, take precedence over the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan as stated by staff in the public forum of 9 January 1996?
- Sub point -- When did Metro decide to establish parking areas and restore lands with bond money when the ballot and ballot promotional adds established preserving and providing areas as land banking?
- Sub point -- Why is Metro buying land in the region (outside UGB [area five]) when the ballot states: "Buying open spaces for public use will balance private development in the region." Private development is an activity occurring inside the UGB [area one, two, and three].

SECOND consideration -- Public/citizen involvement

Master Plan Policies - Metro and citizens will:

- 1.14. Coordinate efforts by appropriate local, regional, state and federal agencies and *citizenbased organizations* to create a regional system of natural areas, open space, trails and greenways for wildlife and for *people*...
- 2.5. Determine the importance and timing of acquisition and protection of regionally significant greenspaces case by case, weighing *human* and wildlife needs, as well as such factors as the immediacy of potential loss of site, cost, availability, financing options, etc.
- 2.15. Coordinate a standing committee composed of Metro staff, Greenspaces cooperators and *citizen advocates* who will periodically evaluate system development and <u>advise</u> Metro on *prioritization* of trails projects, review management guidelines, and extend the system as appropriate.
- 2.19. Extend the potential for wildlife to coexist within a framework of *human* settlement by promoting land use design and management that encourages ecological diversity and restoration in areas deficient in greenspaces.
- 2.31. Provide ongoing opportunities for public information sharing and *citizen* involvement in master plan implementation, land acquisition, resource development and operations of greenspace-related programs.
- 2.33. Promote public appreciation and understanding of the relationship between a healthy environment and a sustainable economy and encourage *public involvement* in natural resource management decisions.

Work Plan policies:

Local governments, citizens and other stakeholders *should be afforded* the opportunity to help determine objective (and thereby land acquisition priorities) for each target area.

Stakeholder interviews: Metro staff or consultants will interview all parties, including local governments, neighborhood associations, CPO's and "friends" groups, who might have information or interest relating to the target area or trail. Citizen workshops: The draft refinement map and preliminary objectives will then be presented at a public workshop(s) for citizen comment. The number of workshops will depend on the size, complexity and amount of prior planning each area has received.

Regional Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Committee (RPAC): The draft refinement plan and the *input from the citizen workshops* will be presented to the RPAC with a staff recommendation. This is *a public hearing* opportunity.

Discussion of policies stated above:

Master Plan

Master Plan repeatedly specifies public involvement in the decision process at the policy level with a mandate that Metro <u>will</u>.

As required through Statewide Planning Goal 1, the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan and its programs have been built on a strong base of community cooperation and unparalleled communication about regional greenspaces planning issues. To move ahead into the future, we need to ensure that interested agencies and citizens are informed, invited and involved at every level of the plan's implementation.

It will be important for Metro, as coordinator of the program, to integrate protection of natural resources with economic development, citizen involvement and recreational challenges and opportunities.

Work Plan

Work plan attempts to identify a new group of people, "stakeholders." There is no mandate for public involvement when the term "should be afforded" is used as a policy statement.

Metro has decided "a public workshop" and "a public hearing opportunity" are the only opportunities in deciding the spending of public funds.

- Sub point -- Wetro has decided in a letter date January 3, 1996 that: "There is not enough money in the Open Space budget to acquire both choices (area one and five in the Cooper Mountain area)." The public process on all other sites have been excluded and Metro's "staff recommendation" leaves only site five for purchase.
- Sub point -- Public discussion of Greenspaces on October 9, 1995 at Cooper Mountain School with two Metro Commissioners and Greenspace Staff members present was <u>not</u> a public hearing because Metro did not arrange

the public meeting. Does this mean the public cannot have a public meeting with public officials to discuss a public acquisition process because an elected public official did not call the public meeting?

Following considerations are of equal importance as the previous two. The lengthy support for each is missing. Referencing the Master Plan will support their <u>equal importance</u>.

THIRD consideration -- Site selection

Master Plan policy - Metro will:

2.5 Determine the importance and timing of acquisition and protection of regionally significant greenspaces case by case, weighing human and wildlife needs, as well as such factors as the immediacy of potential loss of site, cost, availability, financing options, etc. Criteria to be used in prioritizing site selections include:

Biological component

- Relative rarity of ecosystem The richness of fish and wildlife that we currently enjoy in the region is the result of habitat that has not been disturbed.
- Connectivity to other habitat needs In their natural and unaltered condition, biological corridors, such as those associated with riparian systems not suited for urban development, are of great value to wildlife. [Metro biologist contradicts the Master Plan using the thoughts of ". . . being surrounded by roads and homes may limit the value and use of this site for some mammal, amphibian, and reptile species who have greater mobility constraints."].
- Biological diversity Stream corridors and associated floodplains are among the most viable ecological linkages among habitats. Their value increases further when they connect to an upland or ridgeline habitat.
- Parcel size Preservation of larger blocks of natural areas should be emphasized. In certain circumstances, however, it may be appropriate to acquire smaller parcels that have regional significance, such as closing "gaps" along linear corridors, in restoring greenspaces to areas deficient in natural areas.
- Presence of wetlands and waterways Use watersheds as the detailed unit of analysis opportunities for building the system
- Feasibility of ecological restoration Restoration sites <u>will</u> be located in highly urbanized areas that are currently deficient in greenspaces. . . . the cumulative impact of restoration sites may result in restoration of much-needed open space to the most densely populated areas of the region.

Human component

- Geographic distribution Some parts of region have been determined to be deficient in natural areas. However, there is also a need to protect the highest quality natural area and open spaces based upon the location of the resource.
- Connection to other sites An important strategy to preserve the quality and integrity of small isolated natural areas is to create and protect an integrated network of existing public natural areas that connect to larger more self supporting sites through a system of corridors.

Natural qualities of the landscape

Proximity of sites to public access

Views and vistas

Local public support - Involves community members in preservation efforts centered around the stewardship of regional, as well as private and neighborhood, natural areas and open spaces.

Historical/cultural significance - Opportunity to identify and protect historic or relic habitats that have survived as remnant patches and incorporate these into the overall system.

Variables in protective mechanisms:

Short-term decision

Inside urban growth boundary
Few physical constraints on development
Transportation access
Planning/zoning for development

Medium-term decision

Outside UGB

Relatively large parcel without services

Limited transportation access

Some physical limitations on construction

Long-term decisions

Extreme limitations on construction No current access to transportation Remote from existing development

Work Plan policies:

Target areas are based upon Metro staff criteria which is supposed to be established through the Master Plan, bond documents and council resolutions. Without further information it would be assumed that "bond documents" refers to the ballot measure and "council resolutions" refers to the Implementation Work Plan.

On comparison with the Master Plan the "Metro criteria" is as follows:
(Note: Metro staff uses its own terms, not the Master Plan)

- Habitat value i.e. ecosystem and/or biological diversity in Master Plan. Master
 Plan does not assume wildlife will exist without "human-facilitated
 introduction" of habitat. Wildlife, to include fish, exist because the habitat
 exists.
- 2. Contributes to watershed protection and water quality protection/ enhancement - Master Plan does not delineate "urbanized streams" where the watershed drainage area is impervious resulting in "flash flows." It is not a Master Plan criteria.
- 3. Unique natural features / relative rarity of ecosystem Master Plan does not delineate an oak from a cedar tree, a steelhead from a salmon. The Master Plan does not ask for "unique natural features," (an undefined term).
- 4. Size Master Plan <u>does not</u> provide guidance on "areas needed to support viable populations of plants and wildlife." This is a Metro staff addition or new

- condition. In addition Master Plan address, in different terms, "edge effect." It states buying "edge effect" land for ecological and human components.
- 5. Restoration potential Also part of the Master Plan except the Master Plan specifies urban areas not rural. It is assumed rural areas are ecologically intact not an area where, as the Metro biologist states, there "is very little riparian zone currently intact along Lindow Creek [area five]."
- 6. Linkage to other sites Master Plan does not limit land to "large, self-supporting natural area are more valuable." This is a Metro staff concept.
- 7. Scenic resources This agrees with the Master Plan views and vistas category.
- 8. Public access and education Where, when, or from what source does the rating system occur? When did a trail become a basis for site purchase? Linkage is ecological not trail.
- 9. Public support A new definition by Metro staff. Where are the community members in preservation efforts to take part as the Master Plan states?
- 10. Partnerships A new term for acquisition. It can not be found in the Master Plan.

FOURTH consideration

Financing of the Greenspaces program according to the Master Plan under Metro's bonding authority would allow the agency to buy lands outside its boundaries for open space protection **if** the residents within the district benefit. {page 50} It is unclear from the Master Plan whether "outside its boundaries" refers to the urban growth boundary or the regional boundary.

Policy 2.26 of the Master Plan states: "Make funding decision consistent with the priorities of the master plan, acquisition and capital improvement plans. {page 53} The Master Plan, in reference to previous portions of this document, specifies public involvement, which includes acquisition.

The Work Plan has other priorities through the use of a target area "confidential refinement map" {page 7}. In the event that unusual circumstances are found . . . or there is a question of fair market value an "Acquisition Committee" . . . shall review the transaction and develop a "confidential" recommendation. The confidential recommendation shall determine support or opposition. This information shall remain confidential.{page 8}

With no citizen inclusion on the Acquisition Committee there is a natural tendency to use confidential procedures to control funding to Metro Staff target areas [area five] at the expense of "willing sellers" in other areas [area one]. If process is to be open, there should be a continuation of the "willing buyer - willing seller" concept for all to view in the spirit of "market value."

Consideration FIVE

Early acquisition opportunities conflicts between Master Plan and Work Plan needs further discussion since Metro Staff has a Work Plan beyond the Master Plan scope.

For example the Master Plan does not have a condition that early acquisition will have a condition of having a high level of certainty that the parcel will ultimately be included in the final *refinement* plan due to its size, location, unique natural characteristics or other factors which may be found relevant. {page 12 of Work Plan}

As the title of this document implies. This is the METROPOLITAN GREENSPACES program of implementation, not the Open Space Implementation Work Plan. As the Master Plan states on page 8:

Small natural areas are very vulnerable to human disruption and require consistent management and protection. An *important* strategy to preserve is to create and protect an integrated network of natural patches and corridors to sustain both resource use and species viability. Corridors and linkages have become the only safe passageways for animals through the maze of humans. Stream corridors and associated flood plains are among the most viable ecological linkages among habitats. Their value increases when they connect to an upland habitat.

We seek to maintain our cities as places to live where we forge a unique ecological relationship between human and natural communities.

Kathryn Sayles & George Gogue 16985 SW Kemmer Road Beaverton, OR 97007

(503) 590-9014

January 16th, 1996

TO: CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces program
Metro Regional Center
600 NE Grand
Portland, OR 97232

PHONE: 797-1774

Dear Sirs:

Please consider the following as local input in favor of purchase of Site 1 under the Openspaces Acquisition Program made possible through Bond Measure 26-26.

Much citizen input known to us has come to Metro as phone calls, letters, a petition with 160 signatures and oral comments at public meetings. The vast majority of this input (number of people commenting) has been in favor of Site 1. Yet we have seen and been told (by Jim Walsh) that there is no correlation between public desire and staff's recommendation (or indeed Metro Council final approval). It seems to me there should be.

Many of Site 1 supporters helped get the bond measure passed. Part of the literature we were given said 'For regional park target areas...Metro would work with...citizen groups to identify priority acquisition sites'. The word 'cooperation' was used. clear implication was that action would be taken after identification. Metro expressed to those of us present at a meeting on July 12th (attended by Metro and County big-wigs) that there was considerable staff interest in the parcel of clear cut land known as Site 5. We were told by Mr. Ceicko that decision was contingent on the results of public refinement meetings and other public input and so we have worked considerably to put information forward for Metro's consideration. We are alarmed that all the volume of input in favor of Site 1 is now politely being set aside in favor of the original suggestion regarding Site 5.

Much of the information put forward to Metro was highly critical of Site 5, yet that is not being passed on to citizens. While educating the citizens may not be Metro's raison d'etre, it is troubling that information is being put out with an obvious bias clear to those of us who are familiar with the issues. New data

has been prepared, screened and polished to present Site 5 in the best possible light. There is a very strong appearance that the public is being deceived. An extensive survey involving both sites was performed by the Audubon society (after the July 12th meeting), the field report and recommendation was firmly based on scientific observations as well as political savvy. conclusion was (briefly) that Metro greenspaces funds be divided Site 5 and Site 1. Metro found it necessary to another study, dated January 6th but available within commission Metro around early October, 1995. That survey is couched in general terms with much preamble serving to educate the reader regarding biological concepts. Specific data on the sites is more philosophical and less particular than the Audubon report. It does however, suggest strongly that Site 5 should be the sole target for acquisition 'one of the seven sites clearly emerged as the best choice'. (The letter from Nancy Chase sent out last week also indicated that only one site could be purchased.)

The Audubon report was an impartial survey done by a well respected and independent group. The Metro report was done by a single consultant paid by Metro. The meaning of this is obvious.

Another message which was put forward to encourage the public to vote for the bond measure was that the acquisition would be in close proximity to where the voters live. Phrases like 'our neighborhood' and 'urban environment' abound. The suggested text letters to the newspaper was 'every house in the metropolitan area will be within 5 minutes of an open space'. Now we find recommending only one site and that beyond the UGB. Desmond has told me to search the literature and find the language that says 'beyond the UGB'. The Audubon survey pointed the emphasis placed by the Greenspaces Program on providing recreational opportunities as well as wildlife habitat. the original emphasis was a twist to gain votes. clearly disassociated itself from the original message and we are not seeing any likelihood that Metro will follow through. set them on the right track.

Metro also said the bond measure would make many of the natural areas accessible yet Audubon when talking of Site 5 says:

'The only way to access forested area is via farm fields and lanes. Access would be problematic here'

Again, in speaking of the 'meadow' section of Site 5, that survey says

'its proximity to local farms and lack of access would be a major issue if Metro were to acquire it'.

Site 1 is very accessible. The Audubon report also points out that Site 5 is a 'difficult sell to the public, especially those who actively worked to pass the bond measure (to) in anticipation of purchase of Greenspaces near their neighborhoods.'

The language of the bond measure has been used (since its

passage) repeatedly by Metro to justify the change in approach. Yet that language states '428 acres of natural forested areas'. Forested is the important word: a clear cut is neither natural nor forested. The future does not come into it. Audubon pointed out it will take 60 - 100 years for the clear cut area to recover. That is hardly fair to the voters who are paying tax dollars now to purchase areas they were told were for their own and their children's use, not for some benefit for distant generations.

Metro is emphasizing size and price rather than condition. We have received a letter from Todd Sadlo that states that Site 1 is just too expensive. Fact sheet 3, page 3 (door to door literature) states:

'The bond measure funds used to purchase lands at market value'.

The willing sellers in Site 1 are negotiating at levels at or below market value. Metro should follow through on what they promised and not find excuses to negate what was previously said by them.

Metro's literature also said 'we believe we can find willing sellers'. There are several in Site 1 already but Mr. Walsh has told us that as far as Site 5 is concerned, contact has been made with only 1 land owner. No other 'willing sellers' are known of because no others have been contacted. In fact I have heard from neighborhood contacts that 10 other parties who own land within the 'green blob' shown for Site 5 on recent maps, have already applied to the County for development permits. It seems that Metro is giving the public the appearance of certainty on a site which is largely a wish list.

Please recommend what the people want while bearing in mind the moral requirement for Metro to stand behind the statements which gained the vote. Site 1 is still forested, still has biodiversity, has willing sellers and is near the people who voted and are paying for 26-26. I would suggest that you make the recommendation that Metro split the funds 50-50 for Site 1 and Site 5.

Yours sincerely,

George P. Goque

Kathryn Sayles



Metro Public Hearing

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Metro Public Hearing

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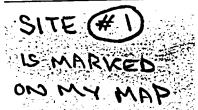
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Audubon Society of Portland

5151 N.W. Cornell Road Portland, Oregon 97210 503-292-6855



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LAND USE & TRANSPORTATION



7/25/95

Linda Peters, Chair
Washington County Commission
150 N. First Avenue
Hillsboro, OR 97124

Dear Commissioner Peters.

Last Friday we accompanied Hal Bergsma of your staff to perform an inventory of sites on Cooper Mountain. The purpose of our visit was to look at sites within and outside the Urban Growth Boundary. Hal asked us to ascertain the wildlife habitat and open space values of each of the properties to assist the County in determining which sites might be higher priority for Greenspace acquisition. Hal also arranged for us to visit one site (#1 on the attached map) with nearby residents.

First, we want to stress that our visit was very cursory. In some instances we could not access the site and simply had to view it from nearby streets and vacant lots. Only on sites #1 and #5 did we did not actually walk the property. We have indicated the approximate route we took on each of those properties on the attached map. It is important for you to know that an experienced, and we feel highly qualified wildlife biologist has conducted inventories already on at least site #1. David Smith, who we have known for several years, has already provided local residents and/or your staff, and possibly Metro Parks and Greenspaces staff, with biological assessments on Site #1 and possibly other sites we visited last Friday. We would like to offer some observations, regarding relative wildlife habitat and open space values of the seven sites visited.

Outstanding issues Regarding Washington County Planning:

There are outstanding issues regarding Washington County's land use process which need to be addressed by you and other Commissioners that are related to, but tangential to the question of Greenspaces acquisition. We feel, however, that it is impossible to "de-link" these Issues, since acquisition is only one tool available to us to protect significant Greenspaces.

a. It is obvious that the lack of data on these sites points out, as has been pointed out numerous times in the past, the 1983 Inventory that we assisted your staff in performing for Goal 5 resources is weefully out-of-date and inadequate. A good Goal 5 inventory would have provided you with the information necessary to make decisions concerning relative wildlife habitat value of these sites. Ironically, we both worked on the 1983 Goal 5 inventory, Mike as unpaid "consultant" and Richard as

County planning staff. You need to update your inventory and Goal 5 program in a manner done recently by the City of Portland. They have modified an approach taken by Mike Houck in Beaverton subsequent to the nine CPO work for Washington County. That methodology has since been improved upon by the City of Portland and Lane County for their Goal 5 programs. In those inventories each site is mapped and extensive information regarding Goal 5 values, with an emphasis on fish and wildlife habitat is noted. Each site is assigned a wildlife habitat value rating and other natural resource values are noted.

We are aware that Washington County has recently gone through Periodic Review, but the fact remains issues such as the one you have raised points out the need for better Goal 5 information for your decision-making processes. You should not have to conduct separate field inventories each time an issue arises. Therefore, while Washington County is meeting the letter of the law with respect to its Goal 5 program, you would be well-served to initiate a more comprehensive inventory process to deal with these issues in the future.

b. Your current stream protection standards are either inadequate or application of the standards and enforcement need to be beefed up. During our visit to site #1 we viewed one intermittent stream which had vegetation cleared to within a few feet and was actually covered in places with debris. It is our understanding that a decision was made by a hearings officer that this was not considered a "stream." Its location in the landscape, vegetation and the fact that it has running water in the summer months belies that assessment. We are sure you are aware of which stream we are referring to from your discussion with Mr. Bill Bugbee and other local residents.

During our walk through site #1 it was apparent, based on survey stakes, that development is proposed to encroach much too close to streams. We pointed out to Hal the break in topography beyond which development should not be allowed to occur. The area is simply too steep in these areas. Although you also need to be concerned with overall land clearing in the upland areas of these steeper building sites, it is within 100' to 200' of the stream that the highest wildlife habitat values lie. This site is a classic example of the need to utilize density transfers to keep development out of the more sensitive riparian zone. On this particular site the western red cedars seemed to be a good indicator of that zone. If development is allowed to proceed to the sites indicated by survey markers both wildlife habitat and water quality will be greatly compromised.

c. There is apparently some dispute regarding the presence or absence of wetlands on site #1. In our opinion, the real issue is protection of riparian habitat and sufficient adjacent upland areas to truly protect the Goal 5 resources on the site. Frequently, site design considerations focus too much on whether there are wetlands present or not. The minimal protection of wetland values on this site is not a significant issue in our opinion. You have a much more significant problem with steep, and obviously unstable, hillsides; loss of significant riparian habitat and impacts on the headwaters of Beaverton's Johnson Creek (erosion, sedimentation, heating, etc.).

- d. Sites #2, #3 and #4 all seemed to have pretty good protection of the riparian corridor in that the homes have been set back at the top of the slope. This strikes us as an appropriate way to protect both wildlife habitat and water quality values of these streams. The slopes are extremely steep and would be inappropriate for future development. It was not clear what future development is being contemplated, but it would be inappropriate on any of these sites. We noted that on site #2 that there has been massive fill at the site (noted as 2.1 on the map). This practice should not be allowed on the remaining stream corridors.
- e. If you look at the map provided us by Hal Bergsma it is obvious that there is no effective protection of streams in the vicinity. There is a stark contrast on the attached map between the stream reaches downstream of sites #1 and #2. If the County is serious about protection of Goal 5 resources it will have to do a significantly better job of protecting what's left of the headwater areas—for water quality and wildlife habitat values. We have walked extensively with members of the Friends of Beaverton's Johnson Creek downstream of sites #2 and #3 and the streams have been channelized, people have literally developed their back yards over the stream and dog kennels and yard debris have been placed in the stream. We have discussed this issue with Lori Faha and John Jackson of USA and realize they are doing what they can to alleviate some of these problems. However, if the County, through its land use process doesn't protect more land adjacent to these streams—including the intermittent tributaries such as the one mentioned on site #1—USA will constantly be in a "catch up" mode and water quality will continue to decline throughout the Tualatin Basin.

Greenspace Acquisition issues (field notes are attached):

It seems to us that the real questions associated with this issue are policy issues that cannot be answered by a simple wildlife habitat inventory. First, should Greenspaces funds be allocated for acquisition of generally smaller, but significant sites inside the UGB or should they be used for larger tract purchases outside the UGB? A case could reasonably be made that, from an ecological perspective, acquisition of larger tracts of land outside the UGB is the best Greenspace acquisition from a regional perspective. However, the Greenspaces program is intended to protect significant wildlife habitat and provide recreational opportunities for nearby residents. In this particular case, we would argue that the County and Metro should consider doing both. There are significant riparian and upland forest values on all four of the first sites we visited, all within the UGB. While none of these are regionally significant, they are important local resources that, when aggregated with similar areas throughout the region, have regional significance.



In the case of sites #1 and #2, they are at the headwaters of Beaverton's Johnson Creek, which has been significantly impacted downstream. Whatever the response, it is apparent that Greenspaces are disappearing both inside and outside the UGB. The attached Metro Greenspaces map demonstrates this point.

The large site #5 shows as a large, intact forest tract, based on 1988 aerial photography (see map #2). Today, the site has been almost entirely logged off. Those, who argue that sites outside the UGB are protected by their farm and forest designation forget that the state Forest Practices Act does not protect fish and wildlife habitat and provides only minimal riparian habitat protection. In fact, when we walked the site we observed large amounts of debris that had been dumped into a tributary stream, presumably allowed under existing FPA because the stream was an intermittent headwaters area. The bottom line is land outside the UGB is not protected for its Greenspace values through agriculture or forest practice programs. Lands designated at Forest and EFU are being, and will continue to be, impacted for their commodity values. We are not arguing that farming or forest operations are inappropriate in these areas, but feel some practices could be improved and feel it is important to note that these lands should not be considered "secure" with respect to Greenspace values.

For both water quality and wildlife habitat reasons you should <u>first</u> utilize land use planning regulations to secure as much protection as possible of these headwater areas. There is no logical reason to utilize hard-won Greenspaces dollars to protect resources that should already be protected by land use regulations. If that is not possible, then the regulations obviously need to be beefed up. After you've accomplished protection of the riparian zone, then look toward fee and/or conservation easement acquisitions or donation to conserve a viable wildlife corridor in these headwater areas.

While it would require additional field work, it is possible to link up portions of site #4 to the existing Jenkins Estate property. If a corridor that incorporated the headwaters of Butternut Creek were acquired it may be a good addition to existing THPRD land.

Of the sites outside the UGB only site #5 seems to us a logical candidate for acquisition. However, this site has been severely degraded by forest harvest. The County and Metro would have to conduct a more detailed inventory to ascertain which subarea of the site would be most suitable---assuming you are interested in existing habitat and open space values. We walked the site in the line inclicated on the map and spent most of our time in extremely "trashed out" clear cuts. However, the site just off Grabhorn Road (noted by 5.1) had some really nice mixed Oregon white oak and madrone forest habitat. If there is a way to link this area with the sites inside the UGB" there be quite a lot of diversity, both in terms of wildlife habitat, and open space values, including views of the Tualatin Valley, Tualatin Mountain and Chehalem Mountains.

We walked through site #5 (noted as 5.2 on the map) from an access point off SW 190th Avenue and Kemmer to farm land (noted as 5.3 on the map). The most "pristine" portion of site #5 is on the southern boundary of the site. There is still significant riparian habitat on a stream that runs from the northeast quadrant to the southwest quadrant of the site. There is also an extremely beautiful, albeit "groomed"

meadow with scattered trees which shows up nicely on the aerial photographs that Hal brought along on our tour (noted as 5.4 on the map, approximate location). Given the southern exposure of the site, we wonder if this site was originally an oak-grassland. It is a highly modified site, with large trees and open grassy areas. It appears to function as a private "park" and possibly is utilized for hay production? While this general area would be an attractive site for a regional park facility, especially if it could be combined with some of the oak-madrone woodland, its proximity to local farms and lack of access would be a major issue if the Metro Parks and Greenspaces program were to acquire it.

If site #5 were to be purchased because of its size and with an eye toward restoration it is our opinion that the restoration process would take many years, 60-100. Given the political nature of Open Space and Greenspace acquisition, it is our opinion that if this site were to be purchased, Metro would be opening itself up for a great deal of criticism. While we understand the desire to acquire large parcels of land and agree that if we take the long term view, these lands could be extremely valuable—both ecologically and recreationally—that will be difficult sell to the public, especially those who actively worked to pass the bond measure to in anticipation of purchase of Greenspaces near their neighborhoods.

Therefore, acquistion of some lands within and outside the UGB---and from the Urban Reserve Study. Area mapping we assume even those lands may wind up within the UGB. With that in mind, some acquisition, presumably with a priority on sites #1 and #2, would be highly desirable. From the perspective of future values, tying up the oak-madrone groves, scenio views and larger parcels of land on site #5 could be justified. The caveat with site #5 is that acquisition of "trashed out" land will undoubtedly be controversial.

We hope these comments will assist you in making decisions regrading land use decisions and priority-setting for Greenspace acquisition. We would also be happy to offer you suggestions concerning a Goal 5 update and would suggest that you contact Gail Curtis and Duncan Brown in the City of Portland Planning Bureau for a description of their Goal 5 planning process.

*A review of the draft Metro 2040 Growth Concept map (July, 1995) indicates that the lands outside the UGB are in the Urban Reserve Study Area.

Respectfully,

Michael C. Houck, Urban Naturalist Richard Meyer, Executive Director Field Notes (Mike Houck and Richard Meyer visit to sites #1 through #7 with Hal Bergsma, Washington County Planning Department, Friday, July 21, 1995)

Site #1: Headwaters of Beaverton's Johnson Creek (met with Bill Bugbee, Kathy Sayles and George Gogy (sp?) and walked from Bugbee's past Kathy and George's downstream. Walked through Brumbaugh property (approx. 15 acres): Brown Creeper, Western Tanager, W. flycatcher, Golden-crowned Kinglets, Scrub Jay, Pine Siskins, Black-capped Chickadee, Pileated sign. Mixed western red cedar, Douglas fir. A lot of Himalayan blackberry in upper areas, obviously has been disturbed by prior logging. Fairly young second growth forest (60-70 years?). Further downslope dense bracken fern, vine maple, oceanspray, salai. Slopes are very steep and soils seem highly unstable with obvious slumping. Very large western red cedar. Viewed logging operation on S. Heights...totally inadequate "buffer" for small stream (lots of deer and raccoon tracks) and stumps and soil have been pushed into the stream; running water. In the broader sections of stream a lot of lady fern, hedge nettle, Himalayan Blackberry, willoweed.

Site #2 Headwaters of Beaverton's Johnson Creek: Lazuli Bunting, Purple Finch, Rufous-sided Towhee, Pine Siskins, western Tanager. Extremely steep slopes. A large fill has been placed over one of three headwater areas (marked 2.1 on map) There is an existing gravel access road (2.2). This site seems to have a more mature forest stand with Intact understory than most of site #1. Sword fern, vine maple, Oregon grape, etc. Very high quality riparlan zone.

Site #3 Headwaters of Butternut Creek: Fill dumped over edge (3.1 on map), very unstable, combined with grass clippings. Cat road about half way down slope. Appears a USA sewer line runs across slope here. Similar to site #2. Extremely steep slopes, should not be developed. Houses, appear to be about 10,000 square foot lots, are at top of slope, leaving the ravine intact. Although lot sizes are huge, this apparent density transfer approach appears to be protecting natural resource values of the stream.

Site #4 Headwaters of Butternut Creek: western-most portion is contiguous with Jenkins Estate (THPRD property), although SW Grabhorn separates these sites. Potential for combining? Again, for the most part the existing houses are at the top of the slope with pretty good protection of stream corridor. Fairly mature forest.

Site #5 Large, several hundred acre tract of land.

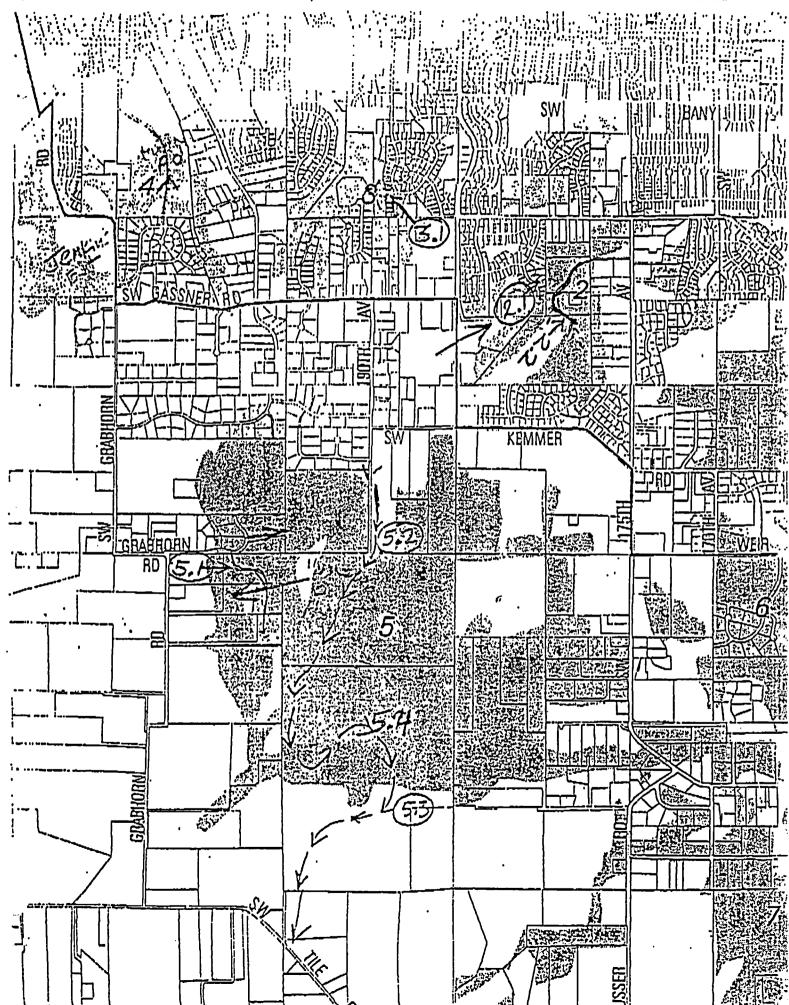
Stop #1: Entered off Grabhorn Road (SW Stonecreek Drive?): White-crowned Sparrow, Solitary Vireo, Pine Siskin, Rufous-side Towhee, Black-capped Chickadee, Downy Woodpecker, Red-breasted Nuthatch. Oregon White Oak, madrone, oceanspray. Very dry site. Much different in vegetation and "feel" compared to first four sites. Much of the area has been cleared, but there is excellent "park" and natural area potential at the site, especially if it could be "linked up" with sites on other side of Kemmer and Gassner Rds.

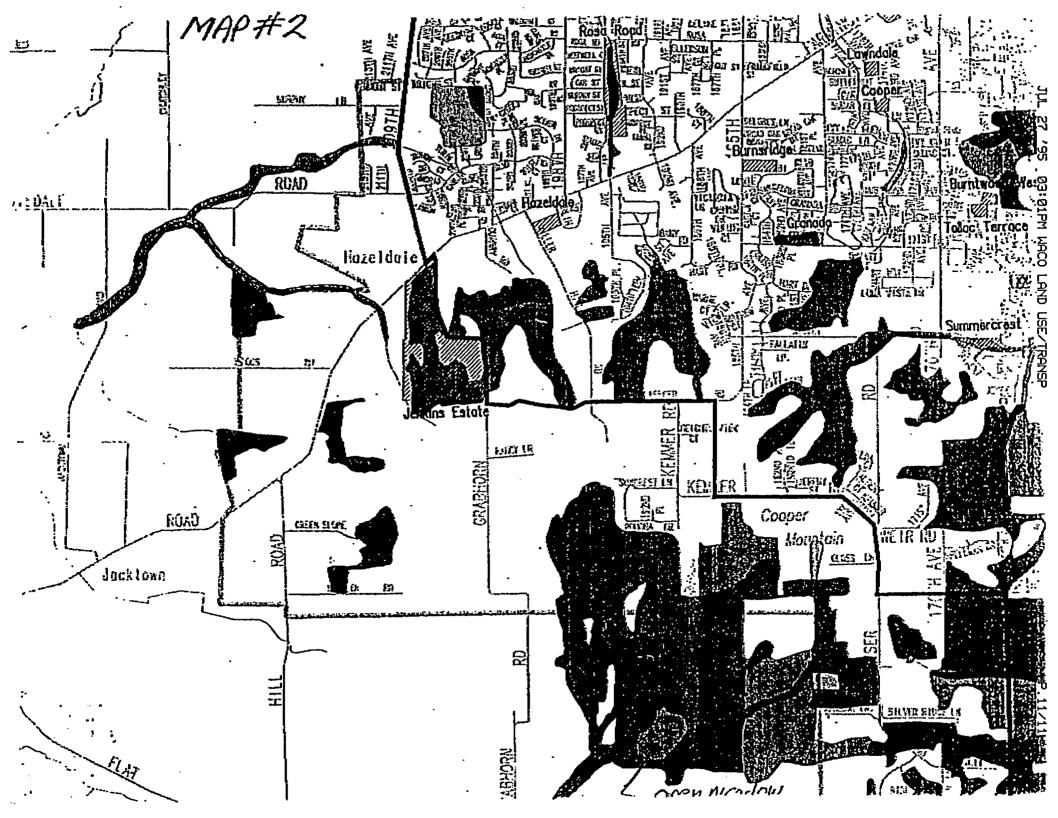
Stop #2: Entered via SW 190th and walked south, downslope, along large graveled road. There is some nice oak woodland, but most of the area has been logged with no evidence of replanting. Large erosive channels. Black-headed Grosbeak, California Quall, Bewick's Wren, Scrub Jay, western Tanager, Red-talled Hawk, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-crowned Sparrow, Pine Siskin, Northern Flicker, Common Bushtit, Dark-eyed Junco, Robin, Turkey Vulture. Large farmed field to east. Continued walking due south through clear cuts---stream trashed out---and onto small "trail-road" until i came to forested area downslope. I looked for large, round oak-savanna looking area from aerial photograph and found an open meadow with scattered madrone, oaks, western red cedar, big-leaf maple (huge) Douglas fir all of which appear to have been planted. Worked our way around edge of farm fields and met Hal at SW Kobbe Dr?). The only way to access forested area is via farm fields and lanes. Access would be problematic here. Looking at the Thomas Guide there might be access via SW Horse Tale Dr.?

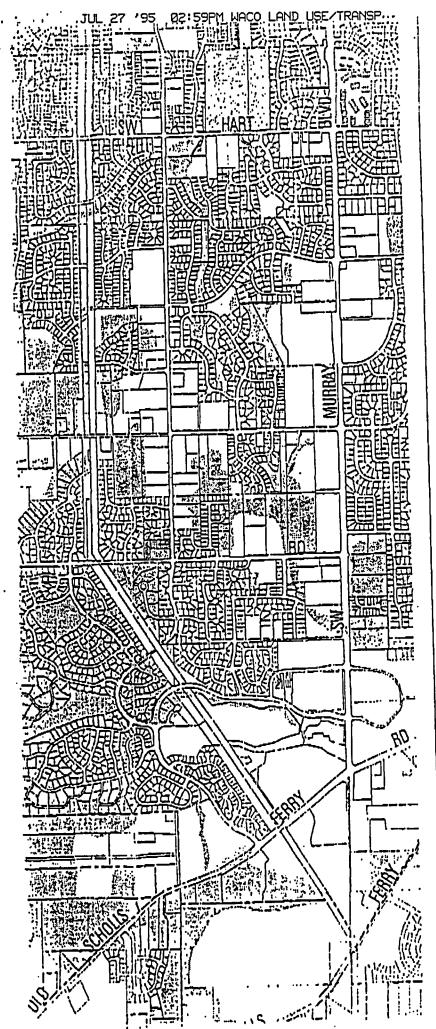
Site #6 Drove to SW Mt Adams Drive. Second growth mixed forest, nothing special.

Site #7 Alvord Ln off Reusser Road (SW 175th). Mixed forest surrounded by "McMansions."

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Washington County
Geographic
Information System

July 19, 1995

Cooper Mountain Natural Areas

Naural Area

--- City Boundary

--- Urban Growth Boundary

INFORMATION SOURCES

TAXLOT MAP

Cities of Beaverton and Tigard:

Source - City, 1990. Updated by Matro, June, 1992.

Updated by Washington County A & T, July 14, 1995.

Map accuracy - control point positional accuracy is plus or minus five feet or better.

Data collection scale - 1'=100'

Remainder of region:
Source - Portland General Electric and Matro, June, 1992.
Updated by Washington County A & T. July 14, 1995.
Map accuracy - Unknown.
Data collection scale - 1'=100', 1'=200' or 1'=400'

Note: Washington County Assessment & Taxation is continually updating the taxlot base maps. Some of the areas displayed in this map may have taxlots created after July 14, 1995.

TAXING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES (e.g. City, Fire District):
Source - Digitized by Washington County A & T (1992).
Registered to taxlot base. Updated - Mar. 31, 1995.

URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARY:
Source - Digitized by Metro, updated by Washington
County DLUT and Metro (Nov. 23, 1992). Registered
to taxiot base. Updated by Metro (Sept. 1993).

MATURAL AREAS:

Source - Digitized by Portland State University for

Metro using Infrared Aerial Photography taken during

May and June, 1989. Not registered to taxlot base.

Data collection scale - Photography: 1°= 2000'

All data compiled from source materials at different scales. For more detail, please refer to the source materials or Washington County Department of Land Use and Transportation.

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for July	TOM FREULER:	8024 SW 158 P. BENCETON 97007
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Don Cun		8290 SW LORI WAY
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Laura France	Laura Finney	8112 SW 158 PI BEGU
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Charlene Edwards	Charlene Edwards	8270 SW15844PI.Butn. OR)
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Jon Cruza	Tom Orazi	8336 Sh 159B Pl. Beau 9007
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Jane Bull	JANE BUHL	8375 SW 159 H PLACE
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We, the undersigned, petition METRO to spend the \$4.5 Million funding allocated for greenspaces on Cooper Mountain (tax dollars which we are paying as a result of Measure 26-26) to purchase the corridor of wildlife habitat shown on the map overleaf. The owners of the individual parcels are as follows: Burt Jeppesen, Darryl Brumbaugh, Dorothy Morrison, Thomas Lodato, Donald Kinzer, Eric Larson.

SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	ADDRESS
Georgia Randle	Georgia Rondle	1580 SW NovaRd, Butn 97007
Doug Kurlsen	Doing Knudson	1664556) Rigard Rd Burton
Rebuca Kinggoung.	Rebeccakingston	y 840 SW 152rd Bring 97007
	1 k .V	15395 S.W. Gleneden Dr. 97007
Jack VKonner	TACK KONNEN	86 to SW GOLDSTONE PL BEAV.
Johns De		8685 SW LAVA CT BUTN 97007
Market Land	MARK KALETTA	BIYO SU BARNARI DE BURN 97107
Ruth milaner	RUTH MURAVEN	15245 SW Morami G. BAn. 97007
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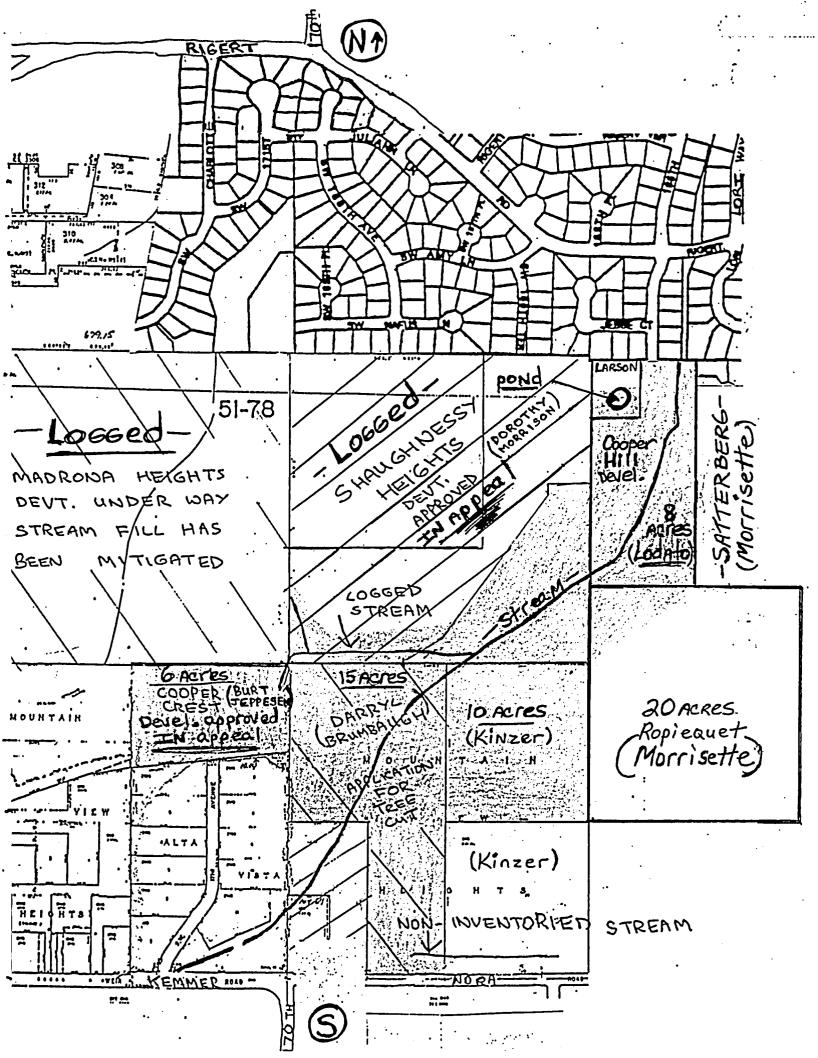
PETITION TO METRO: Land Acquisition

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Susan Janato	n Susan Lanasta	M 11725 S. W. BRUCE Bound TR
G. Gogne	George Gogue	DI 11725 S. W. BRUCE, Beaverton, TR - 16985 SW Kemmer Rd, Beav. OR 007
Hollow Sales	•	5 16985 SW KEMMERRD BUTN 007
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July M. Burke	Judy Burke	
Dammis P. alexande	- TAMMIS P. ALEXAN	de 8245 Su) Charlolly Dr.
Jana Haugary 1	JIM HANSON	
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* John Hondon	1	V 81205W/65-7H 642-5829
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SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	ADDRESS
Sym & Hus A		8438 SW 1664 Terrace
July Striken	Judy Strickler	8490 SW 1660 Teacher 8490 SW 166th Teacher
Mary Dengan	1. / / / - 1	8451 SW 16674 TWO. n 16614 SW Arry LN 16678 SW Arry Lane
Hary R. Cirkerson	GARY ANKERSON	16731 SW Any Lane 8380 SW 165th Ave Braverton
Mary Matson	Mary Matson	5990 SW 174th for Beal-
Christin Karson	Christine Larson	8515 S.W. 165Kh ave., Bear

SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	ADDRESS	
David B	ap David Graf	9446 S.W. 160Th	aloha, Ou
Delant Mi	REX FORD MORAL	8446 S.gw. 1603 15 8472 SW 1603	h aloha, o
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Forest Park Open Spaces Workshop

You're invited to a public workshop about proposed plans for acquisition of the Forest Park regional target area made possible by the passage of Metro's open spaces bond measure.

When

7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 10

Where

Audubon House 5151 NW Cornell Rd. Portland

For more information or to leave a comment, call Metro's open spaces hotline, (503) 797-1919.





FOREST PARK TARGET AREA OBJECTIVES

Tier I

- Outright purchase of key inholdings, adjacent holdings, and "pinch points"
- Protect and enhance water quality in Balch and Miller Creeks through fee acquisition, timber contracts, conservation easements or other strategies
- Provide a "corridor" sufficient for trail access from the north end of the park to the proposed Burlington-Northern Rails to Trails project
- Protect through fee acquisition, conservation easements, or other strategies, the upper Rock Creek tributary area west of Skyline.
- Acquire key trailhead site(s) in the south half of the park to ease pressure at the Thurman Avenue entrance to the Lief Erickson trail.

• Tier II

- Protect additional lands along the corridor at the north end of the Park, including a buffer for the Ancient Forest, through acquisitions, easements and voluntary management agreements
- Provide trail and habitat linkage to the Rock Creek Regional target area

Partnership Objectives

- Work with BLM to assist in purchase or consolidation of public land in the Dixie Mountain area
- Work with ODOT to establish a riparian crossing under Highway 30, linking the north park extension with the Burlington wetlands
- Work with Multnomah County to improve land use protection for upper Balch Creek and lands north of the Park
- Work with Washington County to maintain or improve land use controls to secure
 the farm/forest matrix corridor that links the park to the Coast Range area
- Establish relations with private landowners in the area to explore opportunities for easements, timber management strategies, and common watershed protection
- Work with the City of Portland BES to coordinate land purchases in the Balch Creek area, and with USA in the Rock Creek area

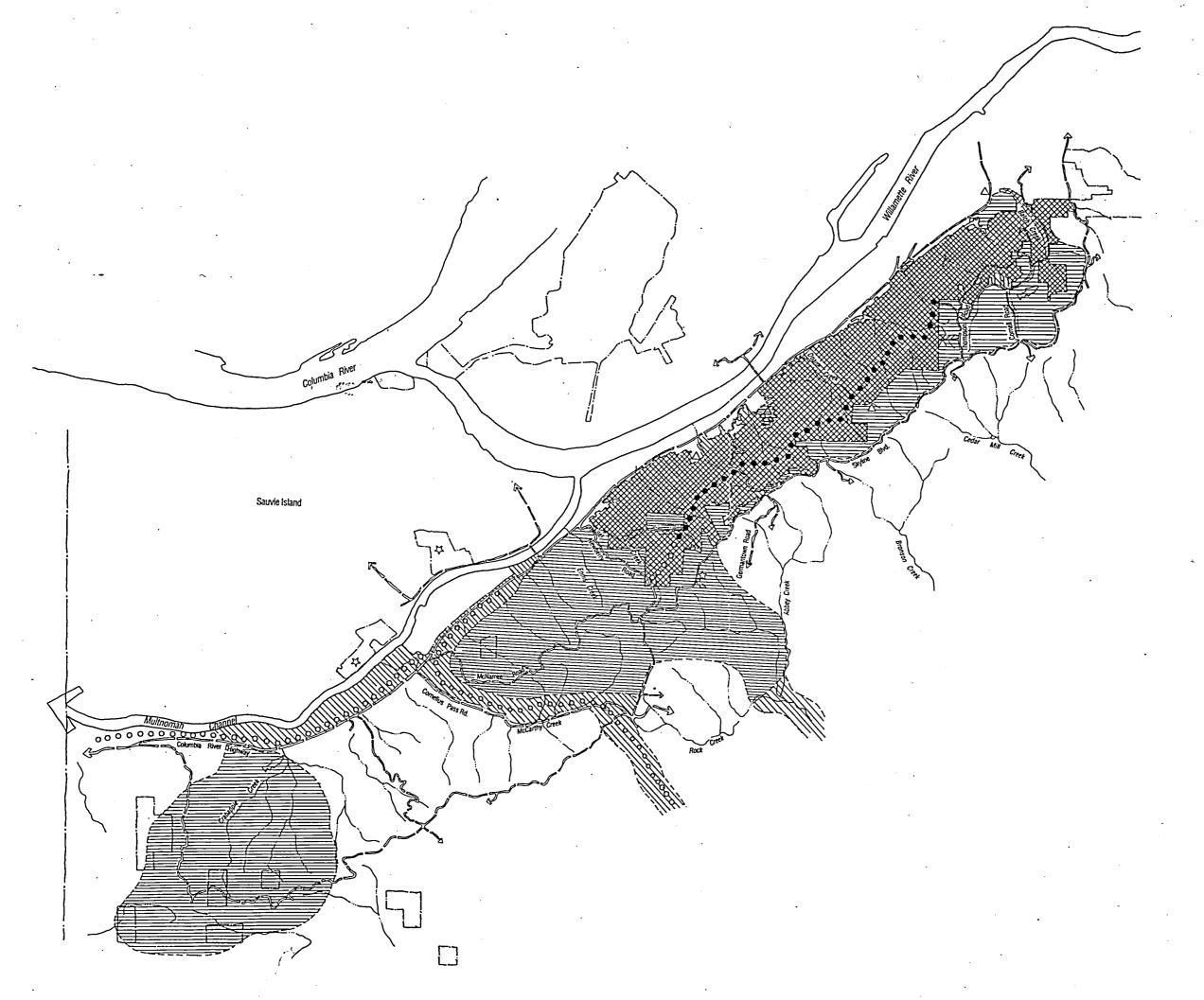


Figure No. 2

Forest Park Proposed Refinement Plan

Legend

Forest Park

Proposed Forest Park Target
Acquisition

••• Existing Trail

ooo Proposed Trail

Objectives

- Acquire 320 acres adjacent and within park to maintain habitat.
- Improve protection of key watersheds, including Bal
- Secure the integrity of the "big game" corridor that links the Park with source habitat in the northern Coast Range.
- Provide trail linkages to the north, particularly the proposed Burlington trail and the Coast to Portland trail.
- Secure avian habitat connectivity between the Tualitan Mountains and the Sauvie Island/Multnomah Channel Bottomland areas.
- Secure the important scenic resource of the forested Tuali Mountains as viewed from Sauvie Island.
- Provide trail and habitat connectivity to the proposed Roc Creek Greenway.
- Secure important inholdings and "pinch points" from future development.

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Scale: 1"=2000'

North

Metro Greenspaces Forest Park

December 1995

Mike Faha and Associates Dean Apostol and Mark Wilson

Staff report

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 96, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADOPTING TARGET AREA BOUNDARIES AND OBJECTIVES FOR FOREST PARK TARGET AREA

Date: January 16, 1996 Presented by: Charles Ciecko

Jim Desmond

PROPOSED ACTION

Resolution no. 96 - requests the adoption of Target Area boundaries and objectives for the Forest Park area. These boundaries and objectives will be used to guide Metro in the implementation of the Open Space Bond Measure.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

The target area description in the <u>Bond Measure Fact Sheet</u> (authorized by Council Resolutions 95-2113, 94-2050 and 94-2029B) was as follows:

"Forest Park Expansion. Acquire 320 acres adjacent and within park to maintain habitat."

In the 1992 Green Spaces Master Plan the target area was described as follows:

"Forest Park Inholdings (Willamette River and Tualatin River watersheds)
Scattered privately owned lands in 5,000-acre city park, the largest protected natural area in metropolitan area. Part of significant wildlife habitat, providing ecological connection between Columbia River, the Tualatin Valley and the Coast Range."

Target Area Description:

Forest Park lies within the City of Portland and unincorporated Multnomah County and is considered by many to be the "crown jewel" of metropolitan Portland's open space network. At 4800 acres of mostly second growth forest, (having grown back from logging that took place earlier this century), it is the largest and most ecologically intact natural area in the metropolitan region. Established in 1948 from lands that had been forfeited to Portland and Multnomah County in the wake of failed land speculation, the Park measures about 7.5 miles by 1.5 miles. It runs in a generally SE to NW direction along the Tualatin Mountain ridge between US Highway 30 and Skyline Boulevard. (See Attached Map - Forest Park Proposed Refinement Plan.)

Refinement Process:

Public Involvement -Twenty-two individuals were interviewed representing Friends of Forest Park, property owners, government agencies, and natural resource experts, as well as others who attended a Forest Park Neighborhood meeting. (See Workshop Comments Attachment). The most prevalent attitudes noted were:

- Agreement on the importance of protecting the Balch Creek water quality, acquisition of inholdings into Forest Park, and expansion of the north end of the Park towards Cornelius Pass
- General concern over Washington and Multnomah County's lack of commitment to Goal 5 resources.
- Consensus that water quality and upland habitat protection are higher priorities than recreation access or scenery.

 After learning of the open space management potential in the Dixie Mountain area, comments were quite supportive of any efforts to help retain federal ownership of lands and to work with commercial forest owners in the area.

Objectives:

Forest Park and some of its surrounding area easily meets all the criteria for "regional significance" called out in the Greenspaces Master Plan of 1992, including the threat by development or resource extraction, high accessibility, and it is an existing resource that comprises a large, contiguous natural area. The Natural Resource Management Plan for Forest Park, recently completed by the City of Portland with extensive citizen involvement, calls for a strategy with 5 distinct purposes: preserve interior forest habitat, protect Balch Creek watershed, create connections to the Willamette River, improve connections to rural areas north and west of the park, and provide better public access (i.e. new trailheads).

It is the conclusion of Metro's independent consultants and staff that acquisition of 320 acres will be inadequate to achieve all of the purposes called for in the Forest Park Plan listed above. A combination of strategic purchases, land use policies by local jurisdictions, and partnerships with public and private land owners in the area will be needed to meet the key objectives of natural resource protection in this area. These objectives, based on social, recreational and ecological considerations, can be summarized as follows:

- Secure important inholdings and "pinch points".
- Improve protection of key watersheds, including Balch Creek, Miller Creek, and the headwaters of Rock Creek.
- Provide trail and habitat connectivity to the proposed Rock Creek Greenway.
- Protect nesting and feeding areas critical to sustaining local bird populations in the Tualatin Mountains and the Sauvie Island/Multnomah Channel Bottomland areas.
- Provide trail linkages to the north, particularly the proposed Burlington Northern trail and the Greenway to the Pacific.
- Secure the integrity of the "big game" corridor that links the Park with source habitat in the northern Coast Range.
- Secure the important scenic resource of the forested Tualatin Mountains as viewed from the Willamette/Columbia Rivers, their islands and channels.

Proposed Refinement Plan Area findings:

Balch Creek

The aquatic resources of the creek are at risk from potential timber harvest and rural development in the unincorporated part of Multnomah County, making Balch Creek a high priority. As an example of a land use issue raised during the course of the Refinement Plan, attention has been drawn to a wedge of land in upper Balch Creek that lies outside of the Portland City limits and the present Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). It is under the jurisdiction of Multnomah County and zoned for forest use, 18 acre minimum lot sizes. As such it is subject to commercial timber harvest (under the State Forest Practice Act,) and some subdivision. This is an area characterized by very steep, unstable slopes with highly erodable soils. Should large scale timber harvest take place, damage to the watershed is likely. In an interview Jim Sjulin, manager of Forest Park, indicated that improved public access to this area for recreation is not

needed, therefore the land purchase strategy should concentrate on critical riparian areas or unstable areas subject to erosion or mass wasting. If this area were included in the UGB and annexed to Portland, E-zone protection might be sufficient to secure watershed values.

Land in the Balch Creek area will likely be very expensive, consequently strategies for protection should include:

- Encourage Multnomah County to implement goal 5, 6 and 7 programs.
- Protection strategies that would direct timber harvest and rural development to appropriate areas.
- Purchase of "timber rights," which may allow some residential development while restricting timber harvest; and purchase of steep, erosion prone slopes and riparian zones, leaving more stable ridges and terraces for development.

Inholdings and "Pinch Points"

In the northern third of the Park, there are 2 "pinch points," where the park is quite narrow, and several significant inholdings exist. Management and protection of the Park will be accommodated by acquisition of land to correct these deficiencies. Additionally, the important Miller Creek watershed would benefit by these steps.

Newberry Road to Cornelius Pass

This corridor provides potential big game habitat connectivity towards the Coast Range, and a complementary upland forest habitat for bird species that use Sauvie Island wetlands. A logical extension of Forest Park trails north to a linkage with the proposed Burlington Trail, Ancient Forest, Multnomah Channel, and the "Greenway to the Pacific" trail would be included in this concept. Currently this area is threatened by continued clear-cut logging, expansion of the Angell Brothers Quarry, and rural subdivision development. Stakeholder interviews revealed a high degree of consensus for this area to be a high priority in the acquisition program. As this area contains a great deal of land, a multi-faceted strategy that would combine selected land purchases, purchase of more limited easements or timber rights, land use guidelines and partnerships with local landowners is imperative.

Upper Rock Creek Tributaries

This is an area along the west slope of the Tualatin Ridge, presently well forested, but with encroaching subdivision development. This area is part of the farm/forest matrix that connects Forest Park habitat to the Coast Range, and provides a logical trail linkage to the proposed Rock Creek Greenway. This area is generally outside of what has traditionally been thought of as Forest Park lands, which are along the east slope of the ridge. However, the Forest Park Neighborhood association, Unified Sewerage Agency representative, and consulting biologists all stressed the importance of this area to the overall biological and recreational potential of Forest Park.

Dixie Mountain Area

Dixie Mountain lies at the north end of Multnomah county, about 10 miles from the northern boundary of Forest Park and provides an important opportunity for open space expansion. Mature forest habitat there provides roosting and some nesting opportunities for wintering bald eagles that visit Sauvie Island, as well as habitat for big game that traverse the area. An important local watershed originating from this area feeds the wetlands along the Multnomah

Channel. Outstanding views are available from Dixie Mountain across the Columbia River, to the Cascade volcanoes of Washington. Additionally, the Greenway to the Pacific could cross this area. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) presently manages over 500 acres in several scattered sites around the mountain.

Another refinement process finding is the concern about the potential density of housing that might be developed between **Cornell Road and Newberry Road**, within the UGB. Pressure to increase densities as part of the 2040 Plan may result in upzoning of this area. Intense development would lead to higher traffic, more fences, dogs, and other barriers to native wildlife movement. Thus, while Metro is attempting to secure wildlife connectivity to the north and west, the park may get cut off at its existing boundary. Metro will work with the City to ensure the that impacts of increased density are minimized.

Staff Recommendation:

The staff recommendation is to immediately start the acquisition process for a minimum of 320 acres, thereby satisfying the "Tier I" objectives and providing a framework for the equally important near-term and future goals. Consequently, a strategic approach to acquisition, including easements, dedications, donations, and other voluntary property-owner agreements, as well as fee acquisition, is recommended in order to stretch the impact of the resources spent. The following are specific objectives of the Forest Park Proposed Refinement Plan:

Tier I

- Outright purchase of key inholdings, adjacent holdings, and "pinch points"
- Protect and enhance water quality in Balch and Miller Creeks through fee acquisition, timber contracts, conservation easements or other strategies
- Provide a "corridor" sufficient for trail access from the north end of the park to the proposed Burlington-Northern Rails to Trails project
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- Acquire key trailhead site(s) in the south half of the park to ease pressure at the Thurman Avenue entrance to the Lief Erickson trail.

Tier II

- Protect additional lands along the corridor at the north end of the Park, including a buffer for the Ancient Forest, through acquisitions, easements and voluntary management agreements
- Provide trail and habitat linkage to the Rock Creek Regional target area

Partnership Objectives

 Work with BLM to assist in purchase or consolidation of public land in the Dixie Mountain area

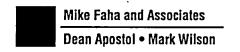
- Work with ODOT to establish a riparian crossing under Highway 30, linking the north park extension with the Burlington wetlands
- Work with Multnomah County to improve land use protection for upper Balch Creek and lands north of the Park
- Work with Washington County to maintain or improve land use controls to secure the farm/forest matrix corridor that links the park to the Coast Range area
- Establish relations with private landowners in the area to explore opportunities for easements, timber management strategies, and common watershed protection
- Work with the City of Portland BES to coordinate land purchases in the Balch Creek area, and with USA in the Rock Creek area

FOREST PARK REFINEMENT PLAN

Public Workshop held January 10, 1996 at Audubon House

Comments

- Acquire land north of Burnside where w. trail goes through private land (incl. in boundary).
- Land use important.
- Secure rec. values (inholdings, pinch points, Burnside Trail).
- Add area east of pinch point (Springville Road).
- Priorities:
 - 1) inholdings.
 - 2) add trail heads (Linda Hoffman at BLM)
 - 3) pinch points
- 500 acres of upper Balch Creek crucial to watershed.
- Increased densities around park conflict with park protection.
- Emphasize wildlife habitat in purchase priorities.
- Focus on connectivity for wildlife.
- Look at linkages to Willamette River from ex. park (i.e. Doane Creek, Miller Creek).
- Need more bike connections from Highway 30.
- Look for partnerships along west Germantown Rd. Need outreach to property owners.
- · Question future of public contact.
- Need more access in south park to help preserve more isolated habitat in north.
- First priority should be in and around Forest Park.
- Don't ever rely on land use regulations in Balch Creek.
- "Area of critical environmental concern" BLM designation.
- Chris volunteered to go with Metro to BLM (need citizen support).
- Need to prioritize in and around ex. park (pay attention here)
- Prioritize forest management protection (cons. easements) in Multnomah County part of Balch Creek.
- Keep long term picture for role of Forest Park in larger greenway vision.



Greenspace Planning and Public Involvement - Forest Park

C O N T A C T L I S T

Name	Maria Marka da Bara Maria Marka (Marka) Bara Maria Marka (Marka)	Affiliation	Address	Phone	Fax	Cont. Resp.	Date Cont.	Comments
Skip	Anderson	Angell Brothers Rock Quarries	PO Box 83449 Portland, OR 97283	286-4201		MW	11/29/95	Establish cooperative management partnerships with owners of large tracts of land.
								 Integrate preservation of wildlife habitat with economic opportunity.
								 Protect Forest Park by purchasing lands not by establishing more regulations.
Kurt	Augustine	Multnomah Co. Animal Control	1700 W. Columbia Riv. Hwy Troutdale, OR 1 97060			MW	12/15/95	No 1995 pick up records for McNamee Rd., Cornelius Pass Rd., Germantown Rd. Newberry Rd.
				,		٠		Skyline crossing between Thompson and Cemetery.
		·	· .			·		St. Johns Bridge area sightings.
John	Caruso	BLM / Tillamook				DA	11/29/95	BLM Lands near Dixie Mt. managed for eagle and OG connectivity.
								Small holdings could be traded away.
Larry	Crabb	Multnomah Co. Animal Control	1700 W. Columbia Riv. Hwy Troutdale, OR 97060			· MW	12/15/95	See Kurt Augustine
Lori	Faha '	Water Resources Program Manager / Unified Sewerage	155 N. First Ave., #270 Hillsboro, OR 97124	648-8730		MW	11/21/95	Consider expanding USA service boundary to Skyline Road.
		Agency	·		-	·		Protect Stream headwaters and corridors south of Skyline.

Greenspace Planning and Public Involvement - Forest Park

CONTACT LIST continued

Name		Affiliation	Address	Phone	Fax	Cont. Resp.	Date Cont.	Comments
Rand	Fisher	Washington Co. SWCD	1080 SW Basline, Bldg B, Suite B-2 Hillsboro, OR 97123	681-0953		MW	-	Tualatin Basin Rural Land Management Requirements take effect 1/1/96.
ly	Francis	Bureau of Environmental Services	1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Room 400 Portland, OR 97204			MW	11/22/95	 Protect / enhance and restore water quality in stream corridors and headwaters. Protect all wetlands and springs within the area. Restrict logging on lands zoned EFU within UGB.
							:	Establish water quality baseline data for Miller Creek basin.
Mark	Hayes	PCC Biology	Rock Creek Campus PO Box 19000: Portland, OR 97280	244-6111		MF	12/15/95	
Keith	Hays	Greenway to Pacific	15775 Ribbon Ridge Rd. Newberg, OR 97132	538-0924				Connect Forest Park along Highway 30 to Scapoose.
Gordon	Howard	Multnomah County Planning	2115 SE Morrison Portland, OR 97214			DA	11/20/95	 Need forest protection in upper Balch Creek area. Secure "corridor" at north end of park. Focus on natural resource protection first, recreation second.
Karin	Hunt	Multnomah County Planning Commission	2115 SE Morrison Portland, OR 97214	621-3024		MW	11/26/95	 Protect / acquire lands to protect integrity of Forest Parks but other areas may have more need. Develop and implement on Agricultural Practices Act. Think in rural terms when considering watershed protection (EFU zoning is a tradeoff for development).

Greenspace Planning and Public Involvement - Forest Park CONTACT LIST continued

Name		Affiliation	Address	Phone ·	Fax	Cont. Resp.	Date Cont.	Comments
Steve	Kenworthy	BES - Storm Water	1120 SW Fifth Ave, # 400 Portland, OR 97204	823-7100		MW	11/22/95	See Ivy Francis
Esther	Lev	Wildlife Biologist	729 SE 33rd Portland, OR 97214	239-4065		MW / DA /	11/15,	Focus on "regionally significant" species.
			Folialia, On 97214		·	MF	11/30, 12/5	Trout and anadromous fish - upper Balch and Miller Creeks.
								 Eagles / Raptors - Dixie Mt., Newberg, Cornelius Pass Corridor.
								Big game - same as above.
								 Use land use policy, partnership and purchase to stretch dollars.
Brian	Lightcap	US Army Corps of Engineers	333 SW First Street	326-6140		MW	11/15/95	W. Multnomah SWCD partnership with Metro.
	•		Portland, OR ' 97204 OP-G 8th Floor					 Explore income producing possiblities on managed lands.
								Prioritize educational opportunities.
Cathy	Macdonald	The Nature Conservancy	821 SE 14th Portland, OR 97214	230-1221		MW	12/19/95	Currently negotiating with land owners on Multnomah Channel for property pruchase.
		•					•	BPA wetland mitigation at Burlington Bottom.
n						,		Support connection to Dixie Mountain, Multnomah Channel and Northwest Washington County.
Patrice	Mango	BES - Balch Creek	1120 SW Fifth Ave., # 400 Portland, OR 97204	823-5275		MW	11/21/95	See Ivy Francis
Ken	Margolis	Ecotrust / property owner	c/o Ecotrust			DA	11/28/95	Consider conservation easement potential.
		•	1200 NW Front, #470 Portland, OR 97209					 Focus on most important habitat, i.e. Balch Creek, corridor, wetlands, Dixie Mt. Eagle area.
		·						Wildlife habitat first priority.

Greenspace Planning and Public Involvement - Forest Park C O N T A C T L I S T continued

Name		Affiliation	Address	Phone	Fax	Cont. Resp.	Date Cont.	Comments
Donna	Matrazzo	OOPS/Sauvie Island Conservancy				DA	11/28/95	Conserve most important habitat.
								 Concerned about quarry expansion and housing development.
Tom	McGuire	Portland Planning Bureau	1120 SW Fifth, #1002 Portland, OR 97204-1966			MF	11/29/95	Upper Saltzman
•			Fortialia, OK 9/204-1900					Maintain Wildlife Corridor to Northwest.
	•	·						 Balch Creek Watershed is relatively unprotected in Washington Co. and should be prioritized.
Richard	Meyer	Director / Portland Audubon Society	5151 NW Cornell Rd. Portland, OR 97210	292-6855		MW	11/29/95	Select properties using ecological, political and social criteria.
•			}					Acquire lands within UGB as priority.
								 Integrate 2040 process with regulations and acquisition of greenspaces; fully explain advantages of increasing urban density.
			·					 Emphasize environmental education; establish connections between natural areas and urban issues (e.g. CSOS; social services; housing, etc.).
Fred	Nilsen	Portland Parks	Hoyt Arboretum 4000 SW Fairview Blvd. Portland, OR 97221			MW	11/30/95	See Jim Sjulin
Terrence	O'Donnell	Historian /Oregon Historical Society	1200 SW Park Avenue Portland, OR 97205			DA	11/16/95	Deferred to John Sherman and Ken Margolis.
Theo	Patterson	Portland United Mountain Peddlers				DA		telephoned / no call back

Greenspace Planning and Public Involvement - Forest Park C O N T A C T L I S T continued

Name		Affiliation	Address	Phone	Fax	Cont. Resp.	Date Cont.	Comments
Joe	Pesik .	Non / Game Biologist - ODF&W	ODFW - Clackamas Office 17330 Evelyn St. Clackamas, OR 97015			MW	12/4/95	 Acquire large blocks of land now - protect small inholdings with zoning. Require mitigation for upland development. Consider more stringent protection of rural lands within UGB not protect by Forest Practices Act. Permit only single family clustered development inside UGB adjacent to Forest Park. Establish bald eagle preserve in Dixie Mountain Area.
Mark	Peters	Oregon Department of Agriculture Program Manager: Tualatin Basin Agricultural Management Plan	635 Capitol St., NE Salem, OR 97310	986-4714		MV	11/21/95	Report detailing Tualatin Basin and management rules forthcoming.
Russ	Pinto	The Nature Conservancy 821 SE 14th Portland, Oregon 97214	821 SE 14th Portland, OR 97214	230-1221		MW	12/19/95	See Cathy Macdonald
Arnold	Rochlin	Friends of Forest Park	PO Box 83645 Portland, OR 97283	289-2657		W	11/22/95	 Acquire lands using both 'willing seller' and eminent domain strategies. Connect rural, urban and natural areas via powerline corridors and EFU zoning Require mitigation for water quality degradation and upland development in sensitive areas.

Greenspace Planning and Public Involvement - Forest Park C O N T A C T L I S T continued

Name		Affiliation	Address	Phone	Fax	Cont. Resp.	Date Cont.	Comments
Nancy	Rosenlund	Friends of Forest Park, Forest Park Neighborhood Association	5830 NW Cornell Rd. Portland, OR 97210	297-6316		MW	11/22/95	Concentrate on purchasing and protecting lands within the UGB.
				,				Resolve jurisdictional conflicts within Balch Creek watershed.
			,					Initiate a regional transportation study in the Cornelius Pass and Balch Creek watershed areas.
							·	 Increase regulatory rule making re: erosion and damaging forestry practices.
John	Sherman		1912 NW Aspen Portland, OR 97210	241-9348	241- 8326	MW/MF	12/8/95	John prioritized spending acquisition funds on large contiguous properties and inholdings
		,	} 					Wildlife corridor good idea but unaffordable under current funding
			ž,				•	Creating connection with Burlington Bottom has strong merit
Jim	Sjulin	Portland Parks Natural	1120 SW Fifth Ave., #1302	823-5122		MW	11/15, 29,	Vandalism, off-road, slope stability.
		Resources	Portland, OR 97204				12/5	Acquire selected Forest Park inholdings.
		•						 Develop additional protective measures for Balch Creek watershed.
								 Acquire and protect Forest Park linkages to the Willamette River.
								Acquire and protect the wildlife corridor.
Seth	Tane	Newberry Road		735-0339		DA		Called / no return.
Homer	Williams	HGW, Inc. (developer)				DA	11/16/95	Deferred to John Sherman.

Greenspace Planning and Public Involvement - Forest Park C O N T A C T L I S T continued ,

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Name		Affiliation	Address	Phone	Fax	Cont. Resp.	Date Cont.	Comments
Nancy	Zapatocki	Urban Biologist / USFW	'2600 SE 98th, #100 Portland, OR 97266	231-6179		MW	11/30/95	Purchase both big holdings and strategic small parcels.
		·	•		-			Emphasize environmental education of the urban edges: link natural area character with urban culture.
								Strengthen forestry practices act; initiate Ag. practices act.
								Initiate partnership discussions with large landowners and land managers.

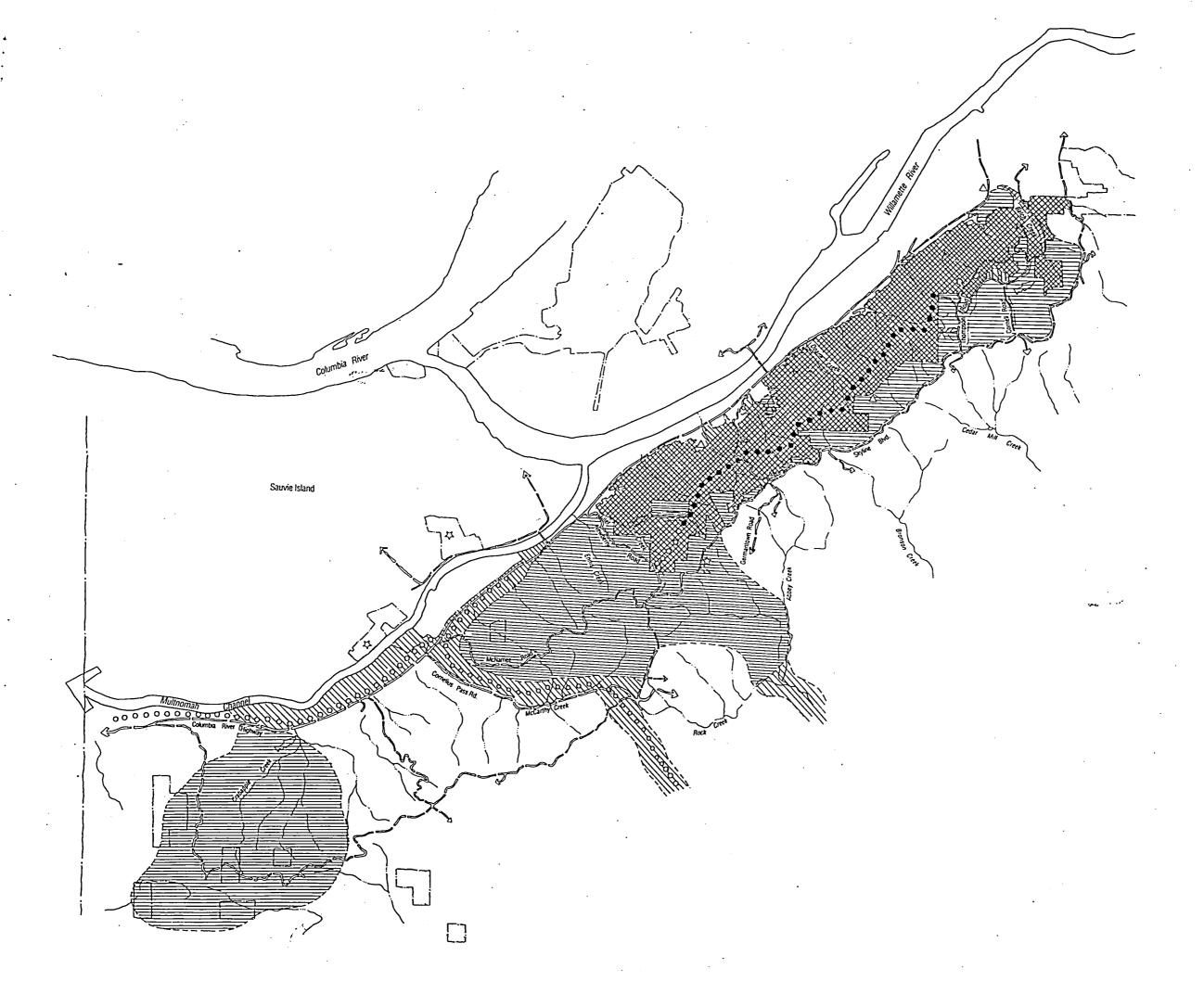


Figure No. 2

Forest Park

Proposed Refinement Plan

Legend	•	

Forest Park

Proposed Forest Park Target
Acquisition

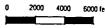
SS→ Other Target Areas

••• Existing Trail

ooo Proposed Trail

Objectives

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- Secure the integrity of the "big game" corridor that links the Park with source habitat in the northern Coast Range.
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Scale: 1"=2000'

North

Metro Greenspaces Forest Park

December 1995

Mike Faha and Associates Dean Apostol and Mark Wilson