

from Mike Burton

Jim should inform the group that I have directed a survey of the legal, technical or management issues surrounding the Landfill. This will be done in preparation of any future planning for the landfill. The REM department informs me that the landfill will need 7-10 years before there is depletion of methane on the site and perhaps longer than that before the area stabilizes for any intense usage.

If asked it would seem to me that it is a bit premature to talk about use of the landfill, but if the group has any ideas they want to recommend, they can forward them to me. My primary concern in the next few years will be to be certain that the landfill is closed properly and that the area and site are stabilized. It is my personal belief that the area remains hazardous and has potential for creating environmental damage if not properly tended to and that is what I intend Metro concentrate on for the next few years

>>> Charlie Ciecko 05/16/01 11:05AM >>>

Mike, One of the agenda items on next Tuesday's Mgmt Committee agenda is "Long term plans for St. Johns Landfill site". I expect this will be an introductory discussion only. You may recall that you are represented on the Mgmt Committee by Jim Morgan. Do you have a specific message that you would like conveyed at the meeting? My personal feeling is that final completion of the landfill closure plan is still years out (maybe 7-10yrs/). a lot is likely to change in that time frame and consequently it makes little sense to be attempting to make decisions which may well be out-dated before the landfill is even ready for any future use.

If you can let me know your thoughts, I will make sure they are conveyed through Jim.

Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes
P.O. Box 83862
Portland, OR 97283-0862



Councilor Rod Park
Councilor Bill Atherton
Councilor Carl Hosticka
Councilor Susan McLain
Councilor Rex Burkholder
Councilor Rod Monroe
Councilor David Bragdon, Presiding Officer

July 11, 2001

Dear Metro Councilors,

The Smith and Bybee Lakes Management Committee (SBLMC) has been considering the use of model airplanes at the St. Johns landfill. As of its last meeting, the SBLMC recommends that there be no model airplane use on the landfill at this time, pending the establishment of baseline monitoring for wildlife and the development of a long-term use plan for the landfill. Previously, the SBLMC detailed its concerns and conditions in a May 7, 2001 letter to representatives of the Portland Area Model Aircraft Association (PAMAA) and key Metro officials.

The Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes support the recommendations of the SBLMC. We request that Metro Council consider this issue.

The Smith and Bybee Lakes Natural Resources Management Plan (NRMP) describes "Potential Development Projects", including the model airplane flying. However, the NRMP (page 33) also states that "all contemplated recreational uses must be determined to be compatible with the protection of desired levels of wildlife population, wildlife habitat, and the preservation of the natural environment before such uses are allowed or encouraged".

We believe that model airplane usage should not be allowed for the following reasons:

1. Human activity, noise and airplane flying may have a detrimental effect on some wildlife species.
2. The landfill is a unique open grassland habitat for wildlife. There is significantly less open grassland in the area than there was in 1990 when NRMP was adopted. We believe that the landfill should be managed for wildlife habitat.

3. The St. John's landfill is, in fact, part of the wildlife area. Gas powered motor boats are not currently allowed in the wildlife area. Bicycles are not allowed on the Interlakes Trail. The use of model airplanes is not consistent with other uses in the wildlife area.
4. If model airplane use is permitted at the St. Johns landfill, it may set a precedent for long-term use of the landfill site. Our understanding is that the model airplane group is viewing this as a permanent site for model airplane flying.

The Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes believe that it is important that all of the SBLMC's concerns be addressed **before** allowing model airplane use on the landfill. To date there has been little support within Metro for these concerns. We are concerned that Metro management has already made a decision. Metro has been going forward with the process, working with PAMAA on a site access agreement.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Frank Opila
Board Director, Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes
503-283-1145

- c: Mike Burton, Metro Executive Officer
Charles Ciecko, Director of Parks and Greenspaces, Metro
✓ Elaine Stewart, Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area Manager, Metro
Terry Petersen, Director of Regional Environmental Management, Metro
Dennis O'Neil, Landfill and Environmental Management Program Supervisor, Metro
Smith and Bybee Lakes Management Committee members

From: Jim Morgan
To: Charlie Ciecko; Dennis O'Neil; Elaine Stewart; Peter Sandrock; Terry Petersen
Date: 7/25/01 10:30AM
Subject: Representing Executive Office on Smith and Bybee Lakes Management Committee

Representing Metro Executive Office on the Smith and Bybee Lakes Management Committee, my role is to reflect the policies and perspectives of the Executive Office while providing my long-term experience and technical expertise regarding the management area. In that role, I try to keep in mind that Metro should speak as one voice, considering the perspective of various departments.

At last night's Management Committee meeting, the agenda included an item discussing "St. Johns Landfill Information Needs". The discussion focused initially on what policy documents and programs govern current and future uses on the landfill. This discussion was necessary for the committee to understand land use proposals for the landfill, such as the model airplane permit application and future trail alignments.

As in past management committee meetings, the discussion leads to long-range land use plan for the landfill and who and how would the plan would be developed. At that point, I said the committee is the most knowledgeable and committed group to lead that charge. While that statement may be accurate, it may not reflect the position I am supposed to represent. Only after the meeting was I informed that Metro (Burton's, REM's, Parks staff) have had discussion regarding end use plan for the landfill that may differ from that statement.

To assure that I'm representing the Executive Office position accurately, I will meet with Elaine Stewart prior to each Management Committee meeting to learn of any policy developments of which I should be aware. At the same time, please feel free to inform me of pertinent policy direction.

Mike Burton
Executive Officer, METRO
600 NE Grand
Portland, Ore. 97232

Re: Model airplane use on St. Johns landfill

Dear Mike,

The Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes oppose, at this time, the issuance of a conditional use permit for model airplane flying on the St. Johns landfill. We feel strongly that before any permitted use is established on this open space a long term plan should be in place. We urge that METRO initiate a process to decide the long range goals for this site soon.

Some of our concerns involving this site and the permit are:

- *Due to development throughout the Columbia Slough watershed, the value of this 250 acres of open space has changed since the landfill closure document (1987) and the Smith & Bybee Lakes NRMP (1990). The development of floodplain lands east of PDX have eliminated huge tracts of land once used for nesting, resting and foraging by various avian species. The value of the landfill for wildlife habitat has greatly increased since the original documents were written.
- * noise effects on wildlife on and around the landfill.
- * in-air conflicts between birds drawn to this open space and model planes being flown.
- * The proposed model airplane usage requires a "no-person" safety zone as specified by the AMA. The safety zone, as presented to the Smith and Bybee Lakes Management Committee, overlays the boat launch near the St. Johns landfill bridge and a portion of the Columbia Slough. Public safety for users of the slough is at risk. Prohibiting the public to use the slough and the boat launch due to this safety zone is unacceptable.
- * the proposed trails around and through this open space will be in conflict with this activity. Restrictions on public use of trails due to this safety restriction is unacceptable.
- * The Smith and Bybee Lakes NRMP describes "Potential Development Projects", including the model airplane flying. However, the NRMP (page 33) also states that "all contemplated recreational uses must be determined to be compatible with the protection of desired levels of wildlife population, wildlife habitat, and the preservation of the natural environment before such uses are allowed or encouraged". We believe that model airplane flying is not compatible with the desired levels of wildlife protection.
- * We are concerned that this use, if permitted, may become a gateway for other high impact activities at this site. We believe that this may set an unacceptable precedent for other open space areas.

* this site shall eventually be managed as part of the Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area. Is this use consistent with the wildlife habitat goals for this regional wildlife area?

Again, our position is that the best course of action for this site is the development of a long term use plan. Issuing any permit for use without a clear, publically acknowledged plan is premature and destined for conflict.

Thank you for your attention to and consideration of our concerns.

Troy Clark
President, Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes

cc: David Bragdon, METRO Council presiding officer
METRO Council,
Rod Park
Susan McLain
Bill Atherton
Carl Hosticka
Rex Burkholder
Rod Monroe
Elaine Stewert, Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area manager
Mike Houck, Portland Audubon
Dennis O'Neil, St. Johns landfill manager

coordinated by:

**Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area
Management Committee**

*Nancy Hendrickson, Chair
Troy Clark, Vice Chair*

Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232
(503) 797-1515

July 30, 2001

Mike Burton
Executive Officer
Metro Regional Government
600 NE Grand Avenue
Portland, OR 97232

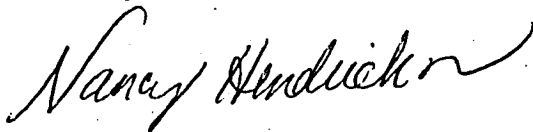
Dear Mr. Burton,

You will have received our letter dated July 20th, regarding recreational use of the Wildlife Area by the Portland Area Model Aircraft Association (PAMAA). The Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee (SBLMC) recommends no use of the landfill by the model airplaners at this time.

In our telephone conversation of July 18th, you suggested calling a hold to the special use permit for PAMAA and initiating a planning process for the long term use of the landfill.

The SBLMC is unanimous in its support of your suggestion to develop a long term plan for integrating the landfill into the Wildlife Area. Since the landfill is wholly within the Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Area, the Committee believes that long term landfill planning should include Regional Environmental Management but be conducted as part of lakes management. In fact, the Committee is gathering pertinent information on conditions and constraints concerning the landfill in preparation for its recommendations to Metro on the vision and goals for the landfill and desirable uses. Consequently, Metro may want to take advantage of the technical expertise and extensive site knowledge of the SBLMC and to consider having the SBLMC take the lead in this process. The Committee appreciates your leadership in funding the landfill planning effort and would like to know what it can do to support your efforts.

Sincerely,



Nancy Hendrickson
Chair, Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee

cc Dick Wisher, Oregon Scale Squadron, representing PAMAA
David Bragdon, District 7, Presiding Officer
Susan McLain, District 4, Deputy Presiding Officer
Bill Atherton, District 2
Rex Burkholder, District 5
Carl Hosticka, District 3
Rod Monroe, District 6
Rod Park, District 1
Charles Ciecko, Director of Parks and Greenspaces, Metro
Elaine Stewart, Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area Manager, Metro
Terry Petersen, Director of Regional Environmental Management, Metro

Dennis O'Neil, Landfill and Environmental Management Program Supervisor, Metro
Pam Arden, SBLMC
Bill Briggs, SBLMC
Troy Clark, SBLMC
Holly Michael, SBLMC
Jim Morgan, SBLMC
Kevin O'Sullivan, SBLMC
Frank Opila, SBLMC
Patt Opdyke, SBLMC
Denise Rennis, SBLMC
Jim Sjulín, SBLMC
Pat Sullivan, SBLMC recorder

Coordinated by:

**Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area
Management Committee**

Nancy Hendrickson, Chair

Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232
(503) 797-1515

February 20, 2002

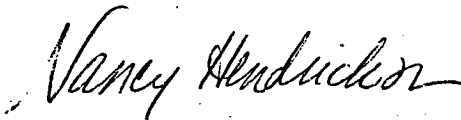
Executive Officer Mike Burton
Metro
600 NE Grand Avenue
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Dear Mr. Burton,

The Smith and Bybee Lakes Management Committee (SBLMC) has learned that you decided to deny the request of the Portland Area Model Aircraft Association to fly on the St. Johns Landfill site.

The SBLMC would like to thank you for not issuing the permit. We know this was not an easy decision for you to reach. We appreciate your careful consideration of the issues involved and your efforts to make the best decision.

Sincerely,



Nancy Hendrickson
Chair

cc Councilor Carl Hosticka
 Councilor Bill Atherton
 Councilor David Bragdon
 Councilor Rex Burkholder
 Councilor Susan McLain
 Councilor Rod Monroe
 Councilor Rod Park
 Charles Ciecko, Director, Regional Parks and Greenspaces
 Terry Petersen, Director, Regional Environmental Management

From: "Hendrickson, Nancy" <NANCYH@BES.CI.PORTLAND.OR.US>
To: Bill Briggs <BillB@bio-stim.com>, Denise Rennis <rennid@portptld.com>, Elaine Stewart <stewarte@metro.dst.or.us>, Emily Roth <emroth57@yahoo.com>, Frank Opila <FrankO@hevanet.com>, Frank Opila 2 <fopila@hotmail.com>, Holly Michael <Holly.B.Michael@state.or.us>, Jim Morgan <MorganJ@metro.dst.or.us>, Pam Arden <npdarden@teleport.com>, Pat Sullivan <SullivanP@metro.dst.or.us>, Patt Opdyke <popdyke@pacifier.com>, Peter Teneau <tenwa@jps.net>, "Sjulin, Jim" <PKJIMS@ci.portland.or.us>, Troy Clark <brillobrain@ureach.com>
Date: 3/14/02 12:22PM
Subject: Landfill Planning

Dear Committee Members:

I am starting a conversation, as we discussed last meeting, regarding future planning for the Landfill. At the last meeting, we received a copy of a memo dated October 2001, from Metro managers regarding landfill planning - or lack thereof. This memo sparked off a discussion of integrating the Landfill into the rest of the Wildlife Area, which we have been talking about for some time already. Since this is rather a large topic, we need to be thinking about it before the March meeting. The idea is to discuss this at the March meeting (but we do have other agenda items), continue the discussion at the April meeting, and possibly make some recommendations at that time about where we want to go with this.

Here are some things to consider, but please chime in with your own.

What values and constraints does the landfill site have in connection with the rest of the Wildlife Area?

What information does the SBLMC need to develop recommendations for the landfill site, for now, and for the future? For example:

- * what type of habitat is out there now or could be developed
- * what species of wildlife should we target in terms of developing habitat
- * what intensity of recreation activity should be encouraged and when
- * etc etc etc

Thanks everyone,

Nancy Hendrickson
 Chair, SBLMC

.....
 Nancy Hendrickson
 Columbia Slough Watershed Manager
 Bureau of Environmental Services
 1120 SW Fifth, Room 1000
 Portland, Oregon 97204

503-823-6001 (phone)
 503-823-5344 (fax)

NancyH@bes.ci.portland.or.us

From: "Sjulin, Jim" <PKJIMS@ci.portland.or.us>
To: "Hendrickson, Nancy" <NANCYH@BES.CI.PORTLAND.OR.US>, 'Bill Briggs' <BillB@bio-stim.com>, 'Denise Rennis' <rennid@portpld.com>, 'Elaine Stewart' <stewarte@metro.dst.or.us>, 'Emily Roth' <emroth57@yahoo.com>, 'Frank Opila' <FrankO@hevanet.com>, 'Frank Opila 2' <fopila@hotmail.com>, 'Holly Michael' <Holly.B.Michael@state.or.us>, 'Jim Morgan' <MorganJ@metro.dst.or.us>, 'Pam Arden' <npdarden@teleport.com>, 'Pat Sullivan' <SullivanP@metro.dst.or.us>, 'Patt Opdyke' <popdyke@pacifier.com>, 'Peter Teneau' <tenwa@jps.net>, 'Troy Clark' <brillobrain@ureach.com>
Date: 3/18/02 7:06PM
Subject: RE: Landfill Planning

Nancy and committee members,

I am unable to attend the March meeting, so I am happy to see that Nancy's expectation is that the discussion should continue into April. I ask that you honor that and, frankly, this is a big issue for us and it deserves ample time.

I am still amazed that Metro administrators developed this policy statement with no input from the Management Committee.

On Trails:

I think that it's fair to say that while we weren't looking forward to the conflicting sides of the trail discussion, we were indeed looking forward to resolving the specific questions about where and under what conditions could a recreational trail work with the least impact. Assuming feasible, to be followed by a discussion about when a trail might be implemented and at what (order of magnitude) cost. I can see no reason that this discussion and more specific trail planning should be held up. Metro was in the process of preparing an IGA with the City for many months. What's different now?

On Other Recreational Uses:

I do think that Mike Burton made the right decision to exclude model airplanes at this time. This has always been a questionable recreational activity for the wildlife area, but it made it into the plan because of the advocacy of the enthusiasts. At least since the late 1980's, no other recreational uses have been contemplated for the landfill other than trails and model airplane. I feel that the Management Committee would effectively resist other potential recreational uses. Identification of another, more suitable site should be a priority for Metro. (It's only fair that Metro have its very own version of Portland Parks' dogs off leash area issue.)

On Habitat:

The landfill certainly has its constraints. But that's exactly why the idea of an open meadow habitat was suggested by the NRMP. Some shrub-scrub habitat has also been envisioned by the Management Committee over the years. I cannot see any reason to hold up habitat enhancement work based on what's currently happening at the landfill.

I hope this helps. Anxious to hear other thoughts. I think that Gregg Everhart will be able to attend next week's meeting.

Keep up the good work!
Jim Sjulin

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Hendrickson, Nancy
> Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2002 12:26 PM
> To: Bill Briggs; Denise Rennis; Elaine Stewart; Emily Roth; Frank Opila;
> Frank Opila 2; Holly Michael; Jim Morgan; Pam Arden; Pat Sullivan; Patt
> Opdyke; Peter Teneau; Sjulín, Jim; Troy Clark
> Subject: Landfill Planning
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> Thanks everyone,
>
> Nancy Hendrickson
> Chair, SBLMC
>
>
> Nancy Hendrickson
> Columbia Slough Watershed Manager
> Bureau of Environmental Services
> 1120 SW Fifth, Room 1000
> Portland, Oregon 97204
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> 503-823-6001 (phone)
> 503-823-5344 (fax)
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> NancyH@bes.ci.portland.or.us
>
>

CC: "Houck, Mike" <houckm@teleport.com>, "Everhart, Gregg"
<PKGREGG@ci.portland.or.us>