WORK SESSION

600 NORTHEAST GRAND AVENUE | PORTLAND, OREGON 97232 2736 TEL 503 797 1700 | FAX 503 797 1797



MEETING: METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION

DATE: February 28, 1995

DAY: Tuesday TIME: 2:00 PM

PLACE: Metro Council Chamber

Approx. Time *			Presenter	Lead Councilor
2:00 PM		CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL		
(5 min.)	1.	INTRODUCTIONS		
(5 min.)	2.	CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS		
(5 min.)	3.	EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS		
	4.	OTHER BUSINESS	*	
2:15 PM (20 min.)	4.1	Discussion of the Draft Whitaker Ponds Management Plan	Hart	Washington
2:35 PM (20 min.)	4.2	Report on the Cascadia Conference		Monroe
3:35 PM (20 min.)	4.3	Discussion of Citi-Speak Survey	Klein Waylett	
3:55 PM (30 min.)	4.4	Report on NARC Conference and Congressional visits	Cotugno Waylett	
4:25 PM (10 min.)	4.5	Discussion of Future Vision		McLain
4:35 PM (10 min.)	5.	COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS		
4:45 PM (10 min.)	6.	LEGISLATIVE ISSUES		
4:55 PM		ADJOURN		

Items scheduled at the work session may be continued for further discussion or action at the regular Thursday Council meeting.

For assistance/Services per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), dial TDD 797-1804 or 797-1540 (Council Office)

^{*} All times listed on the agenda are approximate; items may not be considered in the exact order listed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4.1 Meeting Date February 28, 1995

Discussion of the Draft Whitaker Ponds Management Plan





M

TO:

Cathy Ross

FROM:

Mike Burton

RE:

Item for 2/28/95 Council Work Session

DATE:

February 17, 1995

I am requesting 20 minutes of work session time to present information on the Draft Whitaker Ponds Concept Master Plan. Charlie Ciecko and Jane Hart will make opening comments followed by a presentation by the project consultant, Walker & Macy, leaving adequate time for a question and answer period.

Following the close of a public comment period for the Draft document, I will return to the Council with a Resolution for approval of the Final Whitaker Ponds Concept Master Plan.

Included are copies of the Draft Whitaker Ponds Concept Master Plan for distribution to the Council. Jane Hart has additional copies if they are required.

February 28, 1995

Presented by: Jane Hart

FACTUAL BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS:

The Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan identifies the area surrounding the Whitaker Ponds in Northeast Portland as a regionally significant greenspace in the Columbia Slough watershed. The Whitaker Ponds project study area includes approximately 90 acres of publicly and privately owned land near the Columbia Slough between NE 47th and NE 52nd Avenues. The ponds and their natural surroundings occupy approximately 20 acres.

In May 1994, Metro entered into an "Agreement in Concept" (see Attachment 1) with the Portland Public Schools that calls for Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department to lead the effort to develop a master plan that enhances and protects the Whitaker ponds area for wildlife, while providing appropriate levels of recreation. Metro Council approved the amount of \$12,500 in the FY 1994-95 budget to use for contracting professional services for preparing a Whitaker Ponds Master Plan.

In October 1994, Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department released a Request for Proposal for Master Planning Services for the Whitaker Ponds Area. The consulting team of Walker & Macy and SRI/SHAPIRO was selected to perform various professional services including a site biological assessment, public meeting facilitation, and preparation of a Concept Master Plan document.

Public Involvement activities to date include, creation of an independent advisory panel (see Attachment 2 for membership) to provide site design recommendation; two community workshops to receive input from the public; one on one meetings at request of adjacent property owners, tenants and Lakeside Little League; presentation at Columbia Slough Watershed Council workshop.

In addition to the Portland Public Schools, other project participants include EnviroCorps, Multnomah County (through its Natural Areas Fund), Bureau of Environmental Services, Trust for Public Land, citizens and residents of the Cully and Concordia Neighborhood Associations, Lakeside Little League, Oregon Wildlife Heritage Federation, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

On February 21, 1995 the *Draft* Whitaker Ponds Concept Master Plan will be distributed to the interested public for review and comment. The public review comment period will close March 10. Written comments received by that time will be addressed in a *Final* Whitaker Ponds Concept Master Plan document which will be brought to the Council for approval by resolution. Once adopted the Whitaker Ponds Concept Master Plan would guide future acquisition, restoration, environmental education and recreation activities in the Whitaker Ponds area.

ATTACHMENT 1

AGREEMENT IN CONCEPT BETWEEN PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND METRO

Metro proposes to lead the collective development of a management plan for the ponds on the Whitaker site, 5135 NE Columbia Boulevard, ("Whitaker") and their natural surroundings. Metro envisions this plan incorporating natural restoration, environmental education, and natural resources stewardship, while providing appropriate recreational opportunities. We wish to lead all stakeholders in and around this site in developing a long-term management plan that will be developed with consensus. Given this proposal is in the developmental stage, the undersigned agrees to:

- (1) support the concept of developing the ponds area located on the "Whitaker" site for environmental education and natural resources. stewardship;
- cooperate in the development of a management plan for the site; (2)
- support programs oriented toward community access to the "Whitaker" (3) ponds site compatible with the District's policies, that may include a proposed program for developing the ponds for inner-city kids fishing;
- propose that "Whitaker" property immediately surrounding the ponds not **(4)** be considered surplus in the foreseeable future; (Also, recommended would be -- in the unlikely event the District's adjacent property to the pond area should be disposed of -- the Metro Greenspaces would be offered the first option to buy the pond area portion.)
- **(**5) designate a contact person for this project.

No monetary commitment is being requested or implied. Ultimately, a management plan will be developed that will enhance the programs of participants while conserving diminishing resources. •

Donald D. McElrov

m. Elroy **Executive Deputy Superintendent**

Portland Public Schools

ATTACHMENT 2

Whitaker Ponds Advisory Panel

Pamela Brown
Portland Public Schools

Erwin Bergman
Cully Neighborhood Association

Kim MacColl, Jr.
Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation

Edna Mae Pittman Concordia Neighborhood Association

Ned Hayes, Jr. Whitaker Ponds Property Owner

Kin Daily
Oregon Department Of Fish & Wildlife

Sally Creasman Madison High School

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4.2 Meeting Date February 28, 1995

Report on the Cascadia Conference



OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW Draft WHITAKER PONDS CONCEPT MASTER PLAN February 21, 1995

Action: You are invited to review and provide written comments on Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department's Draft Whitaker Ponds Concept Master Plan (copy enclosed). Written comments on the Draft Whitaker Ponds Concept Master Plan will be accepted until 5:00 pm on March 14. 1995. Please mail written comments to Jane Hart, Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department, Metro, 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland, OR 97232-2736.

Future Opportunities for Public Involvement: Following the close of the public comment period for the Whitaker Ponds Concept Master Plan, a Final Whitaker Ponds Concept Master Plan will be prepared. When the Final Whitaker Ponds Concept Master Plan is available for distribution, it will be presented to the Metro Council for approval and adoption by Resolution at a public hearing. You will receive written notice when the Final Whitaker Ponds Concept Master Plan is available and the date that it will be presented at a Metro Council Public Hearing.

For Further Information: If you have any questions on this Draft Whitaker Ponds Concept Master Plan, please contact me at (503) 797-1585.

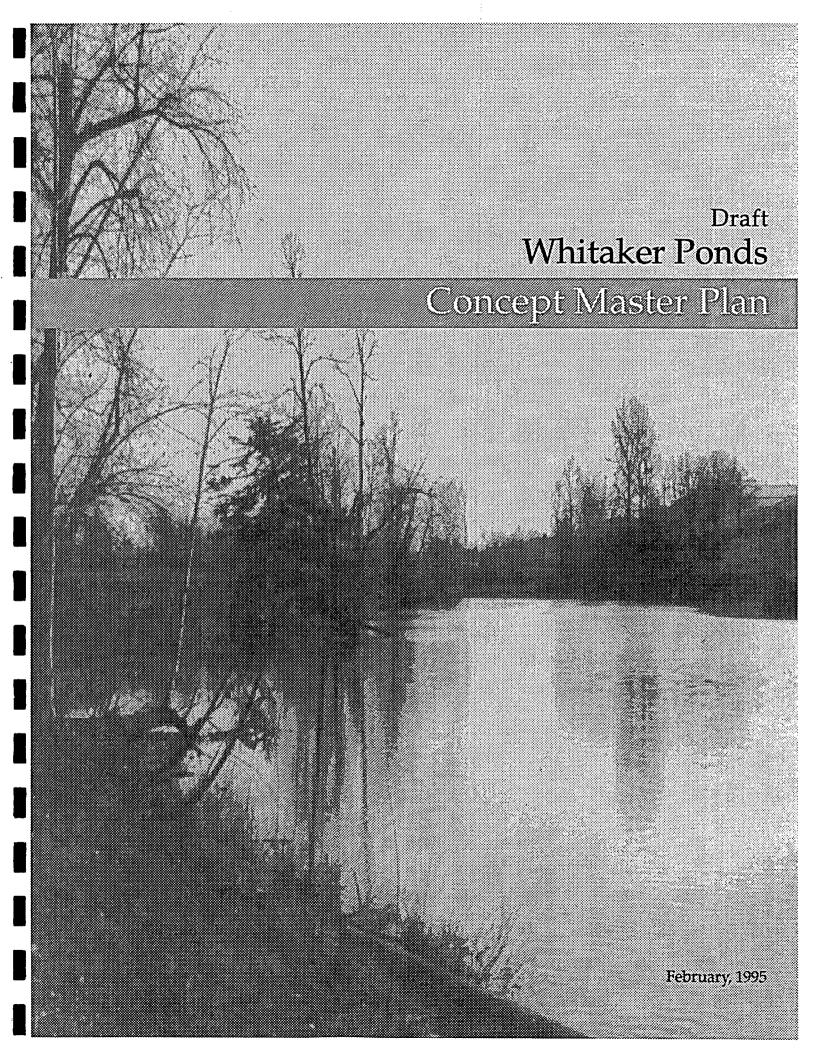
Jane Hart

Project Manager

Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department

Enclosure:

Draft Whitaker Ponds Concept Master Plan



Draft

WHITAKER PONDS CONCEPT MASTER PLAN

Prepared by: Walker & Macy 111 S.W. Oak, Suite 200 Portland, Oregon 97204 (503) 228-3122

In Conjunction with SRI/SHAPIRO 1650 N.W. Front Suite 302 Portland, Oregon 97209 (503) 274-9000

Funded by: Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department 600 N.E. Grand Avenue Portland, Oregon 97232-2736

February 1995

Whitaker Ponds Advisory Panel

Pamela Brown
Portland Public Schools

Erwin Bergman
Cully Neighborhood Association

Kim MacColl, Jr.
Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation

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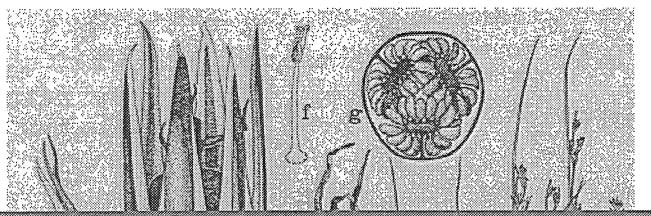
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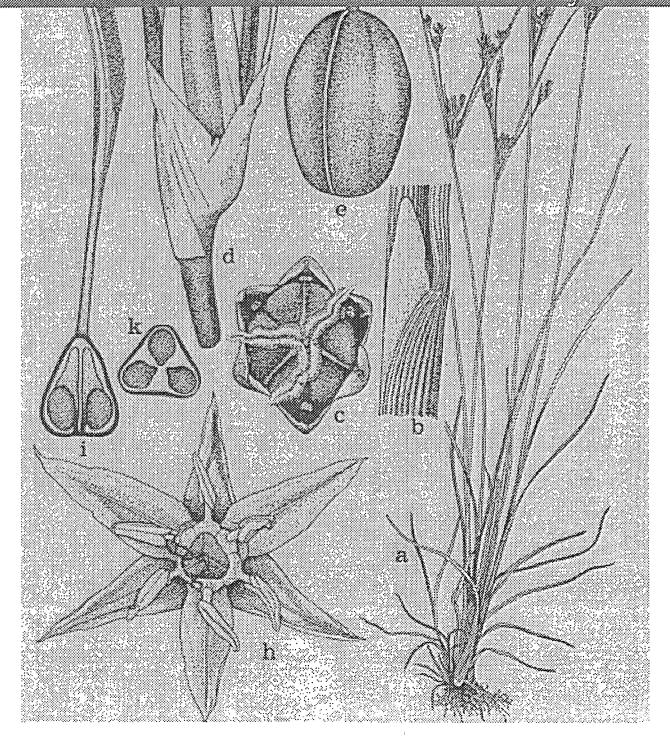
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I Execultive Summarry



Value of the Master Plan

The Master Plan crafted for Whitaker Ponds establishes a vision for the future which brings together diverse interest groups into a single effort to enhance and protect the ponds and their natural surroundings for passive enjoyment while continuing to provide little league activities. The Master Plan sets forth goals and priorities for implementation and provides direction to project partners, local citizens and service groups who wish to get involved in restoration efforts.

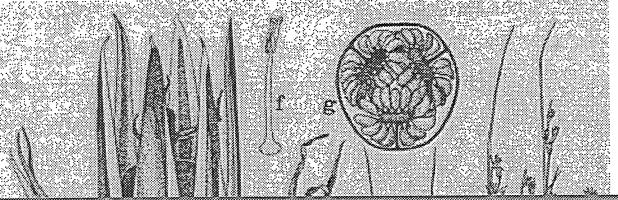
Protection and enhancement of this unique natural resource will provide numerous benefits to the community including: improved habitat for fish and wildlife, water quality improvement, stormwater management, opportunities for recreation, and environmental education and increased awareness and appreciation for natural systems. In addition, the ponds offer an important natural outlet for the park-deficient populated northeast densely neighborhoods, and can provide local youth and adults with the opportunity to experience nature on a first-hand basis through activities such as fishing, wildlife identification, and site restoration projects.

Components of The Master Plan

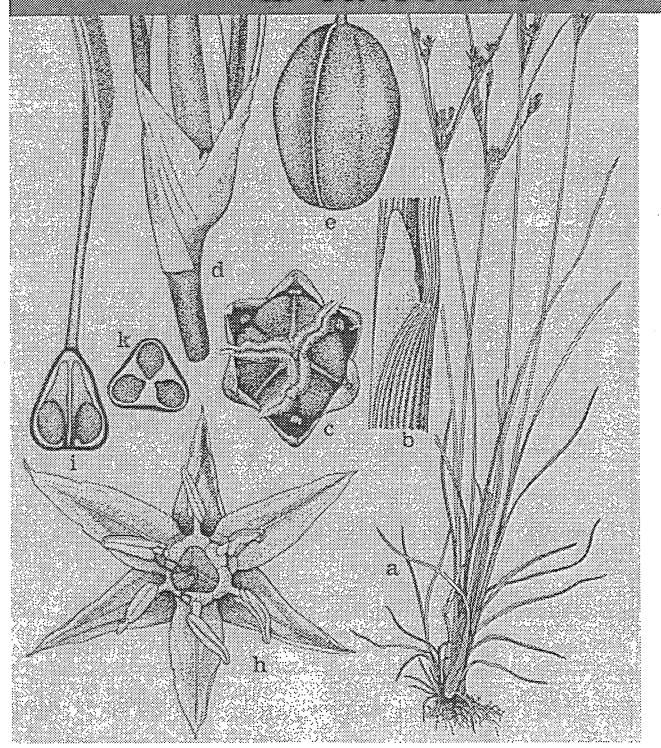
The concept Master Plan is described fully in Chapter IV. Key components include the following:

- Provision of a primary access to the site off 47th.
- Incorporation of water quality enhancement measures.
- Commitment to restoring and enhancing riparian and upland habitats.
- Expansion of emergent wetlands to attract wildlife.

- Provision of environmental education opportunities including signage and wildlife viewing areas.
- Provision of a buffer between industrial properties and recreational public use areas.
- Provision of a range of natural resource dependent recreational opportunities.
- Establishment of a warmwater fisheries in the west pond.
- Incorporation of a canoe/boat launch on the Whitaker Slough and access by the Multnomah County Drainage District for slough maintenance.
- Separation of active recreational uses on the School District property, and the passive uses on the north side of the ponds relating to natural resource enhancement and appreciation.
- Provision of a pedestrian trail system on the northern portion of the site, with viewpoints to the ponds and slough.
- Incorporation of an environmental learning center.
- Provision for an on-site resident ranger to increase security and safety.



II. Im troduction

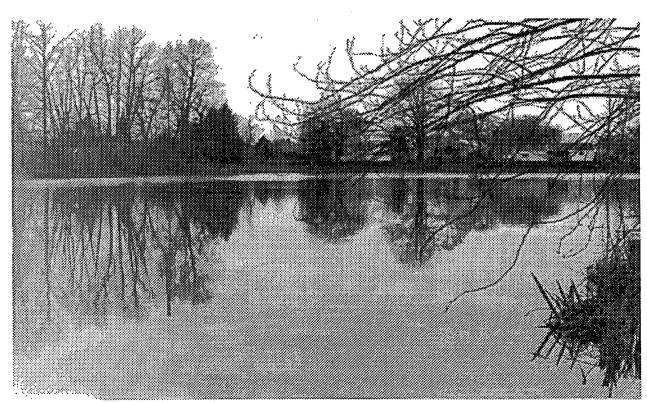


On an early Saturday in July, you and your friend decide to throw the fishing gear and binoculars in the car, put the canoe on top and head to the Whitaker Ponds Natural Area. In a few minutes you arrive at the Whitaker Ponds entrance at NE 47th Avenue and notice the early morning mist rising from the west pond. A family of cinnamon teal is busy searching the edge of the nearby Whitaker Slough for food. Dozens of swallows are swooping over the pond nabbing insects in the air.

The choice you face is to launch the canoe at the ramp and drift east on the Whitaker Slough through the verdant tunnel of cottonwoods and willows, or take the fishing gear and walk down the path to one of the angling clearings along the pond edge. Today the canoe will stay on the car and you head down the pond trail.

Before you know it, an hour has gone by, and the fishing has been pretty good. Across the ponds to the south the little league has started their day and the chatter of the young players and the cheers of spectators drift in and out. It doesn't get much better than this on a Saturday morning.

All of this and more is possible for generations to come if the community and project partners start now to work cooperatively together toward implementing the Whitaker Ponds Master Plan.



View of local residences on the West Pond

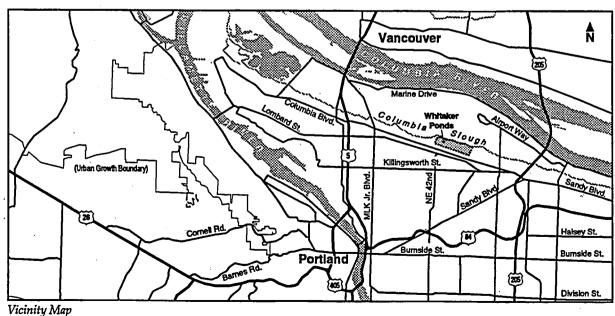
In an age where urban natural areas are rapidly being replaced by shopping centers and parking lots, the Whitaker Ponds site provides a natural jewel for the park-deficient portion of northeast Portland. This regionally significant natural area is unique because it has become surrounded by industrial development, yet is located close to densely populated areas where residents have little opportunity to experience the natural world.

The study area encompasses approximately 90 acres of publicly and privately owned land bordered by the Whitaker Slough to the north, Northeast 47th Avenue to the west, N.E. Columbia Boulevard to the south, and light industry to the east. Contained within this study area are two ground water ponds, five softball fields, the Whitaker Facility, several residential properties, six industrial tenants, and a five-acre scrap metal yard that Metro is negotiating to obtain. Surrounding the ponds is a zone of riparian vegetation and open fields providing valuable wildlife habitat for a host of waterfowl. Although much of this site has become degraded over the years, restoration efforts can turn this area into a valuable natural asset for the community.

Protection and enhancement of this unique natural area will provide the community with opportunities to view wildlife, increase their awareness of natural resources and wetland habitats, and participate in a variety of recreational activities including warm water fishing. By restoring this degraded site in an environmentally sensitive manner, opportunities also exist to expand wildlife habitat and improve water quality in the ponds.

The following goals can be achieved by implementing this Master Plan:

- Restore the ponds and their surroundings to attract a more diverse and abundant wildlife and fisheries population
- Encourage environmental stewardship through school education programs and an on site environmental learning center
- Improve water quality to maintain a warmwater fishery
- Encourage public access by providing trails and wildlife viewing areas
- Insure compatibility between existing industrial and recreational activities and



increased public use by providing permanent separation between natural area north of the ponds and active recreation and industrial uses to the south

 Negotiate with interested property owners for use of key parcels of land.

Planning Background

A primary mission of Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department, is to work cooperatively with the public to maintain the quality of life for the region by protecting urban natural areas for wildlife and people. The Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan of 1992 targeted the area surrounding Whitaker Ponds as a regionally significant greenspace in the Columbia Slough watershed.

In May of 1994, Metro entered into an agreement with Portland Public Schools, a major land owner in the planning area, that calls for Metro to lead the effort to develop a Master Plan that enhances and protects the Whitaker Ponds area for wildlife, while providing appropriate levels of recreation. The Master Plan will guide future restoration and public use of the ponds, and is intended to provide opportunities for environmental stewardship and education for generations to come. This proposed project is one of many ongoing projects and programs aimed at improving the overall health of the Columbia Slough watershed.

The Trust for Public Land (TPL), the Bureau of Environmental Services (BES), and Multnomah County (through its Natural Areas Fund), are also partners in the project. The Trust for Public Land holds an option to purchase a 5-acre scrap metal yard in the northwest corner of the study area, and BES and Multnomah County have committed to providing the funds necessary to purchase the property. Acquisition of this property serves BES's goal of water quality improvement demonstration projects along the

Columbia Slough, and the goals of Multnomah County's Natural Area Protection and Management Plan. The Board of Multnomah County Commissioners also approved \$300,000 for acquisition of lands adjacent to the Whitaker Ponds, contingent upon Metro's Open Space, Parks and Streams Bond Measure passing in May of 1995.

One of the more unique project partners in this planning effort has been the EnviroCorps, the local branch of President Clinton's recently created national program called AmeriCorps. The AmeriCorps program was patterned after the Peace Corps and Vista. Portland's program provides young adults the opportunity to gain work experience and tuition credit through restoration efforts in urban areas. EnviroCorps members have been involved in numerous aspects of the project ranging from neighborhood canvassing and public workshops to site assessment and plan formulation. The EnviroCorp's involvement provides an important link between past environmental restoration efforts at the ponds and the future ecological health and stewardship of the area. Members of EnviroCorps will implement components of the plan in the Spring of 1995 including planting, removal of undesirable plant species, and general clean up of the site.

In addition to the aforementioned project partners, several school and youth groups have participated in research or restoration activities at Whitaker Ponds. In the past few years, Metro's Greenspaces Department awarded restoration/enhancement grants organizations such as Cascadia Quest, with a goal of providing young adults with experience in environmental education. In addition to the Metro funded projects, Grant and Madison high school students (Urban Rangers) and Sabin Elementary School students have conducted environmental education and stewardship projects at the ponds such as wildlife surveys and vegetation inventories.

Public Involvement

A key component of any successful Master Plan is the involvement of members of the public that will be utilizing, enjoying, and managing the area. By incorporating the needs and concerns of all users and land owners, a plan can be formulated which sets an appropriate vision for the future and establishes a sense of pride in the community.

Due to the large number of private land owners within the planning area, it is crucial to obtain consensus among all interested parties and achieve balance between the concerns of industrial land owners and the anticipated increase in public access to the ponds. The planning process has allowed for numerous opportunities for the community, adjacent industrial property owners, and tenants, to express their concerns and desires. Public

involvement was encouraged through the following activities:

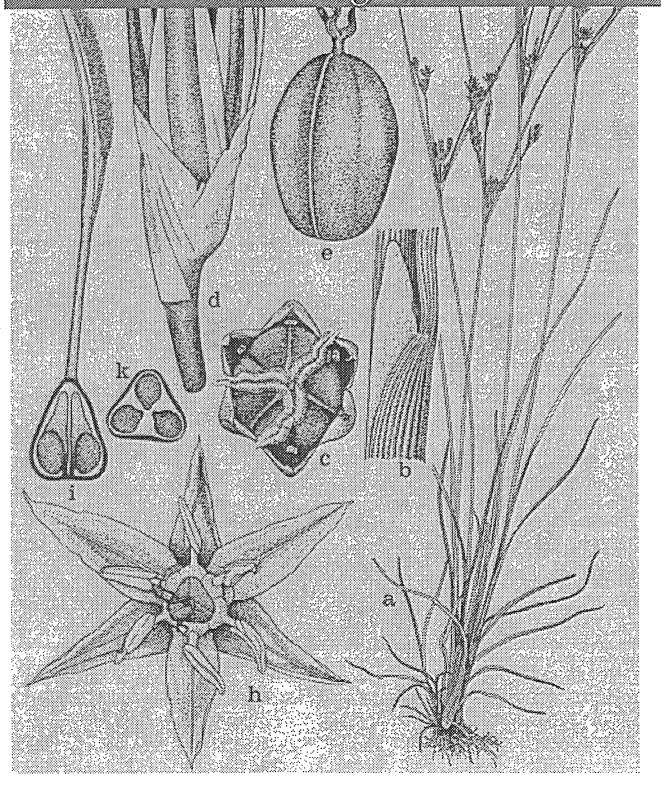
- Creation of an extensive list of stakeholders to involve and inform about the project.
- Meeting notices mailed to stakeholders.
- Neighborhood canvassing of approximately 2000 homes and businesses by EnviroCorps members to inform them of upcoming public meetings.
- Two public meetings to receive input on project goals and concept designs for the study area.
- Individual meetings with property owners, industrial tenants, and recreational users around the ponds to discuss the nature of the Master Plan and to clearly understand their concerns.



Envirocorps members removing blackberries

- Establishment of a 7-member independent advisory panel consisting of landowners in the area, neighborhood associations, natural resource experts and educators. This panel was involved in all public meetings and provided Metro with their recommendation for a concept to be developed more fully as the final Master Plan.
- Presentations at the public meetings from community organizations and agencies that have a vested interest in the project, including Lakeside Little League, EnviroCorps, the Trust for Public Land, Portland Public Schools, Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Concordia Neighborhood Association, and Cully Neighborhood Association.
- Following the close of the written comment period for this draft Master Plan, a final Master Plan will be presented to the Metro Council at a public hearing for their approval and adoption.
- Numerous press articles informing the public of EnviroCorps' involvement in the project (see appendices).

M. Existing Conditions



Location

The Whitaker Ponds study area consists of approximately 90 acres situated behind the Whitaker Facility near N.E. 47th Avenue and Columbia Boulevard. The Whitaker Slough, a branch of the Columbia Slough, forms the northern boundary and the ponds are connected to this waterway at the northwestern end of the west pond.

Zoning

The study area is entirely within a heavy industrial zone. An Environmental Conservation overlay conserves the natural resources and resource values of the area around the ponds. This overlay includes a 40-80 ft. wide corridor surrounding the pond, as well as the area between the Whitaker Slough and the ponds, as illustrated in the zoning map on page 17. The Master Plan has targeted the land falling within the environmental conservation zone for the recommended restoration and enhancement activities. Activities proposed within a conservation overlay zone are subject to review by the Portland Planning Bureau.



Aerial Photo of the Site

Ownership

properties and other nearby properties. located off 47th Avenue between the Whitaker Approximately 20 acres of the study area contains Slough and the northwest shore of the west the ponds and their natural surroundings. The pond. This operation contains old rusting cars, study area is predominately under private stacks of miscellaneous metals, creosote treated ownership and contains a variety of industrial scrap wood, old tires, and other debris. Less tenants as illustrated in the ownership map on than 20 feet of bank separates the scrap metal page 19. However, at the core of the study area yard from the shoreline. The Trust for Public lies a 21-acre tract of land belonging to the Land currently holds an option to purchase the Portland Public Schools. This parcel contains the property for Metro, pending results of Level I Whitaker Facility which is no longer used for and Level II environmental testing of the soil and student classrooms, and 5 baseball fields that are water quality. The operator of the scrap metal actively used by Lakeside Little League teams. yard has agreed to remove all debris from the Portland Public Schools support the use of their site as part of the sale agreement. land for site restoration, environmental education, and stewardship, natural resource dependent recreational opportunities, and little league.

The 90 acre study area includes pond frontage A five-acre privately owned scrap metal yard is



Existing scrap yard



Tires at existing scrap yard

Several owner occupied residential properties lie along N.E. 47th Avenue just south of the scrap metal yard providing residents with nice vistas of the two ponds. One of these residential properties is currently for sale and Metro is participating in negotiations with the owner. All of the residential properties fronting the west pond offer good possibilities for reuse for environmental learning, picnic areas, or on-site resident park "rangers" facilities.

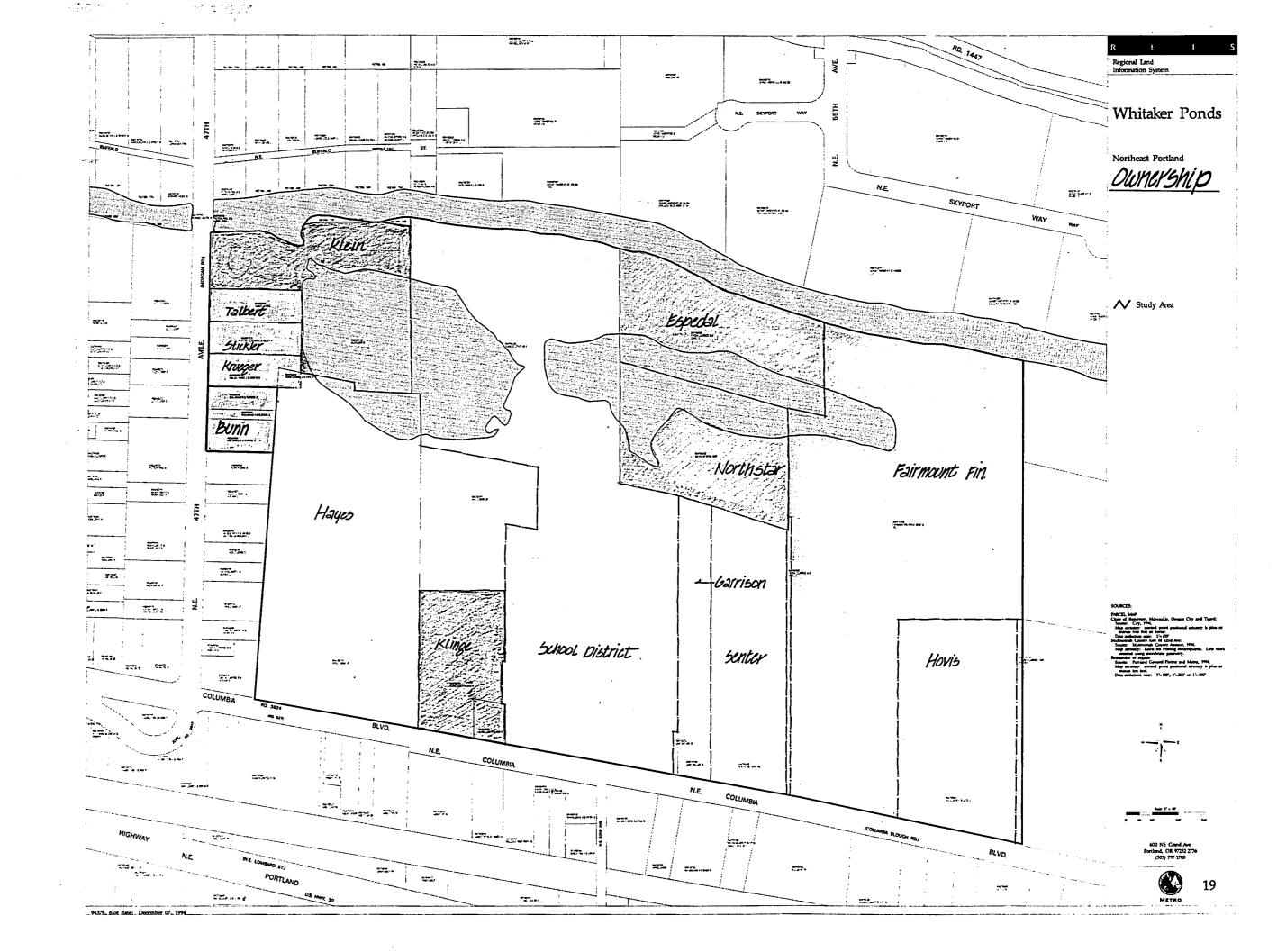
All of the remaining properties surrounding the ponds are privately owned, including one land-locked vacant parcel on the north side of the east pond.

Special concerns and challenges arise from this unique blend of industrial, residential and public land owners within the planning area. While a goal of the Master Plan is to increase use of the are by the public, industrial owners are justifiably concerned with safety, security, and liability exposure should accidents occur on their property. An important component of the Master Plan for the area is to reach an acceptable and appropriate balance between public access, natural resource enhancement, and non-interference with neighboring industrial activities.

To provide for effective management and protection of the ponds and their immediate surroundings, Metro has targeted several key parcels for Master Plan implementation. Highest priority parcels include those immediately adjacent to the ponds and those between the ponds and the Whitaker Slough where riparian enhancement, restoration, recreational activities screening or buffering is desired. Second priority parcels include properties directly north of the Whitaker Slough.

1-1-6





Land Use

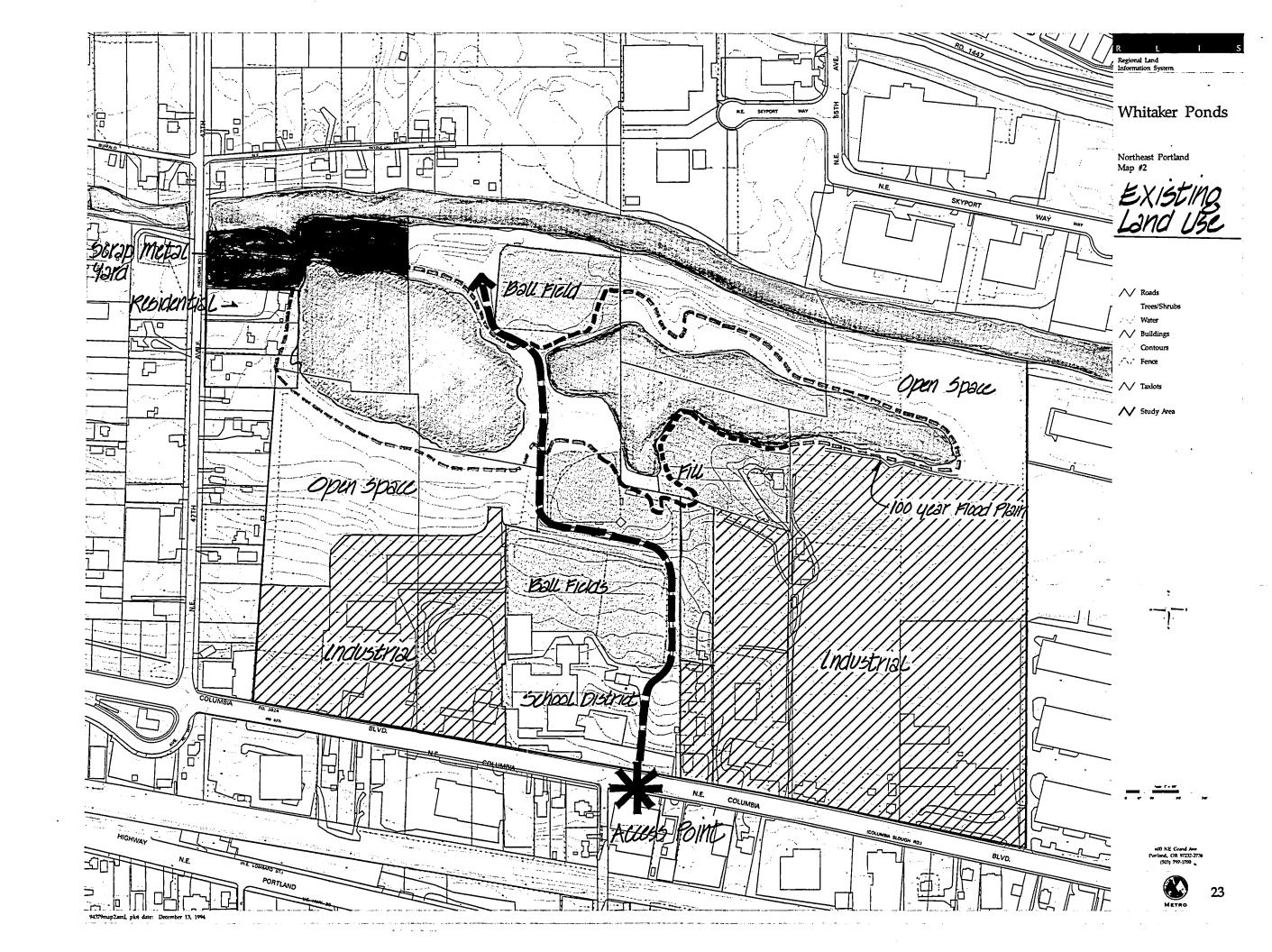
The existing land use patterns, shown in the land use map on page 23, largely reflect ownership type. The Portland School District property contains 5 ball fields that are used heavily by Little League teams in spring through fall. The Little League consists of 28 teams and the fields are used Monday through Saturday for practice or competitions. The Western Regional Tournament occurs in August and involves teams from 6 states. Intramural games are played by teams from surrounding industries. The Little League maintains the two fields closest to the ponds and the School District maintains the fields closest to the school.

The Whitaker Facility building is held in reserve by the School District in case of emergency closing of another school. The Portland Public Police Department leases space in the building for training programs, and utilizes the fields for canine training. The only access to the site occurs off N.E. Columbia Boulevard through the School District property. This entrance is gated for security reasons. Due to the high volume of traffic and large trucks along Columbia Boulevard, this entrance does not provide a safe access point.

The remainder of the southern portion of the study area is developed for various industrial tenants. With the exception of the scrap yard, and one ball field, the northern portion of the site is undeveloped. However, the open space is generally degraded and has been invaded by nuisance plant species such as blackberries, teasel, and purple loosestrife.



Ballfield north of Whitaker Ponds

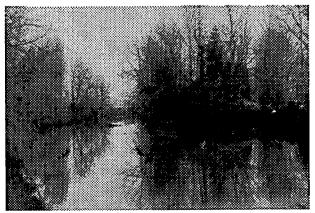


Hydrology

The Whitaker Ponds themselves cover an area of approximately 11 acres. The two ponds are physically separated by an unpaved access road, but are hydrologically connected through an 18-inch diameter metal culvert. Water flows from the east to west pond and eventually into the Whitaker Slough through a 60-inch diameter metal culvert located at the west pond's northwest corner. The east pond, except for its culvert connection with the west pond, is isolated. A stream channel, which once flowed into the southern edge of the east pond, no longer exists.

1994 study conducted by SRI/SHAPIRO identified the primary hydrologic source for the ponds as groundwater, which flows into the ponds year-round from the south and east. Several springs are located along the southern banks of both ponds and at the eastern end of the east pond. Stormwater runoff, direct precipitation, and the Columbia Slough also contribute water to the ponds.

Water depths in both ponds are relatively shallow, due primarily to the accumulation of up to 4 feet of sediment. Water levels fluctuate with the season and with the level of the Columbia Slough. The water level in the west pond is directly influenced by its connection to the Whitaker Slough. When water levels in the slough are low due to summer draw-down, the



View of Whitaker Slough from NE 47th Avenue

level in the west pond is also low. Observations indicate that water depths in the west pond fluctuate between approximately 2 and 4 feet.

The east pond is shallower than the west pond, with water levels measured as little as 1 foot deep. Water flows year-round through the culvert beneath the access road from the east pond into the west. The constant supply of groundwater maintains the water level in the pond. The height of the culvert connecting the two ponds does not allow the east pond to become less than approximately 1 foot deep.

The water quality of both ponds appears to be relatively low due, in part, to the discharge of stormwater and groundwater which is known to be high in nutrients. Untreated stormwater enters the ponds through pipes draining adjacent roads and parking lots. One such pipe conveys stormwater from a storm drain on Columbia Boulevard into the southwest corner of the west pond. Based on a visual assessment by SRI/SHAPIRO, this contaminated water creates oily sheens on the water surface, lowering the quality of the habitat for fish and amphibians. Sediments carried through the pipes settles to the bottom when it reaches the pond creating shallow water and increasing the water temperature.

Adjacent residences and businesses are on septic systems and are not yet connected to sewage treatment systems. As water from drain fields flow into the ground, nutrients may be contributed to the groundwater. Groundwater high in nutrients flows into the ponds, where shallow depths, high temperatures, and low water flows cause summer algal blooms. Algal blooms indicate water flow levels and may have a detrimental impact on the habitat for warmwater game fish.

Vegetation Communities

Three main vegetation communities are currently present in the Whitaker Ponds planning area: upland, riparian, and wetland (see map on page 31.) All of these vegetation communities have been influenced by human disturbance.

Upland Vegetation

The upland vegetation community includes abandoned pastures and ballfields. The upland community is dominated by herbaceous weedy species and Himalayan blackberry, with scattered trees and shrubs, both native and introduced. The ballfields are seeded with nonnative grasses and are regularly mowed. The upland fields are dominated by non-native grasses as well as Himalayan blackberry and teasel. Species present in the upland community of Whitaker Ponds include:

Trees:

Abies grandis Acer macrophyllum Betula papyrifera Chamaecyparis lawsonii Port Orford cedar Pseudotsuga menziesii

Grand fir Bigleaf maple Paper birch Douglas fir

Shrubs:

Amelanchier alnifolia Berberis aquifolium Chaenomeles sp. Corylus cornuta Gaultheria shallon Holodiscus discolor Ilex aquifolium Prunus sp. Prunus laurocerasus Rhododendron sp. Rosa multiflora Rosa pisocarpa Rubus discolor blackberry Rubus ursinus Salix scouleriana Herbaceous:

Serviceberry Tall Oregon grape **Quince** Hazelnut Salal Oceanspray Holly Cherry English laurel Rhododendron Rose Clustered wild rose Himalayan

Pacific blackberry Scouler's willow

Achillea filimentosa Agrostis tenuis Bromus sp. Chrysanthemum leucan. Oxeye daisy Cichorium intybus Cirsium arvense Cirsium vulgare Dactylus glomerata Daucus carota Dipsacus sylvestris Epilobium paniculatum Festuca arundinacea Galium aparine bedstraw Geranium molle Hedera helix Lactuca muralis Lathrus latifolius. Plantago lanceolata Polystichum munitum Rumex crispus Trifolium pratense

Yarrow Colonial bentgrass Brome sp. Chicory Canada thistle Bull thistle Orchard grass Queen Anne's Lace Teasel Tall willow-weed Tall fescue Catchweed

Dovefoot geranium Baltic ivy Wall lettuce Sweetpea English plantain Sword fern Curly dock Red clover

Riparian Vegetation

The riparian plant community is located on the banks of the Whitaker Slough and around the perimeter of the two ponds. In general, the riparian plant community is a mix of tree and shrub species, most of which are native.



Riparian Vegetation

The dominant species are cottonwood (Populus trichocarpa) and red alder (Alnus rubra). Steep banks and areas of fill along the pond perimeters preclude the establishment of extensive riparian vegetation in portions of both ponds.

Vegetation in the riparian zone around the west pond is dominated by black cottonwood, which shades the portion of the pond closest to the banks. The west end of the pond lacks riparian vegetation due to residences along NE 47th Avenue. In addition, fill material associated with the junkyard located in the northwest corner of the pond has created banks approximately 10 to 12 feet high. These high, steep banks have limited the amount of riparian vegetation located in this area. In general, the banks around the west pond range from 18 to 42 inches in height.

The riparian area of the east pond is narrow and discontinuous. Large areas of the north and south banks are dominated by Himalayan blackberry, with scattered black cottonwood trees. Steep banks and areas of fill also occur both on the north and south banks of the east pond, which limits the growth of riparian vegetation. In general, bank heights range from 12 to 72 inches.

Native riparian vegetation has been planted on the northwest edge of the east pond. The plants are a mix of trees and shrubs and include species such as willow (Salix sp.), Pacific ninebark (Physocarpus capitatus) and Red-osier dogwood (Cornus stolonifera).

The following is a list of species comprising the riparian community:

Trees:

Alnus rubra Fraxinus latifolia Populus trichocarpa Salix lasiandra Salix scouleriana Red alder Oregon ash Black cottonwood Pacific willow Scouler willow

Shrubs:

Cornus stolonifera Rosa pisocarpa Crataegus douglasii Spiraea douglasii Red osier dogwood Clustered wild rose Douglas hawthorn Hardhack

Wetland Vegetation Community

The wetland vegetation community is located in isolated areas around the perimeter of both ponds. In the east pond, this community is isolated to the far eastern end and along a small area of the southern edge. In the west pond the wetland areas are located along the eastern edge, and in the southwest corner. These emergent wetland areas generally have gradual banks and water depths less than 12 inches.

This community is dominated by emergent wetland species, both native and introduced. Reed canarygrass (Phalaris arundinacea) and purple loosestrife (Lythrum salicaria) are two introduced species which tend to be very invasive and need to be controlled to prevent them from establishing monotypic stands.

Wetland species observed on-site include the following:

Bidens cernua

Callitriche stagnalis Conium maculatum Echinochloa crusgalli Eleocharis sp. Epilobium watsonii

Equisetum arvense
Geum macrophyllum
Iris pseudocorus
Juncus effusus
Lemna minor
Lythrum salicaria
Oenanthe sarmentosa
Phragmites communis
Phalaris arundinacea
Plantago lanceolata
Polygonum sp.

tick Water starwort Poison hemlock Barnyard grass Spikerush Watson's willowweed Common horsetail Large-leaved avens Yellow flag iris Soft rush Duckweed Purple loosestrife Water parsley Common reed Reed canarygrass English plantago Knotweed

Nodding beggars

Ranunculus repens Rorippa nasturtium-aqu. Watercress Scirpus validus Solanum dulcamara shade Sparganium emersum Typha latifolia Urtica dioica Veronica americana

Creeping buttercup Soft stem bulrush Bittersweet night-

Burreed Cattail Stinging nettle Speedwell

Wildlife Habitat

A variety of mammals, birds, and reptiles use the Whitaker Ponds. Species utilizing the area tend to be urban-tolerant, and no Rare, Threatened or Endangered (RTE) species are believed to occur on the site.

Mammals in the area are generally ubiquitous urban species such as opossum, raccoon, mole, squirrel, and nutria. Beaver and turtles have been known to occupy the ponds in the past, and recent beaver activity was observed on the southern bank of the west pond. Mammal habitat in Whitaker Ponds is restricted due to surrounding land use, insufficient cover, and human disturbance. The existing vegetation patterns around the ponds are discontinuous and sparse. The slough, however, provides a migration corridor for some species, though the area both up and downstream of the ponds is extensively developed.

Approximately 40 species of birds have been observed utilizing the ponds and the surrounding area. The majority are songbirds or waterfowl. A pair of red-tailed hawks have been known to nest in the cottonwood trees along the southern banks of the east pond. Great blue herons are regular visitors to both ponds. As with mammals, cover and nesting areas are limited for bird species. Large trees and snags are utilized by a number of species, but are relatively rare in the Whitaker Ponds riparian vegetation community.

Whitaker Ponds are home to a large population of common carp (Cyprinus carpio). Carp, which are native to Asia, were introduced to Oregon in the late 1800s. The ponds are ideal habitat for the carp. They prefer shallow, slow moving water and are very tolerant of adverse conditions, such as high water temperatures, pollution, and low oxygen levels. Carp are prolific breeders and are capable of spawning in as little as 3 to 4 inches of standing water. Carp stir the sediments of the ponds creating turbid water and conditions unsuitable for many warmwater game fish such as bass and crappie.

Another common fish in Whitaker Ponds is the three-spine stickleback (Gasterosteus aculeatus). This small fish is easily identified by the three spines along its back. It lives near the bottom and is often found in large schools. Other species of fish found within the ponds are mosquito fish (Gambusia affinis) and suckers (Catastomus sp.).

The number of amphibians in the ponds has been reduced probably because of water quality degradation. Stormwater runoff from parking lots and roads may have contributed to increased sedimentation and contamination from substances such as oil. Shallow water depths, due to sedimentation, creates conditions leading to higher water temperatures, which adversely affects many species. In addition, the uniformity of the depth of the ponds and the lack of woody debris within the water suitable for cover also negatively impacts species diversity.

The following is a list of animal species known to utilize the site:

Mammals: Beaver (Castor canadensis) Mole (Scapanus sp.) Muskrat (Ondatra zibethicus) Nutria (Myocaster coypus) Opossum (Didelphis marsupialis) Raccoon (Procyon lotor)

Birds:

American goldfinch (Carduelis tristis)

American robin (Turdus migratorius)

Barn swallow (Hirundo rustica)

Bewick's wren (Thryomanes bewickii)

Black capped chickadee (Parus atricapillus)

Bufflehead (Bucephala albeola)

Bushtit (Psaltriparus minimus)

Canada goose (Branta canadensis)

Cliff swallow (Petrochelidon pyrrhonota)

Common crow (Corvus brachyrhynchos)

Common merganser (Mergus merganser)

Double crested cormorant (Phalacrocorax

auritus)

Downy woodpecker (Picoides pubescens)

European starling (Sturnus vulgaris)

Great blue heron (Ardea herodias)

Hairy woodpecker (Picoides villosus)

House finch (Carpodacus mexicanus)

House sparrow (Passer domesticus)

Killdeer (Charadrius vociferus)

Kingfisher (Megaceryle alcyon

Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos)

Northern flicker (Colaptes auratus)

Northwestern crow (Corvus caurinus)

Orange crowned warbler (Vermivora celata)

Oregon junco (Junco hyemalis)

Red-tailed hawk (Buteo jamaicensis)

Red-winged blackbird (Agelaius phoeniceus)

Ring-necked pheasant (Phasianus colchius)

Scrub jay (Aphelocoma coerulescens)

Song sparrow (Melospiza melodia)

Spotted sandpiper (Actitis macularia)

Stellar's jay (Cyanocitta stelleri)

Teal (Anas sp.)

Tree swallow (Iridoprocne bicolor)

Various gulls (Larus sp.)

Willow flycatcher (Empidonax traillii)

Wood duck (Aix sponsa)

Fish/Amphibians:

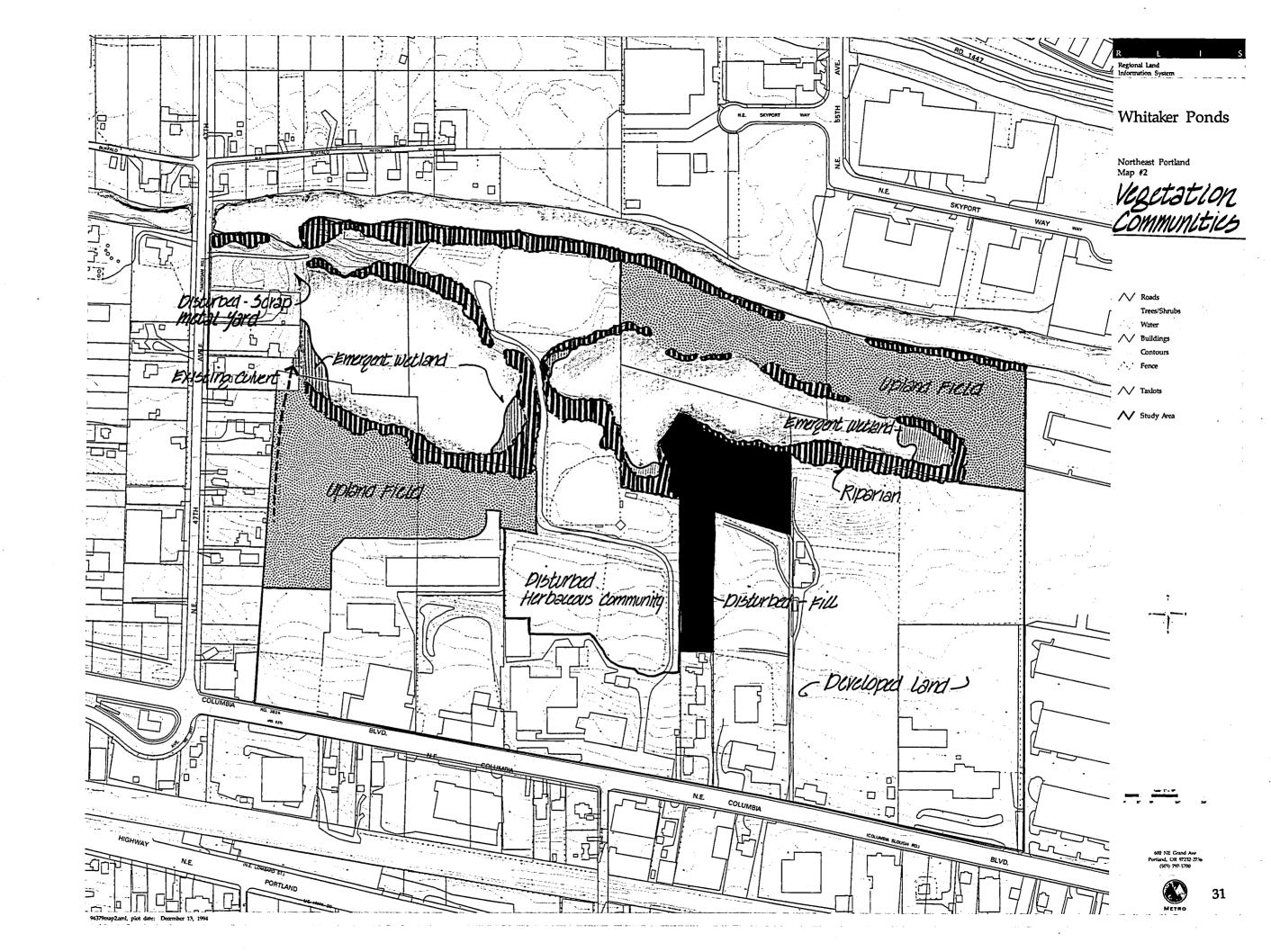
Carp (Cyprinus carpio)

Mosquito fish (Gambusia affinis)

Stickleback (Gasterosteous aculeatus)

Sucker (Catastomus sp.)

Bullfrog (Rana catesbeiana)



Issues

During the development of the Master Plan many issues affecting plan implementation were identified and discussed in public workshops and in one-on-one meetings with interested landowners and citizens. Key issues affecting plan implementation are discussed above in the Existing Conditions section and are summarized below. Each of these issues are addressed in the Master Plan and Plan Implementation chapters through specific recommended actions.

Natural Resources

- Water quality in the ponds is questionable and could be affecting habitat for fish and amphibians.
- Testing of sediments and water samples needs to be undertaken.
- The site is degraded and in need of clean up and restoration.
- There is a lack in diversity of habitat types.
 Emergent wetlands and aquatic environments need enhancement.
- · Riparian zones need enhancement.
- The banks are too steep in some areas, limiting the amount of riparian vegetation.
- Invasive plant species need to be eliminated or controlled.
- Pollutants/nutrients from stormwater runoff and maintenance of ball fields could be contributing to water quality problems.

Ownership

- Numerous private parcels are contained within the study area, making overall management difficult.
- Industrial neighbors have concerns for privacy, liability, safety and security.

 Existing vehicular access off Columbia Boulevard is unsafe.

Recreation

- The ponds are too shallow to support a warmwater fishery.
- There is no variety in the depths of the pond.
- The feasibility of dredging the ponds needs to be determined based on sediment tests and cost estimates.
- The presence of a large number of carp pose problems to establishment of a fishery.
- Activity generated by the northernmost ball fields conflicts with natural resource protection on the north side of the ponds.
- Little League teams currently operate with 5 ball fields. To replace the northernmost field, existing fields to the south should be upgraded.

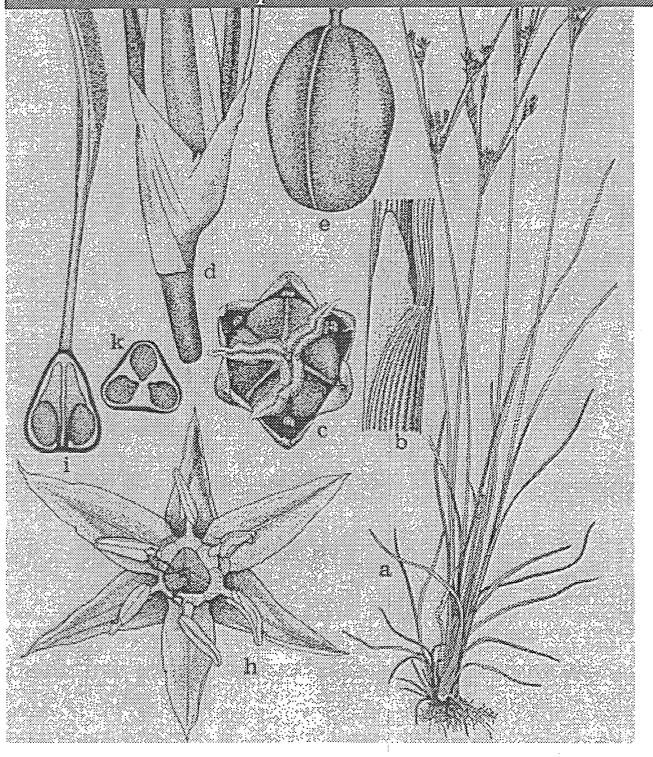
Funding Sources for Plan Implementation

- Limited funding is available to implement the Master Plan.
- Additional funding sources must be identified and earmarked for specific activities such as dredging, property acquisition, canoe/boat launch construction, and relocation of the northernmost ball field.

Project Partnerships

- Project momentum could slow down if committed partnerships are not formed.
- Public and private sector project partners and their roles and responsibilities for short term and long term involvement need to be identified and formalized where possible.
- A list of volunteers and community supporters willing to participate in plan implementation activities should be developed.

TV. Concept Master Plan



Intent

The intent of the concept Master Plan is to create a vision for the future restoration of a degraded natural resource which accommodates concerns of property owners and offers the combined benefits of wildlife enhancement, water quality improvement, recreational opportunities, educational interpretation, and improved quality of life for present and future generations. The Master Plan is also intended to provide direction for volunteer groups such as EnviroCorps to implement site improvements and restoration activities.

Mission Statement

Restore and enhance the Whitaker Ponds Natural Area and provide appropriate levels of recreational activities for generations to come.

Goals

I. Restore Natural Resources

The existing resources on the site have become severely degraded as the use of the land shifted from an agriculturally based to an industrial based economy. A major goal of the Master Plan is to restore the ponds area to a pre-disturbance condition. This involves removal of non-native plant and animal species, clean up of debris, establishment of native plant and animal species, improvement of water quality if required, reestablish the physical connection between the ponds.

II. Provide Environmental Education and Stewardship Opportunities

By restoring the natural resources of the area and creating more diversity in habitat types, a more complex biological system can be created. As wildlife enhancement is balanced with appropriate levels of public use, numerous opportunities exist to educate visitors about the complex natural system they are participating in. Use of the area for educational and stewardship purposes will be encouraged through:

- Development of a trail system with interpretive signage and view points highlighting specific features of the site.
- Incorporation of an environmental learning center.
- Encouragement of school groups to use the site for environmental demonstration projects.
- Involvement of volunteer groups such as EnviroCorps in restoration projects.

III. Improve Water Quality

Sedimentation and questionable water quality in the ponds may be a result of past agricultural practices, industrial neighbors and the lack of a stormwater sewer system in the area. In order to establish a successful warmwater fishery on site, water quality must be tested and, if necessary, restored to an acceptable level. The Master Plan also calls for a system of bioswales to be used to treat runoff from impervious areas before release into the ponds.

IV. Encourage Community Access and Use Natural areas such as Whitaker Ponds are a rare commodity, especially in the densely populated areas of northeast Portland. To encourage greater use and enjoyment by the community, a variety of recreational programs and amenities have been incorporated into the Master Plan, including:

- Development of a warmwater fisheries on the west pond.
- Provision of ball fields for Little League activities.
- Incorporation of picnic areas.
- Incorporation of a canoe/boat launch onto the Whitaker Slough.
- Development of a looped trail system offering views to the ponds and the slough.

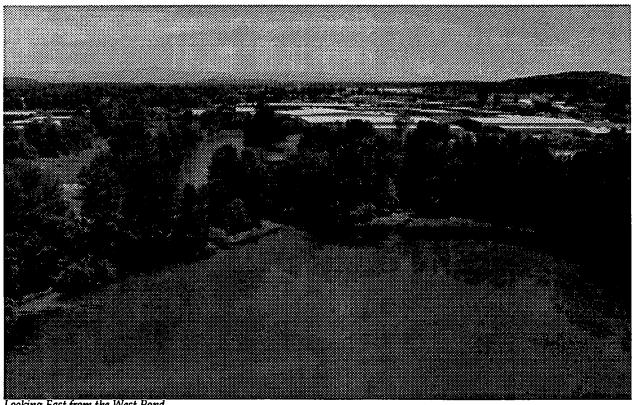
 Provisions of parking for 20 cars off 47th Avenue.

V. Incorporate the Concerns of Adjacent **Property Owners**

The Master Plan developed for the ponds area was based on a series of meetings both with individual land owners and the general public to solicit input on project goals, limitations, constraints, and alternatives to development. These meetings were very helpful in establishing the framework for future restoration efforts. To implement the Master Plan, specific negotiations must continue to allow for purchase or easements of key parcels of land.

VI. Insure Compatibility between Industrial Activities and Recreational Users

As mentioned earlier in this chapter, the land owners adjacent to the pond have very valid reasons to be concerned about liability and security issues relating to increased public use. To address this concern, the Master Plan provides a buffer zone on the south side of the ponds which prohibits public access and which provides for fencing and additional plantings to provide a clear separation. To increase security even further, the entrance to the site will be gated and secured at night, and a resident park "ranger" is recommended to occupy one of the existing private residences as property becomes available.



Looking East from the West Pond

Components of the Master Plan

The Concept Master Plan for Whitaker Ponds is illustrated on page 45. Key components of the plan are briefly described below:

Public Access and Use

A new primary access to the site is provided off 47th Avenue with parking for 20 cars. This provides a safer vehicular access than can be provided off Columbia Boulevard. This entrance will be gated and secured in the evening. Routed off the parking lot will be a canoe/boat launch to the Whitaker Slough. Multnomah County Drainage District is interested in joint use of the boat launch for their dredging equipment and should be a partner in this component. The interior portions of the site will be limited to pedestrian use only. No motorized vehicles will be permitted. The culvert and land bridge between the two ponds will be removed to eliminate the existing access to the south.

To increase protection of the natural resources, the Master Plan provides zones for similar types of activities. For example, active recreation activities such as softball, will be located on the south side of the ponds on School District property. The north side of the ponds will be restored and enhanced for wildlife habitat and passive recreation activities. Picnicking sites will be provided near the parking lot for ease of access and trash removal.

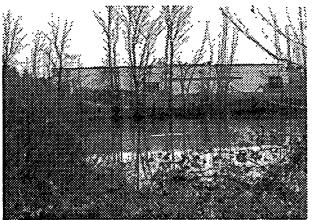
Metro and Portland Public Schools should explore their roles and responsibilities with regard to management of activities north and south of the ponds. An approach worth exploring would be for Metro or another partner to be solely responsible for management of activities north of the ponds, and for the School District to continue as it has to be solely responsible for managing facilities and uses, including Little League, on their property south of the ponds.

Environmental Education

A feature of the environmental education program could be an Environmental Learning Center which includes classrooms, administration offices, and resource library. This Center could be housed in one of the existing residences along 47th Avenue as these parcels become available for purchase. The Center would be a good staging area for field trips by various school programs. Routed from the Center would be a pedestrian trail system leading to a series of viewing areas overlooking the ponds and the slough. Trails and viewing areas would be buffered with vegetation to minimize disruption to wildlife. Interpretive signage would be provided at key points along the trail to inform visitors of the unique aspects of the area.

Buffer Zones

To maximize safety and security and reduce conflict between public use and industrial activity, no public access is proposed on the southern portion of the ponds, with the exception of the School District property. With the cooperation of individual property owners, these buffer zones would be planted heavily to enhance riparian habitats and increase screening of industrial operations. Fencing would also be incorporated along the boundary of the buffer area and industrial property to further increase security.



Local Industry

Water Quality Enhancement

The water quality in Whitaker Ponds needs to be tested and, if necessary, improved to make the habitat suitable for warmwater gamefish, amphibians and other wetland dependant species. The ponds are currently receiving untreated stormwater from adjacent roads and parking lots. It is imperative that the majority of the stormwater be treated prior to flowing into the ponds. Pipes conveying stormwater to the ponds could be located and directed toward a treatment facility constructed along the southern edge of the west pond. This would assure that stormwater currently flowing from Columbia Boulevard, NE 47th Avenue, and the parking lots of Voith Sulzer, Inc. would be treated and the majority of the oil and sediment removed.

The treatment facility could be a combination of biofiltration swales and a sedimentation pond. The vegetated biofiltration swales would remove many of the nutrients found in stormwater. The sedimentation pond would slow the flow of the water allowing sediment to sink to the bottom before sediment laden water can flow into the west pond. The water quality treatment facility would be constructed in areas dominated by upland grasses, with limited removal of native trees or shrubs. Sedimentation ponds would be maintained periodically to assure effective operation.

Sediment Removal (Dredging)

Sediment, at least 4 feet deep, currently exists within the ponds. This sediment has contributed to the shallowness of the ponds and the uniformity of the depth. The shallow depths have increased the water temperatures, making the ponds unsuitable for many warmwater gamefish and amphibians. Common carp, which are prevalent in both ponds, stir-up these sediments creating cloudy water conditions not suitable for other fish.

To increase the quality of the habitat of Whitaker Ponds, up to 4 feet of sediment should be removed from portions of both ponds. The

sediment must first be tested for possible contamination to determine whether removal is feasible. The removal of the sediments will increase the depth of the water and, along with increased bank shading, will allow cooler temperatures especially near the banks. Cooler temperatures are conducive for the reproduction of fish. The removal of the sediment will create a variety of water depths, increasing the diversity of habitats within the ponds.

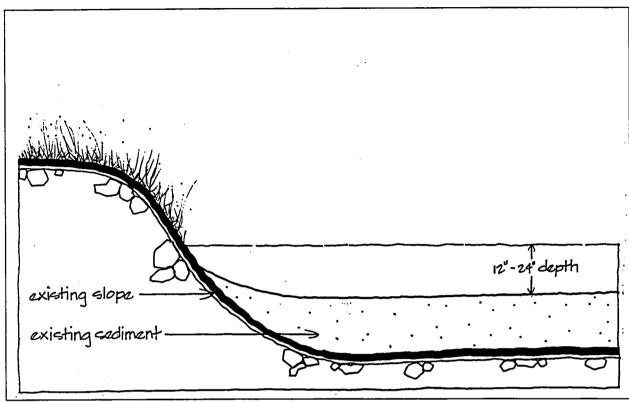
The Multnomah County Drainage District should be consulted for their potential role in dredging the ponds as a component of the Columbia Slough Flood Control Program. Dredging funds may also be available for fish habitat restoration from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Site Restoration

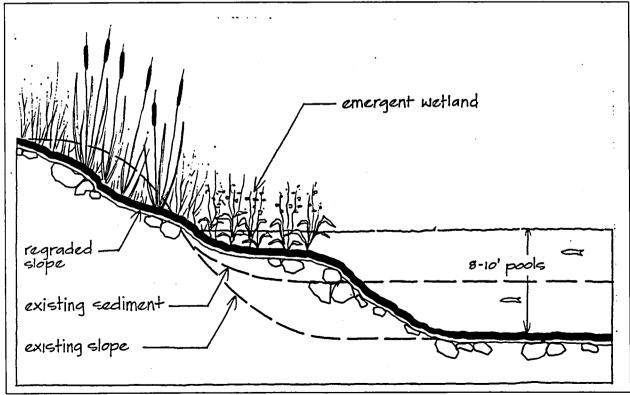
Emergent Wetland Enhancement

Very few areas of emergent vegetation currently exist within the ponds as illustrated in Cross Section 1. Emergent vegetation is very important for providing food and cover for wildlife and invertebrates and for improving water quality by trapping sediment and removing nutrients. To increase the amount of emergent vegetation within the ponds, it will be necessary to create gentle slopes along the banks of the ponds as illustrated in Cross Section 2.

Although the water depth in the east pond is shallow, emergent vegetation has not become established. More suitable substrate in the east pond could be created by raising and lowering water levels, using the proposed west pond weir to simulate seasonal fluctuations. These newly created areas could be planted with a variety of native vegetation.



Cross Section 1: Existing Condition



Cross Section 2: Proposed Restoration

A list of native herbaceous species suitable for an emergent area are as follows:

Bidens cernua Nodding beggars tick Carex rostrata Beaked sedge Carex obnupta Slough sedge Eleocharis sp. Spikerush **Juncus** ensifolious Dagger-leaf rush Oenanthe sarmentosa Water parsley Polygonum sp. Knotweed Rorippa nasturtium-aqu. Watercress Soft stem bulrush Scirpus validus Hard stem bulrush Scirpus acutus Burreed Sparganium emersum

Riparian Zone Enhancement

Typha latifolia

Riparian vegetation along the margins of the ponds and the Columbia Slough has many benefits for wildlife and the water quality of the ponds. Riparian vegetation provides travel corridors, cover, nesting areas, and an abundant food source for many species of wildlife. The roots of riparian vegetation binds soil particles which stops erosion. Overhanging vegetation shades the water, lowering its temperature, and tree limbs falling into the water provides cover for fish and substrate for macro invertebrates.

Cattail

Riparian vegetation can be enhanced around all portions of the ponds and along the Whitaker Slough. Areas currently lacking significant riparian vegetation include the northern edge of the east pond. This area should be planted with species tolerant of dry soil conditions, such as Douglas fir and Big-leaf maple. Riparian vegetation is also needed along the southern edge of the east pond, which is currently dominated by a dense growth of blackberries. This area should be planted with species such as Red alder and Black cottonwood that can provide shade and woody debris to the ponds, which are important for fish.

The following list of trees and shrubs are appropriate for planting in the Whitaker Ponds area:

Bigleaf maple
Red alder
Oregon ash
Western red cedar
Black cottonwood
Douglas fir

Shrubs: Amelanchier alnifolia Berberis aquifolium Cornus stolonifera Corylus cornuta Crataegus douglasii Gaultheria shallon Holodiscus discolor Rosa pisocarpa Salix scouleriana	Serviceberry Tall Oregon grape Red osier dogwood Hazelnut Douglas hawthorn Salal Oceanspray Clustered wild rose Scouler's willow
Salix scouleriana Salix lasiandra	Scouler's willow Pacific willow

Native trees and shrubs should be planted in a random manner to simulate natural conditions. Plants should be clustered and not planted in a defined pattern. The eventual height of the trees and shrubs should be estimated and the moisture requirements of the plants should be known to determine the most suitable location for planting.

Non-native Plant Control

The growth of selected non-native plants needs to be controlled within the emergent wetland and riparian areas. Many non-native species within both vegetation communities will continue to grow despite attempts to control their growth. Species such as purple loosestrife and reed canarygrass are capable of forming large monotypic stands. These monotypic stands not only preclude the growth of native species, they decrease habitat suitable for many birds, fish, and invertebrates.

English ivy and Himalayan blackberry are two non-native species which need to be controlled within the riparian areas. English ivy is common on many of the trees growing adjacent to the ponds. Himalayan blackberry is common in all areas surrounding the ponds. While Himalayan blackberry does provide habitat for wildlife, it easily outcompetes native plant species.

Initial control of all non-native species should be by hand. If this method is not effective, other control strategies could be used, including the application of chemicals. However, chemical applications should be viewed as a last resort.

Warmwater Fisheries

The Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife strongly support a put and take fishery for the short term, and development of a warmwater fishery for the long term, at Whitaker Ponds. These activities will provide local youth with fishing, outdoor recreation, and educational opportunities. The Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation is committed to assist with funding for fish stocking and angling education.

Initially, a put and take fishery could be available to the public by simply raising the water levels of the ponds. The depth of the water in the ponds would need to be increased an additional two feet to a maximum depth of between 5 and 6 feet with the installation of a control weir in the west pond. The weir, which will be a box culvert capable of supporting vehicle traffic, will replace the 60-inch diameter corrugated metal culvert in the northwest comer of the west pond. This box culvert will contain stop boards, which can be placed at various heights to control the The year-round flow of water depth. groundwater in the ponds will ensure that the water level is maintained at a stable level.

Suitable warmwater gamefish habitat within the ponds is limited due to many factors. These include: shallow water, high water temperatures, turbid water, and lack of food and

cover. Shallow water is exasperated by the large amount of sediment within both of the ponds. When this sediment is eventually removed, it will increase the variety of water depths within the ponds. The ideal depth for a pond capable of providing suitable conditions for warmwater fish reproduction is between 8 and 10 feet. Depths shallower than this can support fish populations, but they may have to be stocked periodically to maintain a viable population for fishing.

In addition to shallow water, the sediment is stirred into the water column by the large number of carp found within the ponds. This creates turbid water conditions which is not suitable for many species of gamefish. It will be necessary, therefore, to remove the carp from the ponds prior to stocking with gamefish such as bass, bluegill, and crappie. Any fish removal will be conducted with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife oversight.

The culvert beneath the access road should eventually be removed to allow water to flow freely between the two ponds. An opening of approximately 20 feet will be sufficient to allow fish passage between the two ponds. The location of the opening should be chosen to minimize the loss of large trees along the access road.

Larger fish will probably inhabit the west pond because of the deeper water and cooler water temperatures. The east pond, with the enhancement of emergent wetland areas, will provide habitat for smaller fish. Piles of woody debris can be placed in both ponds to provide habitat for fish and other aquatic species.

In order to provide a fishery program, the Master Plan, illustrated on page 45, proposes to:

 Upgrade the dam between Whitaker Slough and west pond to allow raising of the west pond by 2' to allow for a put and take fishery. Residences on the Pond would not be affected by this minimal increase in water lebel

- Remove the carp in the ponds.
- Connect the two ponds into one water body by removing the existing culvert and road between the ponds. This also creates a physical barrier between the natural surroundings north of the ponds and the more developed and active area to the south.
- Dredge the west pond and a channel to the east pond if determined to be feasible.
- Enhance areas along the north shore of the west pond for angling activities.
- Incorporate two fishing piers on the north side of the west pond.
- Explore an agreement with the School
 District that would remove them from
 liability of placing fish piers on the north
 side of the west pond.

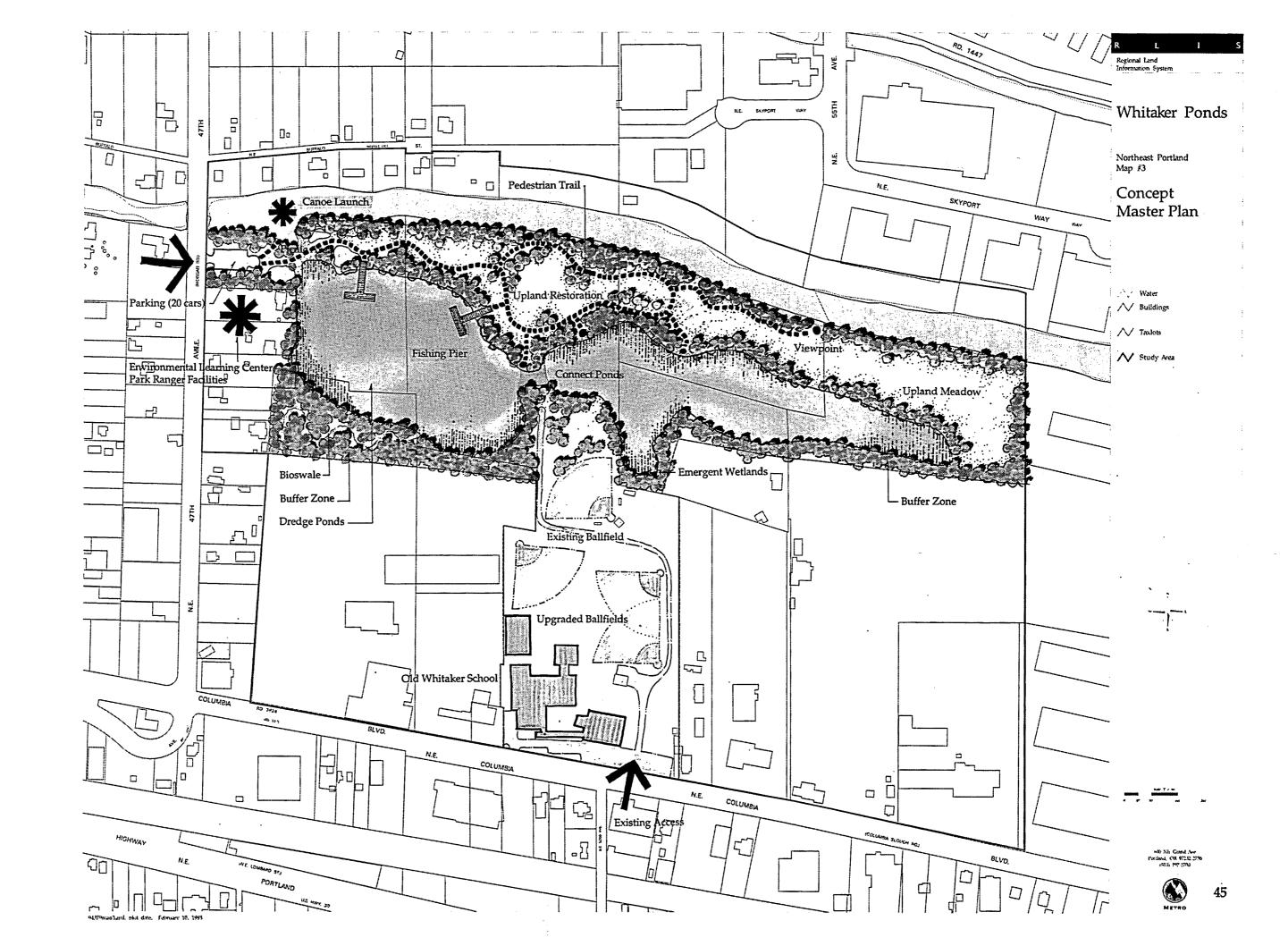
Active Recreation

The Little League has utilized the existing ball fields for years through a joint-use agreement that the School District has with the Portland Parks and Recreation Bureau. The Little League receives a use permit from the Portland Parks and Recreation Bureau. The Master Plan provides for continued Little League participation but proposes concentrating sports activities to the south side of the ponds. The northernmost ball field would be removed and the area restored to a native plant community. One of the existing fields could be upgraded to a tournament level field and provided with temporary fencing to allow for shared use of outfields during practice times. An issue to be explored further is whether or not Metro should be responsible for financing the removal of the northernmost ballfield and upgrading one of the existing practice fields to a tournament field. The Lakeside Little League should be consulted

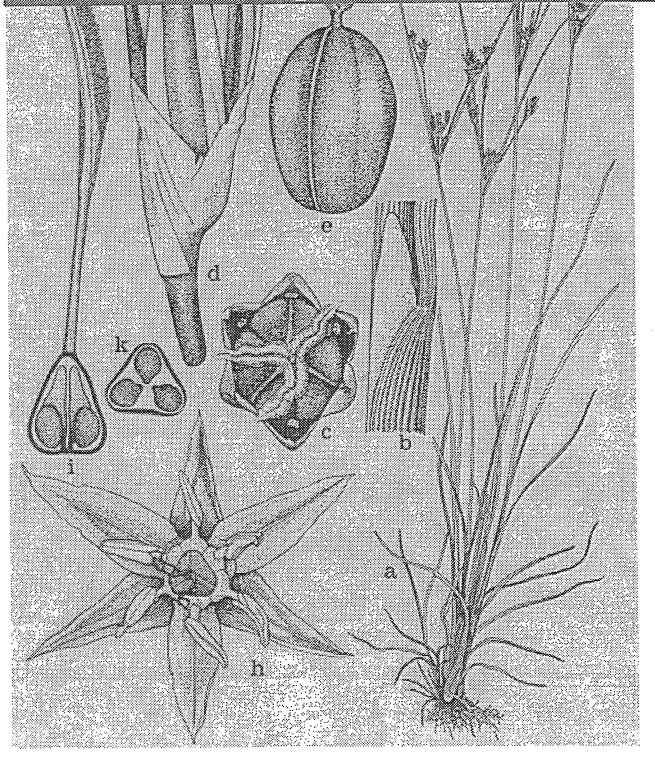
and involved in the ballfield relocation process. Their involvement will have a positive affect on the project.

Security

As in most urban areas, security is always a concern. To provide for increased security, the Master Plan proposes gating the entry to the site, and providing accommodations for an on-site resident park "ranger" to keep watch over the area during all hours of the day or night. An ideal location for the park ranger would be near the entrance to the park along 47th Avenue where traffic to and from the park can be easily observed. Control of access would be improved by the removal of the existing culvert and road between the ponds.



V. Plan Implementation



The concepts presented here establish the desired vision for the project. Committed partnerships energy and funding will be necessary to bring the plan to fruition. At present, limited funding is available and those funds are targeted for easements and/or land acquisition, not facilities development. However, easements and/or land acquisition is an important first step, since plan implementation can only occur on publicly owned land or where clear legal agreements have been negotiated with adjacent property owners. Priority lands for implementation are shown in the map on page 53.

Due to the conceptual nature of this plan, several unknowns concerning water quality, permitting, implementation costs, and funding sources need further attention. Many of these items will directly affect the timing, scope and phasing of plan implementation and, therefore, must be addressed as a first priority. These top priority items include:

- Conduct Level I and Level II environmental testing of the water quality, sediments and soil for all parcels targeted for purchase. The Klein and Stickler properties are presently at the top of the list due to the status of current negotiations with property owners. These tests are crucial to determine the suitability of the ponds for a fishery, and the implications for clean up or dredging.
- 2. Determine the feasibility of dredging. Based on the results of environmental testing concerning sediment condition in the ponds, the feasibility and cost of dredging must be investigated. This is important to address early since dredging operations could impact large areas of the site. Dredging may also provide fill material to reshape the shoreline. It will, therefore, be important to coordinate all restoration, facilities improvement, and riparian enhancement with the dredging plans.

- Prepare more detailed designs, cost estimates, and construction documents. As issues concerning water quality and dredging become resolved, more detailed designs, cost estimates, phasing plans and construction specifications need to be prepared to guide construction efforts.
- 4. Obtain approvals and permits from necessary agencies. After the design has been finalized and approved, permits will be necessary from agencies such as the Corps of Engineers, Division of State Lands, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and City of Portland Planning Bureau for all work affecting the ponds or slough.
- Seek private and public funding to assist in the implementation of the plan. Possible sources include:
 - The Bureau of Environmental Services (land acquisition, for restoration and water quality improvement; currently committed to partially funding purchase of the Klein property)
 - Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation (currently committed to funding components of the fishery program)
 - Trust for Public Land (currently holds option and negotiating for purchase of the Klein property)
 - Multnomah County Natural Area Fund (currently committed to contributing \$75,000 for land acquisition)
 - Metro's 1995 Open Space, Parks and Streams Measure (if passed in May of 1995, \$300,000 would be available for land acquisition of natural areas and open space in the Whitaker Ponds area)

- Portland Public Schools
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife/Habitat Restoration program for dredging funds.
- Portland Park Bureau
- Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department fiscal year 1995-96 proposed budget includes \$11,000 for restoration projects
- Seek partnership with Multnomah County Drainage District for
 - 1. dredging funds from the Columbia Slough Flood Control Program
 - funds to construct a boat ramp for joint use
- Federal grants for restoration
- Seek educational support from the Portland Public Schools and community colleges for outdoor school programs

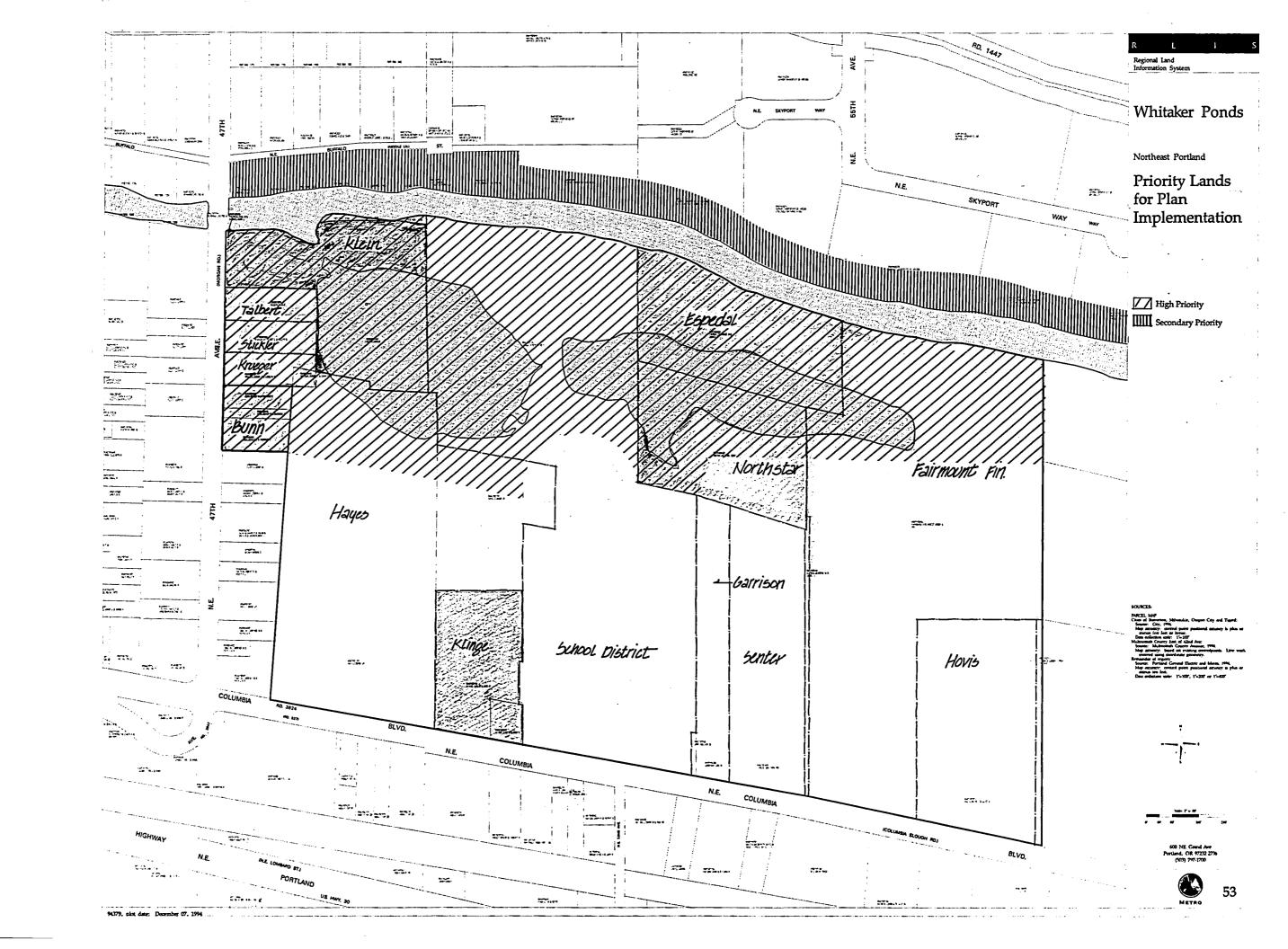
The following chart on page 51 illustrates a general sequencing of Master Plan recommendations. This sequencing is based on undertaking Level I and II Environmental Testing, analyzing the feasibility of dredging, and ongoing negotiations with property owners for the acquisition of key easements or parcels of land. While most components of the plan are contingent upon fund raising over a 5-10 year time horizon, immediate site restoration activities can be undertaken by EnviroCorps members. The Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation has also expressed a desire to establish a put and take fishery prior to dredging the ponds.

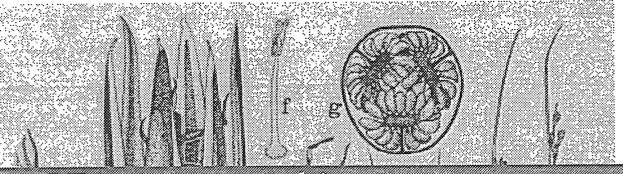


Enviro Corps members transplanting native vegetation

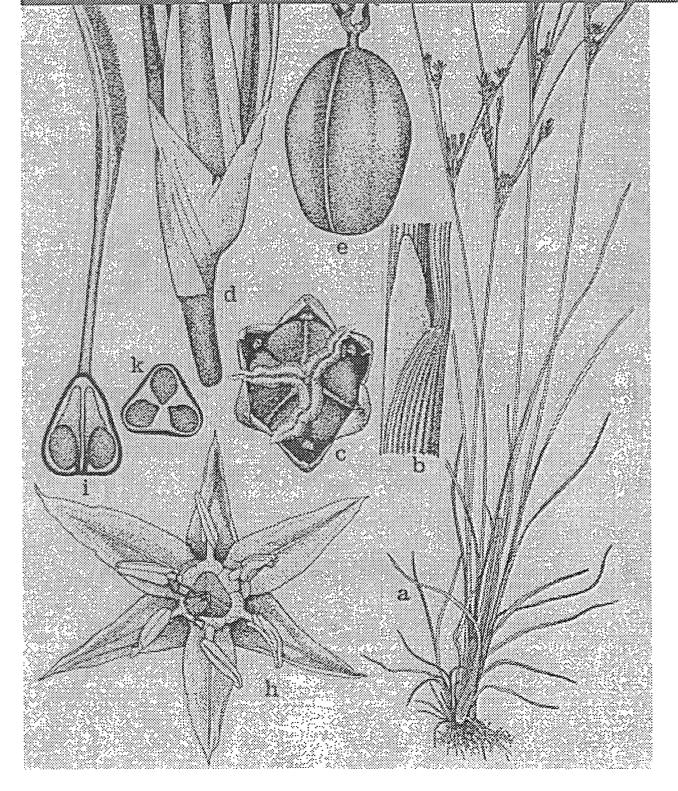
Priority Tasks	Related Master Plan Recommendations
Conduct Level I & II Environmental Assessment on the Klein property and pond.	 Incorporate testing of the ponds for dredging and fishery potential with this assessment Determine feasibility and implications of dredging (area on site will be required for temporary storage of sediments)
2. Purchase Klein property	Explore appropriate owner/manager Clean up debris Design and construct parking lot Incorporate picnic areas Build canoe/boat launch
3. Establish put and take fishery	 Upgrade dam on Whitaker Slough to raise water level by 2' Remove carp Clear zones in the north bank for fishing access Establish trails from parking area to fishing areas Establish fish stocking program
4. Identify immediate activities for EnviroCorps	 Clean up debris on the site Clear blackberries Enhance upland areas Enhance buffer zones upon agreement with owners Enhance riparian zones in areas not impacted by future dredging
5. Acquire funds for dredging	 Upgrade one field on the south side of the pond for tournament play Connect ponds by removing culvert and road Remove north ball field Dredge ponds Create emergent wetlands Enhance riparian zones Build fishing piers Stock ponds with appropriate species of fish

Priority Tasks	Related Master Plan Recommendations
6. Purchase Stickler property based on environmental testing	Renovate property for an Environmental Learning Center Establish residence for a Park Ranger
7. Continue negotiations with property owners for purchase or easements	Enhance riparian and buffer zones as permitted Extend trail on north side as permitted
8. Explore and identify appropriate owner/management/partnership for each task	Continue discussions between Metro and Portland Public Schools Explore the roles, responsibilities and other appropriate project partners for plan implementation





VI. Appendix



Agreement in Concept Between Portland Public Schools and Metro

AGREEMENT IN CONCEPT BETWEEN PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND METRO

Metro proposes to lead the collective development of a management plan for the ponds on the Whitaker site, 5135 NE Columbia Boulevard, ("Whitaker") and their natural surroundings. Metro envisions this plan incorporating natural restoration, environmental education, and natural resources stewardship, while providing appropriate recreational opportunities. We wish to lead all stakeholders in and around this site in developing a long-term management plan that will be developed with consensus. Given this proposal is in the developmental stage, the undersigned agrees to:

- (1) support the concept of developing the ponds area located on the "Whitaker" site for environmental education and natural resources stewardship;
- (2) cooperate in the development of a management plan for the site;
- (3) support programs oriented toward community access to the "Whitaker" ponds site compatible with the District's policies, that may include a proposed program for developing the ponds for inner-city kids fishing:
- (4) propose that "Whitaker" property immediately surrounding the ponds not be considered surplus in the foreseeable future; (Also, recommended would be in the unlikely event the District's adjacent property to the pond area should be disposed of the Metro Greenspaces would be offered the first option to buy the pond area portion.)
- (5) designate a contact person for this project.

No monetary commitment is being requested or implied. Ultimately, a management plan will be developed that will enhance the programs of participants while conserving diminishing resources.

McElroy

Donald D. McElroy

Executive Deputy Superintendent

Portland Public Schools

Daté

Metro Council Resolution Approving the Whitaker Ponds Management Plan

(To be provided at a later date)

Public Involvement Information

NEWS RELEASE

6 0 0 NORTHEAST GRAND AVENUE PORTLAND, OREGON 97232 273



From the Office of Public and Government Relations Merrie Waylett, director, (503) 797-1790

Dec. 6, 1994

For immediate release

For more information, call Jane Hart at (503) 797-1585

Whitaker ponds in Northeast Portland focus of community meeting

A community workshop scheduled Wednesday, Dec. 14, will solicit ideas and comments about the future management of a northeast Portland greenspace.

The meeting, hosted by Metro, Portland Public Schools and EnviroCorps, is being held to discuss plans to enhance and protect the Whitaker ponds adjacent to the Columbia Slough and part of the old Whitaker School grounds.

The workshop will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. at Whitaker Middle School Cafeteria, 5700 NE 39th Ave., Portland.

The study area considered encompasses about 90 acres of publicly and privately held land bordered by the Columbia Slough, Northeast 47th Avenue, Northeast Columbia Boulevard and the eastern edge of the ponds. The site offers a unique opportunity to maintain the existing recreational use and provide watershed protection to the slough, wildlife habitat and public access.

Representatives of Metro, Portland Public Schools, Cully Neighborhood Association, Lakeside Little League, EnviroCorps, the Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation and the Trust for Public Land will be on hand for presentations and to lead the discussion.

Whitaker Ponds program community meeting topic

A community meeting to discuss restoration of Whitaker Ponds in Northeast Portland is scheduled for 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Whitaker Middle School, 5700 N.E. 39th Ave.

OREGONIAN,

DECEMBER 8,

1994

The session will be held by Metro, Portland Public Schools and EnviroCorps, a branch of the national AmeriCorps effort. The agencies are working together to restore the 90-acre areas of land that is bordered by the Columbia Slough, Northeast 47th Avenue and Northeast Columbia Boulevard.

The site offers the opportunity to maintain existing recreational uses and provide protection to the slough and enhance wildlife habitat and public access.

NOTICE

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Now's the time to get involved! Please join us to learn about plans to improve a special natural area in Northeast Portland. We want to hear your ideas about the long-term management of the Whitaker Ponds, located near the old Whitaker School in Northeast Portland.

WHAT: A community workshop to receive public input on long-term

management goals for the Whitaker Ponds area of the old Whitaker School. Meeting sponsors include Portland Public

Schools, EnviroCorps and Metro.

WHEN: Wednesday, December 14, 1994

6:00pm to 8:00pm

WHERE: Whitaker Middle School

The Cafeteria

5700 NE 39th Avenue

Portland, OR

LONBARD STATE LONBARD ALE LONBARD ALE

STUDY AREA

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- > View maps and aerial photographs of the Whitaker Ponds Study Area.
- > Hear presentations from: Portland Public Schools, Cully Neighborhood Association, Lakeside Little League, EnviroCorps (Recipients of President Clinton's Citizenship Grant), Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation, Trust for Public Land, and Metro.
- > Share your verbal histories and old photographs of the Whitaker Ponds area.
- > Provide your ideas and comments to an independent review panel responsible for recommending a concept design for the Whitaker Ponds area.
- > Learn about the next steps in the project and your opportunities for future involvement in the development of the management plan.

Refreshments will be served.

For additional information, call Jane Hart at Metro 797-1585.

AGENDA

for the

WHITAKER PONDS MEETING

Wednesday, December 14, 1994, 6-8pm Whitaker Middle School Cafeteria, 5700 NE 39th Ave.

1.	Welcome	Metro Councilor Ed Washington	6:00-6:05	
2.	Where are the Whitaker Ponds? Why are we here tonight? What are the next steps?	Jane Hart, Metro, Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department	6:05-6:15	
_. 3.	Advisory Panel Introductions	Sally Creasman, Teacher, Madison High School	6:15-6:30	
4.	Community Presentations		6:30-6:45	
	Lakeside Little League	Karen Schade, Board President		
•	EnviroCorps Representatives Trust for Public Land	Jim Desmond, Project Coordinator		
5.	Consultant Presentation	Walker & Macy, SRI/Shapiro	6:45-7:00	
Existing conditions of the Whitaker Ponds study area				
6.	Receive Public Input on Whitaker Management Plan Goals	Ponds	7:00-7:55	
We want to hear your QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, and COMMENTS				
7.	Closing Remarks	Councilor Ed Washington	7:55-8:00	

Planning
Urban Design
Landschipe Architecture
Walker&Macy
111 SW Oak Soite 200

Purlland, Oregon 97204 Phone 503-228-3122 Fax: 503-273-3878

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Jane Hart/Metro

FROM:

Bennett Burns/Walker & Macy

RE:

Whitaker Ponds Public Meeting of 12-14-94

JOB #:

9472

DATE:

December 21, 1994

COPIES:

Doug Macy, John Van Staveren

I. The meeting was kicked off with comments by Metro Councilor Ed Washington. Jane Hart then provided project background, goals, and next steps for public involvement.

Project goals include:

- Restore the natural resources on the site.
- Provide environmental education and stewardship opportunities.
- Encourage community access and use through a variety of programs.
- · Incorporate the needs and concerns of all property owners and users.
- Improve water quality.

The next steps in the Whitaker Ponds management planning process are included at the end of this memo.

- II. The Advisory Panel members were then introduced and each made a brief statement as to their interest in the project. Panel members included:
 - Sally Creasman- Madison High School
 Sally is a teacher at Madison High School and a member of Columbia Slough
 Watershed Council. The focus of her interest in the project is on providing environmental education opportunities for school children.
 - Erwin Bergman- Cully Neighborhood Association
 Erwin is a resident in the nearby Cully Neighborhood and is very interested in improving pedestrian access to the park and enhancing the area as a unique natural area to increase livability and provide a natural "sanctuary" for the densely populated northeast residents.

Memo: December 21, 1994

Whitaker Ponds Public Meeting Notes

Page two

Ned Hayes Jr.- Property Owner
 Ned owns the land south of the western pond. This property has been leased to
 Voith Sulzer for numerous years and the tenant has the option to buy the property.
 Ned supports the project but is concerned with balancing industrial use with wildlife enhancement, public access and recreation.

- Pamela Brown- Portland Public Schools
 Metro is currently working cooperatively with Portland Public Schools to utilize the
 defunct Whitaker School site for natural area enhancement, environmental
 stewardship, and increased community access. Pamela is the party representing
 Portland Public Schools in the development of the Management Plan.
- Kim MacColl Jr.- Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation
 Kim has been working with Metro, ODFW and the City of Portland for over 3 years to
 develop an area to provide inner city kids with fishing, outdoor recreation, and
 educational opportunities. The organization has agreed to provide funding for the
 project for construction of docks, fencing, habitat improvement, and water quality
 enhancement.
- Edna Mae Pittman- Concordia Neighborhood Association
 Edna Mae is a resident in the nearby Concordia Neighborhood and is very interested in developing the area as a natural outlet for the park deficient northeast neighborhoods.
- Kin Daily- Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
 Kin is interested in enhancing wildlife opportunities in urban areas and has been working with the Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation to develop a warm water fisheries at this site. Kin would prefer to develop the fishery on the western pond while protecting the eastern pond for enhanced wildlife value.
- III. Brief presentations were made from community organizations that have a vested interest in the project:
 - Lakeside Little League- Karen Schade
 This Little League organization utilizes the existing ball fields at Whitaker School during the softball season which lasts from February to August. A one-week tournament is held in August during which the area receives participants and spectators from across the northwest. At present time, all existing fields are utilized.
 - AmeriCorps
 AmeriCorps, a recently created national program patterned after the Peace Corps and Vista, is sponsoring approximately 20 young adults to restore wildlife habitats and urban greenspaces. In addition to gaining work experience, the AmeriCorps volunteers will earn tuition credit to be applied to the college of their choice. At Whitaker Ponds, volunteers will be assisting in plan development as well as implementation of restoration strategies.

Memo: December 21, 1994

Whitaker Ponds Public Meeting Notes

Page three

- Trust For Public Land- Jim Desmond
 The Trust For Public Land has been actively involved in negotiations to purchase the Klien property north of the western pond, which contains a debris dump. This parcel is key to the management plan since it provides access off 47th Avenue and is contiguous with the School District property.
- IV. An analysis of the existing conditions was presented by Walker & Macy and SRI/SHAPIRO. Maps describing zoning, ownership, existing use patterns and vegetative communities were discussed. It was pointed out that the ponds were shallower than originally presumed and that an existing culvert is spewing oil into the ponds. The origin of this culvert is unclear. It was also pointed out that the area could benefit from more emergent wetlands and an enhanced riparian zone.
- V. The public discussion portion of the evening produced many comments and concerns as summarized below:
 - The ponds provide important flood storage capacity during times of heavy rain.
 - Natural springs were historically identified as providing a source of fresh water for the ponds.
 - The surrounding area does not contain sewers, which may have effected ground water quality.
 - The industrial area to the south may have had an impact on water quality in the ponds.
 - A concern was expressed about contaminants in the silt. Testing needs to be conducted on the sediments.
 - Planting of large trees is needed on the south side of the ponds to provide shade and improve habitat.
 - Whitaker School is used heavily for police training operations. Training is focused in the classroom currently, but there may be a need to use the ponds for water training.
 - Police training at Whitaker School may help deter vandalism.
 - A police training operation may not balance with the natural character of the site.
 - Little League currently uses all existing fields for practice or games.
 - 1000 people per day come to the site to watch softball during tournaments.
 - The southernmost field is used for disadvantaged athletes. It is the most accessible.
 - It may be desirable to relocate the northernmost ballfield to create a continuous open space on the north side.

Memo: December 21, 1994

Whitaker Ponds Public Meeting Notes

Page four

- The site is not completely secure.
- There have been problems with gang vandalism.
- Industrial owners to the south have a concern about access, liability, and safety on their property. Access needs to be controlled on the south side of the ponds.
- Voith Sulzer has possible plans for expansion to the north towards the ponds. The Management Plan must accommodate buffering, security, and allow for industrial growth.
- A warm water fishery would be an important recreational resource for urban youths.
- Provide an accessible dock for wheelchair bound anglers.
- The recent restoration project was a good effort and utilized an appropriate palette of natives, but the planting should look more natural with larger drifts of similar species.
- Some blackberries could be left as barriers.
- English ivy is invasive and should not be planted.
- Pedestrian access is needed from neighborhoods to the south.
- Look at access to the site through the dump area. 47th Avenue could provide a safer access point.
- Multnomah County Drainage District needs access to the slough for flood control and clean up.
- Consider routing a pedestrian path around both lakes.
- · Incorporate benches and viewing blinds along the trail.

VI. Next Steps in the Whitaker Ponds Management Planning Process

December 15 - January 12, 1995:
 Based on public input at december 14th community workshop, EnviroCorps will work with Metro consultant to develop 2 to 3 conceptual illustrations of the proposed improvements to the Whitaker Ponds Management Planning study area.

2. January 12, 1995:

Receive public input on the conceptual drawings of proposed improvements to the Whitaker Ponds Management Planning study area. Meeting Objective: Reach consensus on a conceptual design that reflects Management Plan goals.

Memo: December 21, 1994

Whitaker Ponds Public Meeting Notes

Page five

3. January 12, 1995:

Advisory Panel recommends conceptual design for the Whitaker Ponds Management Plan.

4. January 12-January 26:

Consultant refines selected concept and develops narrative for the management plan document.

5. January 26, 1995:

Draft final Management Plan released for public review. Consultant presents draft final Management Plan to Metro Council.

6. February 15, 1995:

Close of public comment period for draft final Management Plan.

7. February 26, 1995:

Final Management Plan document available to public.

NOTICE

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Come view the design drawings for proposed future uses of the Whitaker Ponds study area near the old Whitaker School in NE Portland. We want to know if your ideas and concerns about the study area have been incorporated into the design drawings.

WHAT:

A community workshop to review and discuss design drawings of proposed future uses in the Whitaker Ponds study area. Public input at this meeting will help shape a preferred design

upon which to develop the Whitaker Ponds Management Plan. Meeting sponsors include Portland Public Schools,

EnviroCorps and Metro.

WHEN:

Thursday, January 12, 1995

7:00pm to 9:00pm

WHERE:

The Whitaker Middle School

The Cafeteria

5700 NE 39th Avenue

Portland, OR

STUDY AREA

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Review conceptual drawings that propose various environmental restoration and education opportunities and recreational uses for the Whitaker Ponds Study Area.
- Provide your ideas and comments about the designs to an independent review panel responsible for recommending a concept design for the Whitaker Ponds study area.
- ♦ Learn about the next steps in the project and your opportunities for future involvement in development of the management plan.

Refreshments will be served.

For additional information, call Jane Hart at Metro 797-1585.

AGENDA

for the

WHITAKER PONDS COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Thursday, January 12, 1995, 7-9pm Whitaker Middle School Cafeteria, 5700 NE 39th Ave.

1.	Welcome	Metro Councilor Ed Washington	7:00-7:05
2.	Progress Report	Jane Hart, Metro Project Manager	7:05-7:15
3.	Advisory Panel Report	Erwin Bergman, member Cully Neighborhood Association	7:15-7:20
4.	Consultant Presentation	Bennett Burns and Doug Macy, Walker & Macy	7:20-7:40
•	Review existing conditions Review management plan go Summarize public input rece Review resource management	eived to date	
5.	EnviroCorps Update	Brian Elliott and Karen Shay, EnviroCorps members	7:40-7:45
6.	Receive Public Input on Wh Management Plan Alternati		7:45-8:55
	This is the opportunity to various resource manage study area.	o share your ideas and concerns about ement plan alternatives for the Whitake	the r Ponds

Councilor Ed Washington

7. Closing Remarks

8:55-9:00

Planning
Urban Design
Landscape Architecture
Walker&Macv

111 SW Oak, Suite 200 Portland, Oregon 97204 Phone: 503-228-3122 Fax: 503-273-8878

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Jane Hart/Metro

FROM:

Bennett Burns/Walker & Macy

DATE:

January 17, 1995

RE:

Whitaker Ponds Public Meeting of 1-12-95

- I. The meeting was initiated with opening comments by Metro Councilor Ed Washington. Jane Hart then recapped the project background, the planning process to date, and indicated the next steps for public involvement.
- II. Erwin Bergman, member of the Cully Neighborhood Association and advisory panel, outlined the Advisory Panel's role in the plan development. Following the public meeting, the panel will meet at the Whitaker Pond site to discuss the three alternative concepts and then make their recommendation to Metro on the preferred concept. The panel will also be involved in reviewing the draft management plan and will attend the final Metro council hearing on the plan.
- III. The site analysis maps that were presented at the December 14th meeting were summarized by Walker & Macy to help familiarize all members of the audience with the project. The maps described zoning, ownership, existing use patterns, and vegetative communities.
- IV. Project goals were recapped with two new goals added since the last meeting. Project goals include:
 - Restore the natural resources of the site.
 - Provide environmental education and stewardship opportunities.
 - Encourage community access and use through a variety of programs.
 - Incorporate the needs and concerns of all property owners and users.
 - Improve water quality.
 - Insure compatibility between industrial activities and recreational users.

Public Meeting Notes- 1-12-95 Whitaker Ponds Page 2

V. Three alternative concepts for natural resource management were presented by Doug Macy. The concepts illustrated zones for different types of activities and represented a range in the intensity of active recreation verses natural resource protection and enhancement.

The alternatives were designed to allow for phasing over time, but with the intent of establishing a long range vision for site development.

Due to site constraints, common goals and overall concerns, each of the alternatives possesses a set of common features, which include:

- Provision of a primary access to the site off 47th Avenue with parking for 40 cars. This provides a safer vehicular entry than can be offered along Columbia Boulevard.
- Incorporation of water quality enhancement measures. To improve water quality in the ponds, stormwater runoff from all new impervious surfaces should be treated through bioswales. In addition, point source pollutants should be identified and eliminated.
- Commitment to restoring and enhancing riparian and upland habitats. Through creating more diversity in vegetative communities, wildlife habitat can be significantly improved.
- Provision of environmental education opportunities. Wildlife viewing areas, interpretive signage, and educational programs should be incorporated into the overall management of the site.
- Provision of a buffer between industrial users and recreational users. To maximize safety, security, and reduce the conflict between human use and industrial activity, no public access is proposed on the southern portion of the ponds, with the exception of the school district property. With the cooperation of private owners, these buffer zones would be planted heavily to enhance riparian habitats and increase screening of industry.

The three alternatives are described below:

(A) Active Recreation/Natural Resource Enhancement
This concept involves the least amount of alteration to the site and provides
the greatest amount of active recreation while also providing for restoration
of riparian and upland zones. Key factors include:

- No dredging of the ponds. The pond depths and wetland emergent zones remain unchanged, thus a fisheries program is not recommended.
- The northernmost (tournament level) ballfield is removed and the area is developed into a picnic area. To replace a tournament level field, one of the southern fields would be regraded and fences for tournament activity.
- A series of trail loops are provided throughout the site with view points by the ponds.
- (B) Active Recreation/Fisheries/Natural Resource Enhancement
 This concept involves dredging the ponds and connecting both ponds into a
 continuous water body. Key features include:
 - Creation of warm water fisheries. Deep pools 8-10' would be created to improve fish habitat, fishing piers would be added to the west pond, and the east pond would be enhanced for juvenile fish rearing habitat.
 - No pedestrian connection would be provided between the northern portion of the site and the southern portion.
 - The northernmost (tournament level) ballfield is removed and the area is developed into a picnic area. To replace a tournament level field, one of the southern fields would be regraded and fences for tournament activity.
 - The northern portion would be restored and enhanced for wildlife habitat and environmental education. Access to the eastern pond would be limited.
 - The southern portion of the School District property would continue to be used for softball.
- (C) Natural Resource Enhancement Fisheries/Environmental Education.

 The third alternative sets a long range vision of relocating the Little League activity to another location once another location has been identified and focuses management on natural resource enhancement and environmental education. Key features include:
 - Creation of warm water fisheries through dredging the ponds and incorporating fishing piers. The two ponds would be connected, but a pedestrian bridge would link both sides.

- The eastern pond would be enhanced for juvenile fish rearing and habitat protection. Access would be restricted to one viewpoint along the eastern pond.
- An environmental learning center would be incorporated into a wing of the old Whitaker School, with trails radiating from the center to numerous vegetative zones and interpretive stations.
- The portion of the School District property presently containing ballfields would be restored into an arboretum-type planting, containing native meadows, native forests, and shrub communities. The area could be used for outdoor classrooms and demonstration projects.
- VI. EnviroCorps members Brian Elliot and Karen Shay described the restoration measures that they could undertake, to implement the preferred concept plan, assuming Metro purchases the Klein property (junkyard). These measures include:
 - Clean-up of the northern bank of the western pond to remove concrete and debris.
 - Planting of riparian and upland plant communities on the school property and along buffer zones as negotiated with property owners.
 - Construction of trails and observation points.
- VII. The discussion of the alternatives generated much discussion. Of particular concern, was the overall reduction in the number of ballfields from five to four. Little League sponsors felt four fields would not be adequate to meet the seasonal demands, and were strongly opposed to any plan that reduced their playing opportunities. However, everyone supported the notion of relocating the northernmost field as long as a nearby site could be acquired for its relocation.

Other public comments on the alternatives included:

- Support of the concept to consolidate active recreation and allow the northern portion of the site to be managed for wildlife and natural resource protection.
- Support of establishment of warm water fishery.
 - Would it be possible to raise the water level of the pond instead of dredging? According to SRI, it is only possible to raise the water level by 2-3' which is insufficient for a fisheries.
 - If we could block fish passage into the slough, it might help create a more contained fishery.

Public Meeting Notes- 1-12-95 Whitaker Ponds Page 5

- Important to balance all concerns and interests.
- Support of establishing an environmental education program. This
 would be a good location for school groups and community groups.
- Support the idea of zoning different uses for the north and south portions of the site, but a pedestrian connection would be helpful.
- More trails are needed for community enjoyment.
- Concern for liability issues for property owners. Easement and purchase agreements need to be clearly defined.

VIII. Next steps in the Planning Process.

- (A) January 18, 1995. Advisory panel meets at the site and recommends conceptual design for the Whitaker Ponds Management Plan
- (B) January 18-February 9, 1995: Consultant refines selected concept and develops narrative for the Management Plan document.
- (C) February 9, 1995: Draft final Management Plan released for public review.
- (D) Mid february, 1995: Consultant presents draft final Management Plan to Metro Council. Date to be determined.
- (E) February 23, 1995: Close of public comment period for draft final Management Plan.
- (F) Early March 1995: Final Management Plan document available to public. Date to be determined.

Copy: John Van Staveren

BB/ch

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AmeriCorps to help restore some of Columbia Slough

Workers in the new program will receive a small monthly wage and college tuition credits for their part in the project

By JOE FITZGIBBON

Correspondent, The Oregonian

At least two dozen of President Clinton's newly created AmeriCorps workers will be helping restore portions of the Columbia Slough before the end of summer.

On Monday, President Clinton announced the creation of Ameri-Corps, a cadre of 20,000 young men and women to work on soil conservation projects in return for college tuition waivers and monthly living expenses.

In a program patterned after Peace Corps and Vista, college-aged young people will work for a year restoring wildlife habitats, farmlands and urban greenspaces. In addition to a stipend of about \$700 a month, AmeriCorps volunteers will earn a \$4,725 tuition credit to be applied to a college of their choice.

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), under the guidance of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, selected a Portland

project to restore portions of the Columbia Slough and Whitaker Pond as a model for the national service program.

"This sends out an important message to the entire region, but especially the African-American community that we are going to do something about environmental damage," said Metro Councilor Ed Washington, who co-sponsored the project proposal with Portland State Professor Barry Messer. Washington grew up in North Portland near the Columbia Slough and said that he has made its restoration a personal goal.

"People of color have been fishing and using the slough for recreation and it's long past time we make it the jewel it's always had the potential to be."

According to Messer, the program will hire 20 youths full-time to work on restoration projects along the slough over the next two years. Another dozen part-time college students will act as mentors for high school students from Roosevelt, Grant, Jefferson and Marshall high schools studying natural resource management along the 18-mile waterway.

Messer said that he and Washing-

ENVIRONMENTAL PEACE CORPS

- WHAT: The newly created AmeriCorps to help solve environmental problems.
- WHO'S IN IT: High school and college students.
- WHAT DO THEY DO: In Portland, the job will be work along the Columbia Slough and Whitaker Pond
- WHAT DO THET GET: A \$700 monthly stipend and up to \$4,725 in tuition credite
- WHERE TO CALL:Contact Ed Washington at Metro, 797-1546 or call 1-800-94ACORPS.

ton spent more than a year drafting the slough proposal and expected work to get under way around Labor Day.

"The actual amount of money we will have to spend has not been determined yet, but it might be close to \$1 million," said Messer.

For its initial year, CNCS will fund 42 different AmeriCorps projects operating in 32 states. Portland and five other urban sites were selected for funding, including Atlanta, Chicago, East St. Louis, Boston and Washington, D.C.

Recycled: Hard labor mixes with organizing

■ Continued from Page 1 Columbia Slough.

A longtime resident of the area, Metro Councilor Ed Washington, supports the project.

"These ponds and sloughs were where many of us were exposed to the basic sciences — where we learned about tadpoles, frogs and plants," said Washington. "By giving young people part of the responsibility to restore them, they'll come away with a better appreciation of these special places."

Of immediate concern to Morgan, though, is the small mountain of scrap metal, plastic pipe, machine parts and creosote-treated timber dumped near the ponds.

AmeriCorps workers hired for the restoration will earn about \$4 an hour for their work, and, by year's end, receive a \$4,725 college tuition waiver to a college or university of their choice.

Dunas calls herself a "tree-hugger" who during the past 40 years has taught special education students, hard-core prisoners and well-to-do graduate students in Southern California.

She spent six years writing "The Single's Guide to Los Angeles" and was co-host of a Los Angeles television show that reviewed ethnic restaurants.

But her most enjoyable times, Dunas said, were spent leading her own tours of museums, cemeteries and shopping malls.

Crew members, most in their early 20s, marvel at her stamina, work ethic and gift of gab.

"Her knowledge and enthusiasm is a stimulation to all of us," said team leader Michael A. Burch. "She's such an extrovert that it's helped us build good relationships among the crew."

When she completes her year of service, Dunas wants to produce her own children's television show or move to Asia to study homeopathic medicine.

According to Barry Messer, urban affairs professor at PSU, AmeriCorps workers will spend much of the week on labor-intensive projects.

But, he added, the crew will also study community organizing and environmental issues while working with nonprofit groups on individual projects. Plans call for the group to canvass the old Whitaker School neighborhood during the next few weeks to encourage local residents and business owners to help develop a master site plan.



Avis Dunas (left) and Kathryn Heriza place ferns along the edge of a pond.

MARY BONDAROWICZ/The Oregonia

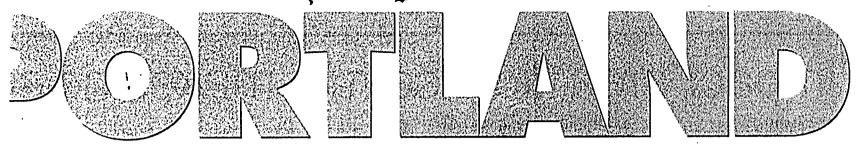
Portland's slice of AmeriCorps

Oregon received more than \$600,000 in federal grants to fund 15 AmeriCorps projects. In Portland, they are:

- Friends of the Children: Patterned after Big Brothers/Big Sisters Association, 24 AmeriCorps members work with at-risk second graders from five inner-city schools. Members visit homes, tutor the children and spend time with them on weekends in an attempt to nelp the youngsters build self-esteem.
- AmeriCorps men and women have adopted nearly 300 third and fourth graders to assist them in developing strong social and academic skills. Students who graduate from high school will earn an all-expensespaid college education from the foundation.
- graduates are assisting low-income families weatherize their homes. They will teach community groups the risks of lead poisoning and help neighborhoods plan and construct community gardens.
- Agroup of 10 AmeriCorps members will assist the Bonneville Power Administration in helping 75 area schools and public buildings become more energy efficient.
- EnviroCorps: Two AmeriCorps teams, made up of 20 people, will restore Whitaker Ponds, a wetlands site near the Columbia Slough, improve public access to Smith and Bybee lakes and develop a vacant lot in North Portland into a neighborhood park.

"Right now there are more people in Ameri-Corps than were in Peace Corps at its peak," said Mary Carroll, assistant director of the Oregon Community Service Commission. "Most of the public may not know about them or their work yet, but, by the end of the year, I think we'll all see that change."

The Oregonian





◄ SUNDAY SERENADE:

Lucia Galizia spins traditional Neapolitan hits on her hourlong, Sunday morning radio show aimed at Portland's Italian community/ Page 11



▼ TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES:

A perennial power, the Techsters face strong challenges from several PIL girls teams / Page 5



THE CLEANUP

- ■WHAT: Cleanup of the Whitaker ponds, a 22-acre wetland.
- ■WHERE: Near old Whitaker Grade School, Northeast 52nd Avenue and Columbia Boulevard.
- ■WHO: EnviroCorps is doing most of the work, with assistance from Metro, Portland, the school district and other agencies.

On a drenching winter day, Kathryn Heriza (left) and Avis Dunas plant ferns along the edge of Whitaker ponds.

Avis Dunas, 65, says it was time to recycle herself through AmeriCorps, working on the Whitaker ponds restoration

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Working on this project and being with all these young people—it's all brought me back to life.

Avis Dunas

77

By JOE FITZGIBBON
Special writer, The Oregonian

er face is mud-speckled.
Errant strands of white hair mat tightly against her damp forehead.

Still, 65-year-old Avis Dunas sloshes through ankle-deep mud in her yellow rainslicker, waving off help as she totes buckets of fertilizer and wetland plants for Whitaker ponds restoration.

By nearly all accounts, the former teacher and restaurant critic is the oldest and probably besteducated member of President Clinton's recently formed AmeriCorps.

And, according to crew members, the most inspiring.

"Quite frankly, I don't love all of the digging and weed pulling, but I wanted to help my country," Dunas said. "Working on this project — and being

with all these young people — it's all brought me back to life."

In June, the president announced the formation of a cadre of 20,000 men and women willing to work on community projects in exchange for monthly living allowances and college tuition waivers.

Metro and Portland State University officials jumped at the chance to complete several environmental projects and accepted a federal grant to hire two crews of 20 workers.

Dunas was selected from hundreds of applicants and will spend the year working with young men and women — most a third of her age — restoring a 22-acre wetlands on the grounds of the old Whitaker Grade School.

The Chicago native holds advanced degrees in teaching and art history from UCLA. She took on the low-paying job because she wanted to change her

"It's getting harder and harder for a teacher my

rasilanding proposition de la proposition de la

age to find a job," she said. "The way I look at it, I'm the one being recycled."

The school, located along Northeast 52nd Avenue and Columbia Boulevard, currently houses a police training facility and three baseball fields.

Metro biologist Jim Morgan points toward two huge ponds nestled in the back of the school, overgrown with blackberry bushes and piled up with de-

"We want this to be a place where kids will be able to walk out into the woods, throw a fishing line in the ponds, and forget for a few hours that they're in the city," he said.

Morgan's plans call for relocating one of the ballparks closer to the school building. He also wants to create a wildlife habitat using the ponds as a centerpiece and connect the entire area to the nearby

Please turn to RECYCLED, Page 4

"Challenging People to Shape a Better Future Now"

INSIDE

Kids Quiz Candidates

Page 2

Welfare Myths and Realities

Spring Forward: Daylight-Saving Time Starts Sunday



Retooling the Urban Landscape



the ground at the old Whitaker School site before planting trees, shrubs and groundcover on Monday. The students joined 25 members of Cascadia Quest, a Seattle group that brings young people together from many countries to work on environmental restoration and service projects in the Pacific Northwest; In the Whitaker project, at Northeast 47th Avenue and Columbia Boulevard in Portland, a \$5,000 Metro Green, spaces grant allowed the workers to put in native plants that will create a habitat for wildlife and improved water quality. The Portland Private Industry Council recruited local participants and paid them a stipend for water quality.

Domestic Violence Harms Us All

By Angela Wilson

Four women spoke about family violence in Northeast Portland last Saturday. The message they carried was clear: Family brutality is killing us, our children and our futures.

"Looking at Solutions: Violence Where We Live," sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., was held at the Mallory Avenue Christian Church. A small but enthusiastic audience listened to the speakers from the realms of education, social services and law enforcement discuss the extent of the problem and possible solutions.

The numbers are startling. Last year, 62 people were murdered in Portland. Of those, 21-mostly women-were killed by being beaten, stabbed or shot by their husbands or partners.

"That's very high for a city of our size," said Portland Police Officer and panelist Dorothy Edmore. "Think of the [cases] not documented or that went unreported."

"Most of the violence done to women is done to women who are trying to leave. The men say, 'If you leave me, I will kill you."

Dogsthy Elmos

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4.3 Meeting Date February 28, 1995

Discussion of Citi-Speak Survey



Date:

February 16, 1995

To:

Mike Burton, Executive Officer Ruth McFarland, Presiding Officer

Councilors Don Morissette, Jon Kvistad, Susan McLain, Ed Washington, Rod Monroe

and Patricia McCaig

From:

Merrie Waylett, director, Office of Public

and Government Relations, X1790.

February 1995 Citi-Speak Survey

Attached please find the recently completed Citi-Speak Survey. I will requesting time on the February 28, 1995 Council Work Session to provide an opportunity for discussion of the survey and its conclusions with Noel Klein of Western Attitudes. As you will see, awareness of Metro has increased over the past two years, but there is still much work to do. The survey should also be useful as you go through the budget process.

I am having additional copies printed which will again be provided to Metro department directors and project managers, Metro advisory committee members and others with an interest in furthering Metro programs.

Please contact me if you have questions prior to the February session.

Cathy Ross cc:

"CITI-SPEAK IV"
A COMMUNITY
ATTITUDE SURVEY
for
METRO
PORTLAND
OREGON

Conducted
by
Western Attitudes
7150 SW Hampton Suite 130
Tigard OR 97223
(503) 620-3356
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February 1995



INTRODUCTION

This is a survey of community attitudes held by residents who live in those portions of Multnomah County, Washington County and Clackamas County that are within the boundaries of Metro. It was conducted, by telephone, during the week of January 15-24, 1995. Its purpose is to obtain current information about the attitudes, perceptions and opinions of area residents as they relate to Metro and its operations, and compare that data with baseline information gathered in an April, 1993 survey of Metro area residents.

Metro, like other local governments, provides many opportunities for citizens to become involved. However experience shows that people don't usually do this unless an issue affects them personally. Yet each person does have a stake in, and an opinion on, what happens in the region. So often, public debate on issues is shaped by the vocal few who do get involved, while the views and opinions of the majority of the citizens are never heard. Broad public participation is a significant value as the "new" Metro Council implements the agency's new charter. "Citi-speak" is the name given to a regular series of community attitude surveys that attempt to measure the awareness and perceptions of this "silent majority". Modeled on a program Western Attitudes developed with the city of West Linn, Oregon, it encourages citizens to speak out and become involved in shaping public debate, decisions and actions.

This survey was designed as a telephone poll, using a randomized list of over 5,000 telephone numbers of registered voters throughout the region to ensure an adequate cross-section of the community was polled. Western Attitudes personnel made the calls. 418 responses have been tabulated. A representative sample of this size is sufficient to ensure that the margin of error, even if opinions are evenly divided, is less than plus or minus 5 points at the 95% confidence interval. Questions for the survey were developed by Western Attitudes in consultation with Metro officials.

Responses have been cross-tabbed to indicate how the views of respondents differ according to different groupings:

Awareness of Metro as the regional government

Belief that certain services work better at regional level

Feelings about having a regional government

- Length of time living in the region
- County of residence
- ◆ Age
- Gender
- Metro Council District Area

Tables displaying this detail are contained in the appendix to the principal report, on file in the office of Metro's Executive Officer. In reviewing this report, readers should be aware that, as the size of the sample under review diminishes, the potential margin for sampling variability error is likely to increase. Cross-tab analysis for each question is therefore less reliable than figures for the entire sample.

Note: All questions concerning the use of information presented in this report should be directed to Mike Burton, Executive Officer, Metro, 600 NE Grand Ave. Portland, Oregon 97232. Tel. 797-1700

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Awareness of Regional Government.

Over one-half, 52%, of the respondents identify Metro as the name of the regional government for the Portland metropolitan region. This is a substantial improvement over the one-third who were able to identify Metro as the regional government in response to a similar question in the first "Citi-speak" survey in April, 1993.

Those who did not correctly name their regional government were told about Metro and then asked if they had heard of Metro prior to this telephone call. About three-quarters of those who could not identify the agency by name acknowledged they had heard of Metro. Overall, 86% of the respondents could either name Metro as the regional government, or said they had heard of Metro prior to our contact, about the same percentage as recorded in April 1993.

Those people who had heard of Metro were asked to indicate some of the things Metro does. In the April, 1993 survey, 62% offered suggestions. However, four out of every ten suggestions involved services, programs or activities Metro is not directly involved in, or responsible for (principally the transit system). In this 1995 survey, more respondents (70%) offered suggestions and the percentage of responses that refer to activities Metro is not directly involved with dropped from 42% to 24%. There is now much greater awareness of Metro's role in growth management planning, Zoo operations, transportation planning and greenspaces although, for many, Metro is still perceived as running Tri-Met and its related bus and light rail functions.

Public awareness of Metro's role as the regional government, and of its functions and activities has improved significantly over the past two years. Yet one-quarter of the suggestions offered by people in response to the question "What are some of things Metro does?" still refer to things Metro is not directly responsible for (primarily transit operations).

Relative Importance of Certain Metro Functions

On a 1-5 scale, where 1 is Not Very Important and 5 is Very Important, respondents rate the importance of Metro's role in coordinating the growth management, land use and transportation planning of cities, counties and other governments in the region as a 4.7 (median average rating). Disposing of the region's solid waste is rated as a 4.8, while operating regional spectator facilities receives a 3.6 rating and operating parks and recreation facilities in Multnomah County is rated as a 3.7.

There is broad public acceptance that Metro's primary roles under its new charter - growth management planning and regional waste disposal - are very important functions in the region.

Perspectives on Regional Government

By a 45% to 34% margin, with 21% unsure, respondents agree with the statement that the services Metro provides work better when they are handled at the regional, rather than a local or statewide level.

Asked in the 1993 survey if they generally support or oppose the idea of having a regional government like Metro, 38% said they supported the idea, 15% opposed it and a very high 47% were unsure. Support was higher among Multnomah County respondents while opposition was stronger among people from Clackamas County. The demographic characteristics of those in the "don't know" category was more similar to those who supported the idea of having regional government than to those who oppose it.

In this 1995 survey, the number of those who say they support having a regional government like Metro has increased (from 38% to 47%). However, the number who say they are opposed has more than doubled (from 15% to 34%). Support continues to be higher among Multnomah County respondents, while opposition is clearly focused in Clackamas County. The percentage of those in the undecided category is now less than 20%.

Arguments proposed by those who say they support the idea of regional government place emphasis on coordination, consolidation and efficiency and prefer regional to statewide handling of issues. Those who are opposed to regional government cite too many existing layers of government and their belief that things are better handled locally. They believe Metro has large powers and express concerns about how Metro might use that power.

Since the adoption of its new charter in 1992, Metro has begun to play a more effective role as a government partner in quality of life issues in the region. Its continuing acceptance will depend not only on increasing citizen awareness and acceptance of what Metro is and what it does, but also on building solid working relationships with local governments in the region so that the "local talk" about Metro is positive rather than negative.

Awareness of Other Metro Programs

One-quarter of the respondents say they have heard of Metro's 2040 planning program (up from 5% in the 1993 survey). Seven out of ten say they are aware of Greenspaces (66% two years ago), while 88% say they have heard of the North/South Light Rail Corridor Study (up from 69% two years ago). Half of the respondents say they are aware of earthquake planning programs in the region.

Given Metro's primary function of growth management planning, it would seem important that every effort be made to continue developing greater citizen awareness of Metro's role as it works with local governments to help people build livable communities into the 21st century.

Awareness of Metro Elected Officials

In the 1993 survey, respondents performed fairly dismally when asked if they could name any of their elected officials, at any level of government. For Metro, only 18% (82 of 445 respondents) provided a name (i.e. eight out of ten respondents had no idea who their Metro representatives were). Of the 82 names offered, nine were not associated with Metro. Rena Cusma earned 69 of the 82 mentions. Among Metro Councilors (13 at the time), only two - Ruth McFarland and Terry Moore were mentioned.

In this 1995 survey, 30% (127 of 418 respondents) offer at least one name. Of these, almost one-third are names of people not now associated with Metro (most of these people name Rena Cusma). Almost five out of ten name Mike Burton, while 10% name Ruth McFarland. Other Councilors mentioned are Don Morissette, Jon Kvistad, Ed Washington and Patricia McCaig.

Awareness of Metro officials in 1995 is higher than it was in 1993. As Metro operates in its new governance format of seven paid Councilors, name awareness of its elected officials can be expected to increase.

Information Sources

The Oregonian newspaper and television continue to be the most frequently cited sources of information about public issues in the region, followed by radio and local newspapers.

The agency should consider greater use of television and radio as more appropriate vehicles to reach those segments of the population who are unfamiliar with Metro and what it does.

Demographics

55% of the respondents are from those areas served by Metro within Multnomah County, 27% from the Metro area in Washington County and 18% are from the Metro area in Clackamas County.

Just under half of the respondents, 46%, have lived in the area for 20 years or more. The mean average age of the sample group is 47 years of age. 56% are female, 44% are male.

Respondents have been drawn on a proportional representation basis from each Metro Council district.

The breakdown by county approximates the percentage of households in the Metro area of each county. Length of time and age characteristics are higher than the population at large, but are more likely to reflect the profile of the voting public, the target group for this survey.

SURVEY OVERVIEW

Awareness of Regional Government

Question 1: Can you tell me the name of the regional government that has jurisdiction in the metropolitan area in and around Portland?

This question tests the unaided awareness of respondents about Metro's position in the region. Over half are able to name Metro as the regional government for the area. This is significantly better than the one-third recorded in the April 1993 "Citi-speak" survey.

Table 1.1 Name Awareness of the Area's Regional Government

Table 1.1		
Response	1995	1993
Metro	52%	33%
Other	2%	4%
Don't Know	46%	63%

- Overall, 52% name Metro as the area's regional government. A higher percentage, (62%), is recorded among those who support regional government.
- ◆ Awareness of Metro is higher the longer people have lived in the region. Almost twothirds of those who have lived here for 20+ years name Metro as the regional government, compared to one-third among those who have lived in the region less than five years. It is higher among those in the 35-55 age group and also higher among men (60%), than among women (46%). It is highest among respondents from Council Districts #1 & 7, and lowest among those from Districts #4 & 5.

Observations:

In the first "Citi-speak" survey conducted in April, 1993, only one-third of the respondents could identify Metro as the regional government. Approval of the agency's charter in November 1992 clarified Metro's focus and called for it to become a seven member government of paid elected officials as of January 1995. The higher level of identification of Metro as the regional government is probably due to the numerous campaigns for public office in 1994, as well as the elevation of Metro's efforts (through the 2040 planning process) to address land use, transportation and growth management issues in 1994. The regional government is making steady progress towards being acknowledged, if not yet totally accepted, as a permanent feature of the political landscape in the region.

While the increase in awareness of Metro as the regional government is laudable, almost half of the respondents still can't identify their regional government by name. Metro needs to continue to market itself and what it does, emphasizing the positive benefits it brings to the citizens of the region.

Question 2: The regional government for the Portland metropolitan area is called Metro. Before this call, had you heard of Metro?

When told that Metro was the area's regional government, eight out of ten respondents acknowledge that they had previously heard of Metro.

Table 2.1 Name Awareness of Metro

Table 2.1		
Response	1995	1993
Yes No	86% 14%	87% 13%

Prompted awareness is fairly uniform regardless of whether respondents support or
oppose the idea of regional government; and regardless of county of residence. It is
lower among those who have lived here less than five years and among those under the
age of 35. It is higher in Districts #1 & 2, lower among respondents from District #5.

Observations:

On an overall basis then, 86% of the respondents in this survey were aware of Metro prior to this telephone call.

Just over one-half could identify Metro by name as the regional government. Following a prompt, a further one-third said they had heard of Metro, even though they were initially unable to name the agency as being the regional government.

Question 3: Can you tell me some of the things Metro does?

This was an open-ended question, meaning that people responding in their own words, had an opportunity to identify up to two services, programs or activities Metro provides. Excluding those who had not even heard of Metro (58), seven out of ten respondents (252 out of 360) offer one or more suggestions about what Metro does (up from six out of ten two years ago).

Of the 424 suggestions offered 98, or 23%, refer to services, programs and activities Metro is not directly involved in, (seven out of ten of these people believe Metro already runs the transit system.) With regard to specific activities Metro is involved with, 17% identify Metro as the solid waste disposal agency, 16% say it is involved in land use and growth management planning, 15% mention its role in transportation planning, while a similar percentage say it operates the Zoo.

Table 3.1 Perception of Metro Activities & Functions

Table 3.1		
Response	1995	1993
Solid Waste Disposal	17%	18%
Growth Planning	15%	4%
Transportation	14%	10%
Zoo	15%	10%
Recycling	5%	11%
Greenspaces	5%	1%
Regional Facilities	4%	4%
Other Metro	2%	
Non-Metro - Transit	16%	15%
Non-Metro - Other	9%	27%

- ♦ Identification of Metro's role in growth management planning has grown significantly over the past two years. The level of awareness of Metro's role in this area is greater among those who can name Metro as the regional government; among those who oppose the idea of regional government; among Clackamas County respondents; among 35-44 year olds; and among those from Council Districts #2, 3 & 4.
- ♠ More inclined to identify Metro's role in solid waste disposal are those who could name Metro as the regional government; longer-term residents; respondents from Multnomah County; those over 45 years of age; and respondents from District #1.
- ♦ Metro's transportation planning responsibilities are more likely to be mentioned by those who could name the agency as their regional government; those who support the idea of regional government; residents of Washington County; and those from Council Districts #3 & 4.
- ♦ Recognition of Metro's role in operation the **Zoo** is higher among those who can name the agency as their regional government; those who support the idea of regional government; longer-term residents; respondents from Multnomah County; those in the 45-65 age groups; males; and those from District #1, 3 & 7.
- ♦ More inclined to mention things that Metro does not do are those who could name Metro as their regional government; those opposed to the idea of having a regional government: respondents from Clackamas and Multnomah Counties; 45-54 year olds; and respondents from District #3, 4 & 5.
- ♦ Among those who name Metro as their regional government:

28% identify things Metro does not do

27% mention solid waste disposal

25% say growth management planning

24% say Metro operated the Zoo

18% mention transportation planning

Among those who support the idea of regional government:

23% mention things Metro does not do

20% say solid waste disposal

19% mention Zoo operations

19% refer to transportation planning

18% indicate Metro is involved in growth management planning

9% refer to Metro's role in Greenspaces

8% say Metro is involved in recycling

♦ Among those who oppose the idea of having a regional government:

28% mention things Metro is not responsible for

20% mention growth management planning

18% refer to Metro's role in solid waste disposal

12% mention the Zoo

♦ By County: Multnomah

21% refer to solid waste disposal

20% mention things Metro does not have responsibility for

18% refer to Zoo operations

12% refer to growth management planning

6% mention facilities operation

♦ By County: Clackamas

28% refer to things Metro is not responsible for

24% refer to growth management planning

16% mention transportation planning

14% mention solid waste disposal

♦ By County: Washington

28% refer to things Metro is not responsible for

27% mention transportation planning

20% say growth management planning

14% refer to the Zoo

9% mention solid waste disposal

♦ By Council District: #1

37% mention solid waste disposal

24% say the Zoo

22% refer to thins Metro is not responsible for

♦ By Council District: #2

27% mention things Metro is not responsible for

21% refer to growth management planning

17% mention transportation planning

15% mention solid waste disposal

By Council District: #3

28% refer to things Metro is not responsible for

28% mention transportation planning

22% say growth management planning

19% refer to the Zoo

13% mention solid waste disposal

- ♦ By Council District: #4
 29% refer to things Metro is not responsible for
 23% refer to growth management planning
 21% mention transportation planning
- ♦ By Council District: #5
 28% mention things Metro is not responsible for
 17% mention solid waste disposal
- ◆ By Council District: #6
 17% mention the Zoo
 14% refer to growth management planning
 14% mention solid waste disposal
- ♦ By Council District: #7
 21% refer to the Zoo
 18% mention growth management planning
 16% say solid waste disposal
 14% refer to things Metro is not responsible for
 13% refer to transportation planning
 11% refer to facilities operations

Observations:

Awareness of Metro's functions and activities has improved over the past two years, however there is still a relatively high level of association with services and functions it does not perform, primarily transit operations. As many people associate Metro with Tri-Met's areas of responsibility, as they do with any one of its own charter activities.

Perceptions about what Metro does are different in different parts of the region.

Perspectives on the Importance of Metro Services

Question 4: Using a 1-5 scale, where 1 = Not Very Important and 5 = Very Important, how important do you think the following activity is to the region: growth management, land use and transportation planning that coordinates the efforts of cities, counties and other governments in the region?

Respondents rate these planning activities as a 4.7 (median average rating). Six out of ten respondents give it the highest rating possible, indicating that they think it is a very important function.

Table 4.1 Importance of Growth Management Planning Activities to the Region

Table 4.1	
Response	%
1 = Not Very Impt 2 3 4	3% 4% 15% 19%
5 = Very Important	59%
Median Average	4.7

- Ratings for the importance of these activities to the region range from a 4.7 among those who support the idea of having a regional government to 4.3 among those who oppose the idea. Among those who "don't know" how they feel about the idea of having a regional government, the importance of these activities is rated as a 4.7.
- Ratings are higher in Washington County (4.8), than they are in the two other counties which record averages of 4.6.
- ♦ By Council District, ratings range from a 4.1 in District #1 to a 4.8 in District #4.

Question 5: Using a 1-5 scale, where 1 = Not Very Important and 5 = Very Important, how important do you think the following activity is to the region: disposing of solid waste and garbage after it has been collected by local garbage haulers in the region?

These activities receive an average (median) rating of 4.8. Two-thirds of the respondents give it the highest rating possible indicating that they think it is a very important function.

Table 5.1 Importance of Garbage Disposal Services to the Region

Table 5.1	
Response	%
1 = Not Very Impt 2 3 4 5 = Very Important	1% 3% 6% 23%
Median Average	4.8

- Ratings for the importance of these activities to the region are 4.8 among those who support the idea of having a regional government; 4.7 among those who oppose or are not sure about the idea.
- Ratings are higher in Washington County (4.8), than they are in the two other counties which record averages of 4.7.
- ♦ By Council District, ratings are highest, 4.9, among respondents from District #4.

Question 6: Using a 1-5 scale, where 1 = Not Very Important and 5 = Very Important, how important do you think the following activity is to the region: operating regional spectator facilities, e.g. the Oregon Convention Center, the Expo Center, The Metro Washington Park Zoo, Civic Auditorium, Civic Stadium and the Portland Center for the Performing Arts?

These activities receive an average (median) rating of 3.6. A quarter of the respondents give it the highest rating possible indicating that they think it is a very important function.

Table 6.1 Importance of Operating Regional Spectator Facilities to the Region

Table 6.1		
Response	%	١
1 = Not Very Impt 2 3 4 5 = Very Important Median Average	6% 15% 27% 25% 26%	

- Ratings for the importance of these activities to the region are 3.6 among those who support the idea of having a regional government; 3.3 among those who oppose the idea, and 3.7 among those who are not sure how they feel about regional government.
- ◆ Ratings are higher in Washington County (4.0), than they are in Multnomah County (3.4) and Clackamas County (3.2).
- ♦ There is a direct correlation between length of time in the area and importance ratings. The shorter the time in the area, the higher the ratings for the importance of these activities to the region.
- ♦ Younger people tend to rate these activities as more important, e.g. those under 35 provide a rating of 4.2, compared to a 3.3 among those 45 and over.
- ♦ By Council District, ratings range from highs of 4.0 and 4.1 in District #3 & 4, to 3.3's in District #1, 2 & 7.

♦ Those who have heard of Metro rate the importance of these activities as a 3.5; those who have not rate them higher (3.8).

Question 7: Using a 1-5 scale, where 1 = Not Very Important and 5 = Very Important, how important do you think the following activity is to the region: operating parks and recreation facilities in Multnomah County, formerly managed by the County?

These activities receive an average (median) rating of 3.7. A quarter of the respondents give it the highest rating possible indicating that they think it is a very important function.

Table 7.1 Importance of Operating Parks & Recreation Facilities in Multnomah
County

Table 7.1		
Response	%	
1 = Not Very Impt 2 3 4 5 = Very Important	6% 13% 27% 26% 28%	
Median Average	3.7	

- Ratings for the importance of these activities to the region are 3.8 among those who support the idea of having a regional government; and 3.5 among those who oppose the idea, as well as among those who are not sure how they feel about regional government.
- Ratings are higher in Washington County (3.8), than they are in Multnomah County (3.7) and Clackamas County (3.3).
- ♦ By Council District, ratings range from highs of 4.0 and 3.9 in District #6, 3 & 5 to a low of 3.2 in District #2.
- Those who have heard of Metro rate the importance of these activities as a 3.6; those who have not rate them higher (3.8).

Question 8: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Generally, the services and activities we've just been talking about, work better when they are handled at a regional rather than a local or statewide level"?

By a 45% to 34% margin, with 20% unsure, respondents tend to agree with the statement.

Table 8.1 Support for Delivering These Services at Regional Level

Table 8.1	
Response	%
Agree	45%
Disagree	34%
Don't Know	20%

- Among those who could name Metro as the regional government, there is a higher of support. 53% agree with the statement; 31% oppose it and 16% are unsure. Among those who could not name Metro as the regional government, feelings are evenly split 37% agree, 38% disagree and 24% are unsure.
- ♦ Among those who support the idea of having a regional government like Metro, there is overwhelming agreement with the statement. 79% agree. 8% disagree and 13% are unsure. However, those who oppose the idea of having a regional government are equally strong in their conviction. 80% of these respondents disagree with the statement, 10% agree and 10% are unsure. Among those who feel unsure about the idea of having a regional government, 24% agree with this statement, 19% disagree with it and the majority, 57%, are unsure about this question as well.
- Perspectives differ by county of residence as indicated in Table 8.2. There is a clear level of support for regional service delivery among respondents from Multnomah County and from Washington County. There is clear disagreement with the statement among respondents from Clackamas County.

Table 8.2 Support for Regional Service Delivery (By Metro area within each county)

Table 8.2						
County	Agree	Disagree	Don't Know			
Multnomah Clackamas Washington	50% 27% 48%	30% 52% 32%	20% 21% 21%			

◆ Agreement with the statement is more evident among respondents from Council District #1, 3 & 7; disagreement is more evident among those from District #2 and the numbers of "don't know" respondents is higher in District #4 & 5.

Observation .

Metro has to work on enhancing its relationships with the Clackamas County area

Attitudes About Regional Government

Question 9: Generally, do you support or oppose the idea of having a regional government like Metro?

Respondents generally support the idea of having a regional government like Metro by a 47% to 34% margin, with 19% unsure. This is a significant change from survey results two years ago. In Metro's April 1993 "Citi-speak" survey, supporters outnumbered opponents by more than a 2:1 margin (38% to 15%). However, a very high 47% said they didn't know how they felt about the idea of having a regional government like Metro.

Table 9.1 Position on Regional Government

Table 9.1		
Response	1995	1993
Support Oppose Don't Know	47% 34% 19%	38% 15% 37%

- ♦ Among those who could name Metro as the regional government, there is a higher level of support (56%) and fewer "don't knows" (10%). 34% oppose the idea. Among those who could not name Metro as the regional government, feelings are evenly split 37% support the idea, 33% oppose it and 30% are unsure. The most significant change since 1993 is among those who couldn't identify Metro as the regional government. While in 1993, a majority of this group, 59%, put themselves in the "don't know" category, and only 9% said they were opposed to the idea of having a regional government, one-third of the "don't know" group in the current survey say they are opposed to the idea of regional government reflecting perhaps an overall disenchantment with government in general, rather than any specific dissatisfaction with Metro.
- ♦ The idea of having a regional government like Metro enjoys strong support among those who have lived in the community between 5-20 years. It still has a plurality of support among 20+ year respondents (opposition is highest among this group). The opinions of those who have been here less than five years are evenly split 34% support, 36% oppose and 30% unsure. It is among this group that we see the greatest change from 1993. At that time 60% of those who had lived here five years or less placed themselves in the "don't know" category and only 4% said they were opposed to the idea of having a regional government. In this survey, the "don't know" group has fallen to 30% and the "opposed" group has increased to 36%.
- As Table 9.2 indicates, perspective differ on a county by county basis. Support is high among Metro area respondents from Multnomah County and Washington County, while almost diametrically opposite responses are recorded from respondents in Clackamas County.

Table 9.2 Position on Idea of Regional Government (By Metro area within each county)

		Tabl	e 9.2	i,		
County Support			Oppose 1995 1993		Don't Know 1995 1993	
Multnomah	1995 49%	<u>1993</u> 46%	1995 31%	13%	20%	41%
Clackamas Washington	37% 49%	24% <i>30%</i>	45%. 32%	23% 16%	18% 19%	53% 54%

- ◆ Compared to two years ago when half of those surveyed had little idea about their position on Metro, the agency is now, for better or worse, a known entity about which people are beginning to have very definite feelings. As the number of "don't know" respondents diminishes over time, it can be expected that they will break towards some overall average across the entire Metro area. In all three counties, the percentage expressing opposition to the idea of regional government has doubled. Offsetting this is an increase of over two-thirds in the level of support within Washington County and, in Clackamas County, the percentage of those who support regional government is up from 24% to 37%, a fifty percent increase.
- ♦ By age group, respondents under 35, while supportive, are most likely to be appear in the "don't know" category. Those in the 35-44 year age group are most supportive, while opposition is higher among those in the 45-64 age group.
- ♦ There is little difference in opinion on the basis of gender, both males and females are generally supportive.
- ♦ By Council District, there are distinct differences in perception about regional government. These differences are reflected in Table 9.3.

Table 9.3 Position on Regional Government (By Council District)

Table 9.3			
District #	Support 54%	Oppose 28%	Don't Know 17%
2	33%	51%	16%
2 3.	55%	34%	11%
4	46%	27%	27%
5	45%	25%	30%
6	40%	40%	20%
7	56%	30%	15%

♦ Support ranges from mid-50% in District #1, 3 & 7 to a low of 33% in District #2. Opposition is highest among respondents from District #2, lowest among those from District #4 & 5. Both of these Districts also record the largest percentage of "don't know" respondents.

Observations:

Opinions about the regional government are solidifying. How the agency handles itself during the next two years will be very important is establishing its base of support. Support is stronger among respondents from Multnomah and Washington County, than it is in Clackamas County.

The decrease in the number of "don't know" respondents may reflect Metro's growing maturity and presence in the community. This "don't know" category contains higher than average numbers of those who are unaware of Metro; people who have moved here in the past five years and younger persons. They do not appear to be pre-disposed to oppose the idea of regional government.

Question 9A: If you generally support the idea of regional government, why is that?

Respondents who said they support regional government were offered an opportunity to expound on the reasons for their support. A verbatim listing of reasons given is included below. (The number at the end of the sentence indicates the Council District where the respondent resides.) The ability to see the big picture, coordination and a desire to avoid statewide controls are the general themes of support for regional government.

Regional is part of the community 7 Statewide not close enough to the issues 7 More individual support than statewide 7 Less bureaucracy 7 Better handled locally 1 Important issues that cross county boundaries 1 Transcends local interest 5 Region covered extensively populated 5 Need to coordinate regionally 5 Covers more than 1 county & area 5 Portland City Council have more than they can handle 5 Better done locally by locals 5 Doing a good job now 5 Need regional that has the 3 counties working together 7 City government doesn't appropriately represent all counties 7 Prefer local government 7 Better planning between counties 7 Can get local input 5 Crosses arbitrary boundaries 5 It's working 5 Other governments don't have time to oversee the region 5 Hopefully it keeps costs down 5 Covers 3 counties & coordinates them 5 Coordinates counties better 5 Need to look at things on a regional basis 7 Know needs of area 7 Can coordinate all the efforts 5 It's closer than state- more control 5 Doing a good job 7

Overall management is better than trying to micro manage each individual community 7

Seems to be working 7

More in touch 3

Air pollution, congestion does not stop at city limits 3

It should replace smaller governmental units 1

They are more apt to make right decisions 1

I hope they can do a better job 7

Greater efficiency 1

In the long run I think it will lower taxes 1

There are some things local & state government can't do 1

It's the only answer to traffic congestion 1

This is a high growth area & other gov't can't handle growth 1

Future planning 1

I like the idea if it doesn't try to do too much 1

Local gov't not too efficient 6

It's important because of population 1

I would support if they don't try to take over too many functions of local gov't 1

Support if run a bit different 1

Because they're elected 1

Team work 3

Greater efficiency 1

Planning so important 2

If they can do a few things well -great 3

Some things are run more efficiently 4

Growth explosion, when it crosses county lines, needs Metro 1

If we don't have some sort of planning it will be a hodgepodge 1

Better management 1

More on top of things 4

More broader coverage 4

More time & energy is spent locally 4

No bickering over funds between counties 4

As long as there is access to Metro 4

Otherwise some people would take advantage and do whatever 3

More local control 4

Obviously the city agencies need some help 3

Focus more on problems that otherwise may get lost in shuffle 4

Helps keep control, otherwise people would go wild 4

Support (I guess) it kind of keeps the counties intact, and lowers fighting among them 4

As opposed to having a mayor or someone like that do the deciding 3

Projects are handled faster, these services should be all they need to work on 4

As long as we have say, don't want no dictatorship 4

They can put their attention on these services 4

Have a broader perspective rather then local agency 4

Area growing too fast, need good hold on issues 4

It seems to be working so far 4

We need someone to oversee these services 3

I suppose if it is working, to keep up the same way 4

If they can keep up the work but keep costs down 4

As long as the services get done, otherwise, no 4

Just because they seem to be involved in a lot that needs attention 4

They have more time to devote to the issues 3

Agree if growing to fast, need to keep control 3

We have a lot of facilities that need to be kept available to the public 4

We may not have these services without Metro 3

I guess they are doing O.K. 4

Increase of population means more responsibility 4

Keep issues locally, don't tend to get lost or forgotten 3

We know more of the problems 3

Coordinate the areas better than statewide 2

Have more resources available 3

More balanced 3

Easier to voice complaints & they're more apt to listen to the people 4

Closer to the people 3

They know what is involved 3

Increase of population means increasingly we need a gov't to coordinate the counties 7

Broader coverage 7

More on top of things 7

Things get done faster for the area 2

More economical 3

People in area can be more involved 3

All counties coordinate well with regional 3

Easier to visualize & keep on top of things regionally 3

Involves cooperation of the three areas 3

The three counties work together 3

Coordinates the three counties well 3

Doing a good job- better than statewide 4

People are more aware at a regional level 3

Makes more sense- less expensive 3

Works better than sate wide-more hands on to public 4

Too many fingers in pie at other levels 7

Makes sense- more efficient 4

Fed programs aren't locally responsive 7

If it works, great 1

County intertwined-need single agency to save time & money 7

Makes sense 7

Headed in the right direction 6

We need these services 6

Better handle on issues-broader scope 6

In favor of "smaller" government 7

Land use planning spans more than one city 7

More attuned to whole area 7

Easier, more focused on Portland issues 7

Better organization of resources 6

Better overview 7

Growth is important- needs control 7

Consolidation 7

Metro should be head- No county, City police, etc. Really consolidate jurisdictions 6

Better coordination of services 2

Good-if controlled 2

Long term planning 2

Working together 2

Better sav-so 2

We need someone like them 2

Long range planning should be on a regional level 2

Larger scope is better 2

Better overall planning ability 2

Overall picture 2

Someone has to do it 2

Less duplication 2

Things get done! Not so much repetition 7

Consolidation of authority 6

Some separation of activities is needed though 6

Too integrated 6

They have better overall picture 7

Need in certain areas 1

Better overall planning, but some things could be better handled by City 1

Counties are too inter twined to separate 4

The three counties need to work together 4

Takes away special interest power 3

Close to the people yet coordinates the counties 3

Planning works better regionally 4

Consider the people better than statewide 4

Works good now 4

Coordinates the counties 4

More funds for services 2

Just agree 2

Just seems to be working 2

Metro does something noticeable 2

They are able to handle more tasks 2

Better to be in charge-justifies job- at least Metro does something 2

Interworkings done better regionally 2

People know what they need 2

More info. access to more facilities 2

More knowledgeable on area 4

This is a growing area, that needs coordinating 3

Makes sense, efficient 3

Less duplication 3

Not so much overlap 3

More efficient 4

Overall issues are taken into consideration 3

They can concentrate on those things 6

Support important things 6

Don't like big government 1

Area has growth problems and do a good job working on it 5

Because they have certain things they concentrate on 5

Resources that can be coordinated 6

Some one needs to do it so why not Metro 5

Handle in a wider scale 6

Works now 5

Seems they know what they are doing 5

We need all things it sounds like they do 5

I think they do a good job 5

Is for region 5

Coordinate transportation & land use issues 5

Able to get more funds 5

We need these things 5

We need somebody to coordinate things 5

Somebody has to be in charge 5

They know more of what our area needs 6

Parks & recreational; facilities are needed 5

They have a better hold on issues 5

Question 9B: If you are generally opposed to the idea of regional government, why is that?

Comments expressed about the structure of Question 9A also apply to this question. The following is a verbatim list of reasons offered for opposing the idea of having a regional government. The general themes are too much government, the idea that locals can handle issues better, and a concern about the amount of power that resides in the regional agency.

Local government has better idea what is needed 7

Too many governments now 2

Prefer local 7

Want too much power- no representation of the people 7

They get too big-don't cover the areas they should-money 5

People are more interested at a local level 5

Areas are different-local works better 5

Works better locally 5

It's not working - too expensive- no progress 5

More control locally 7

People need to concern themselves with their own problems 5

Private companies do it better, cheaper, faster 7

Local control better - people have more say 7

Just one more layer of government 7

We don't need any more taxes 6

Too much layering or overlapping 3

Don't need an extra layer of government 1

They're trying to get into micro management take away power from local officials 1

We need less government, privatize 1

A town hall meeting places government at the grass roots, but how can you have local control with four or five counties involved 3

Too many cooks spoil the broth & maybe the city, county, state are too many. 1

The arrogance of bureaucrats 3.

I'm opposed to another layer of red tape. 1

Needs more community involvement. 1

We have more input with local. 3

Local government gives us more say 4

Local is closer to the people 4

Small group of people shouldn't decide 3

They are just expanding Portland farther out 4

Their power covers too much area 4

Local level is better, we already have government, why make more? 4

They seem to spend the money, but not get any more done. 4

Local is better, too much government. 4

I don't see a big difference between here and elsewhere. 4

Small group of people should not determine. 2

Local is closer to the community. 3

Local would take better care of parks. 3

More input by the people with local government. 3

Local government gives people more of a say 3

Local gives us more input. 2

Local government is closer to the people. 7

More control with local government. 2

Local involves the people of the area. 2

Local takes more pride in local areas. 2

Better understanding of situations at a local level. 2

I don't think people get enough info when it's regional and not local. 3

Local is more hand's on. 3

People have more input locally. 3

It's better as statewide- cheaper and they know more. 3

Locally is better- closer to the people. 3

Local you have more input. 3

Locally people have more knowledge. 3

Too expensive- some things should be run privately. 3

Local is better- more knowledge to the people. 3

Local is better- Metro is too big & too powerful.

Local government knows more the area needs. 3

Local cities could handle better. 6

Too much government. 6

Local is better. 7

Not efficient. 7

Very opposed: Make work jobs. We don't need yet another group for taxes to pay for, to do what local programs are, or should be doing. 7

Bigger isn't better l

We need less government. 1

Local support-less government is better. 6

Duplicates costs. 7

Too bureaucratic. 1

Too top heavy. 6

Duplication of services already in place. 6

Too much government already. 2

Local is better. 2

Too broad a scope. 2

Better locally. 2

Area needs controls, but private sector would do better. 2

Why can't these be handled on local level? 7

Should be locally controlled. 6

If too general things fall through cracks. 6

It's not working. 6

Less government is better. 7

Need less bureaucracy, would better reflect the local citizens if done locally, 4

Local listens to the people better. 4

Local management is where the people are. 4

More in tune with local needs. 4

Local is closer to the peoples needs. 4

Local government in touch with people. 2

Our local can do better. 2

Local focus their attention on local problems. 2

Prefer local government. 2

More control locally. 2

Local gives more attention to what is needed. 2

Citizens have more personal input locally 2.

Small is better. 2

People should handle more, government less. 2

Big government is out of touch with public. 2

Too much big government. 2

Too big- not getting enough done. 2

Metro is too big- not getting enough done. 2

More local control is needed. 2

Like local government. 2

Local is better. 2

Not happy with Metro. 2

Should be handled locally by people- not government. 2

Local is better-individual attention to local problems. 2

Local is better- no need for big government. 2

Small is better- too much stuff goes on when larger. 2

Local can handle it better. 2

Local have better knowledge of what is needed. 2

Citizens have more input into concerns. 2

The bigger government becomes, the less out of tune with the peoples needs & the less efficient. 2

Local government can handle issues better. 2

Local can address problem better/ personal attention to problems. 2

Too much government already. 5

Local issues should stay local. 4

Scope often too broad-needs better focus on individual issues. 7

Too much government. 3

Local is better. 4

Too many vested interests with fingers in the pie. 4

Local issues should be handled locally. 3

Have a lot of power and all they want is money. 6

Local is more in touch with the citizens. 5

More local people. 5

They don't prepare for what might happen. 6

Local works better. 5

Local government listens more to the people. 5

Metro is too big. 5

Local knows peoples needs. 5

Too much money spent. 5

Too much government (too many levels). 5

Observations:

Just as Metro has an obligation to listen to the voices of citizens in the region, it also has an obligation to help them comprehend the agency's real role and mission.

The comments in response to Questions 9a and 9b underscore the importance of a healthy relationship with local governments. Much of the opposition to regional government is based on bias against government, period, and Metro will probably never win over the people who feel this way. But it will enhance its credibility if it can change the public perception that Metro is in competition with local government. Its best allies in this effort should be the local governments themselves. Citizens need not only to understand their own ability as individuals and groups of citizens to influence Metro's decisions and actions, but also to be made aware of the involvement of their local governments in the workings of Metro through M-PAC, J-PACT and other such groups.

Awareness of Other Metro Programs

Question 10: Have you heard of the following Metro sponsored programs?

Awareness of the Region 2040 Plan has increased significantly, although it remains low in comparison to the other programs tested.

Table 10.1 Awareness of Certain Metro Programs

Table 10.1		•
Program Awareness Level	1995	1993
Region 2040 Plan	25%	5%
Greenspaces	70%	66%
North/South Light Rail Corridor Study	88%	69%
Earthquake Planning Program	49%	67%

- ◆ Among those who could name Metro as their regional government, 39% are aware of Region 2040. Among those who could not name Metro, only 11% had heard of Region 2040. Recognition of the planning program is higher, 32%, among those who support the idea of regional government than it is among those who oppose the idea (24%). By county, 30% of Washington County respondents say they have heard of Region 2040, compared to 24% in the other two counties. Awareness is much higher, 32%, among men than it is among women, 21%. It is highest among those from Council District #3, 4 & 7; lowest among those from District #1 & 2.
- ♦ Greenspaces has higher than average awareness among those who can name Metro as their regional government (eight out of ten have heard of Greenspaces). It is highest among Washington County respondents (76%), but also well recognized by those from Clackamas County (73%) and in Multnomah County (67%). Recognition is highest among those from Council District #1, 2 & 3; lowest among those from District #6 & 5.
- Ninety-five percent of those who can name Metro as the regional government are aware of the north-south light rail corridor study. Awareness is higher among the suburban counties than it is in Multnomah County.
- ♦ Earthquake planning is the one area where public awareness is lower than it was in 1993. This may be explained by the fact that, in January of 1993, the agency had conducted the first regional workshop on earthquake preparedness. This was followed by the release of an earthquake hazzard map for the region which received a lot of media coverage. Then, in March 1993, the Portland area actually experienced its first earthquake in some time. Even though this 1995 survey was in the field at the time of the large earthquake in Kobe, Japan it is obvious that events at home focus attention on issues much more readily that those that occur in other parts of the world. In this survey, there is a higher awareness about **earthquake planning** among those who can name Metro as the regional government; among those who oppose the idea of regional government; among longer-term residents; among Washington County and Clackamas County respondents and among older residents.

General Government

Question 11: Can you tell me the names of any of your elected officials at Metro?

Respondents were given the opportunity to provide up to two names of elected officials that represent them at Metro. Only 30% were able to provide names, and one-third of the names provided are people no longer associated with Metro (Rena Cusma was the name most often mentioned). 43% name Metro Executive Mike Burton. 10% name current Council Presiding Officer Ruth McFarland.

Observation:

In the 1993 survey, only 18% offered a name of an elected official at Metro and one-tenth of the names given were not in fact current Metro officials. In this survey, 30% offer names. However one-third of the names provided refer to persons other than current Metro officials.

Question 12: What are your two best sources of information about public issues in the region?

Respondents were read a list of information sources and asked to name two reference sources. Television and <u>The Oregonian</u> are most frequently mentioned although the order is reversed in this year's survey.

Table 12.1: Best Information Sources About Public Issues

Table 12.1		
Information Source	1995	1993
Television The Oregonian Radio Local Newspapers Friends & neighbors Newsletters Other	69% 73% 20% 13% 9% 7% 5%	80% 68% 23% 15% 9% 1% 3%

- ◆ Television is mentioned more often by those who could not name Metro as their regional government and those who have not heard of Metro; by those who are undecided about the idea of having a regional government; 5-10 year residents; Washington County respondents; older people; women; & those from District #4 & 5.
- The Oregonian is more popular among regional government supporters; 5-10 year residents; Washington county respondents; 35-44 & 54-65 year olds; and those from Council District #3 & 7.

- Radio draws higher than average responses from those who oppose the idea of regional government; from those at either end of length of residence spectrum; from Clackamas County respondents; from 35-55 year olds; and from Council District #1, 2 & 3.
- Local newspapers fare better among those who can name Metro as their regional government; Clackamas County respondents; older residents; and respondents from Council District #6 & 2.

Demographics

Question 13: How long have you lived in the Portland metropolitan region?

Survey respondents have lived in the region a median average of 18.8 years.

Table 13.1 Length of Time in Portland Metropolitan Region

Table 13.1		
Length of Residence	1995	1993
5 Years or Less	18%	16%
6-10 Years	14%	12%
11-15 Years	8%	14%
16-20 Years	14%	13%
Over 20 Years	46%	45%

- ◆ Just under half of the respondents have lived here more than 20 years. People who know Metro is the regional government; those who oppose regional government; respondents from Clackamas County and Multnomah County: older residents; and those from Council District #2 & 6 have lived here longer than the average.
- Readers should bear in mind that the target population for this sample was registered voters in the region. Therefore, the average length of residence in the community as reflected in this sample will be higher than that for the population at large.

Question 14: In which of the following age groups are you?

The median average age of the sample group is 47 years.

Table 14.1 Respondents by Age Group

Table		
Age	1995	1993
Under 35	26%	21%
35-44	20%	25%
45-54	18%	20%
55-64	13%	13%
65 & Over	22%	21%
•		

- ◆ The average age for those who know Metro is the regional government, or who have heard of Metro is higher than those who have no such knowledge or awareness. The average age of those who support regional government is younger (46.7) than those who oppose it (49.9). Those who are undecided about the idea of regional government are much younger (38.0). Clackamas County respondents are older than the average (51.5), which might account for some of the difference in opinion among counties. Those from Multnomah County (46.8) and Washington County (43.0) are both younger than the average. Respondents from Council District #2 & 5 are older than the average; those from District #4 & 6 much younger than the average.
- Again, readers should be mindful that the average age in this sample of registered voters is likely to be higher than the average age for the population at large, given the tendency for younger people not to register to vote.

Question 16: County of Residence?

The percentages in the sample approximate the percentage of registered voters within the Metro boundaries of each county. Over half of the respondents have been drawn from Multnomah County, one-quarter from Washington County.

Table 16.1 % Of Respondents By County Area Within Metro Boundary

Table 16.1	
County	%
Multnomah County Clackamas County Washington County	55% 18% 27%

Relationships between Metro and the local governments in the region, particularly those in Clackamas County and Washington County, have in the past been strained. Metro is perceived in the outlying suburban areas as being too dominated by the interests of the Central City/Multnomah County area. Table 16.1 shows that almost six out of every ten registered voters in Metro's boundaries live within Multnomah County. On this basis, it seems reasonable to assume that the three counties will have unequal impact and influence in the operations of the regional government. However Table 16.2 offers an additional insight.

Table 16.2 % Of Households In Each County That Lie Within Metro Boundaries

Table 16.2	
County	%
Multnomah County	99%
Washington County Clackamas County	89% 70%

• While Clackamas County households within Metro's boundaries make up about 18%, or less than one-fifth of the total households in Metro, they account for 70% of all the households in Clackamas County. Likewise, while the households in Washington county that are within Metro's boundaries make up about one-quarter of the total number of households in Metro, they include almost nine out of every ten households in the county. Consequently, officials in each of the suburban counties sometimes question whether the interests of the vast majority of their county constituents who live within Metro's boundaries, are properly heard when their representation, as county residents, is distinctly in the minority.

Observations:

Both Metro and local government officials need to be sensitive to issues of place and belonging as they continue to refine a process for building effective intergovernmental relations in the region through M-PAC and other forums.

As the regional government becomes more accepted as an authentic government form in its own right, with a separate and definable set of solutions it is uniquely qualified to contribute for the betterment of life in the region, local regional squabbles are likely to diminish in frequency and intensity. How the new Metro Council and Executive Officer choose to define their relationships with local officials will help shape this outcome.

Question 17: What is the postal zip code for the area where you live?

Postal zip code numbers are recorded on survey forms but data has not been aggregated for this report.

Question 18: Gender

56% of the sample are female; 44% are male

Question 19: Metro Council District

Respondents have been drawn from each Council District in the same proportion as the number of registered voters in each District are to the total number of voters within Metro's boundaries. Registered voter information is based on data obtained from the County Elections Office in each county in January, 1995.

Table 19.1 Respondents By Council District

Table 19.1	
District # (Registered Voters)	%
1 (95,124)	14%
2 (103,029)	15% 15%
3 (102,872)	13%
4 (91,031) 5 (100,086)	14%
6 (96,478)	14%
7 (108,863)	15%
. (130,000)	

Future Direction

Question 15: What in your opinion is the most important thing the Metro Council should be focusing on in the next twelve months?

While 14% did not take advantage of the opportunity to offer direction to the Council, the areas of growth management planning (20%) and transportation planning/improvements (15%) are the key areas respondents would like to see the Metro Council focus on. A further 10% want to see work continue on the light rail system. 28% offer suggestions that are not really within Metro's area of responsibility but are none the less significant areas of concern for respondents.

Table 15.1 Most Important Issue for Metro Council to Focus On

Table 15.1	
Response Growth Planning Transportation Plan/Improvements Light Rail Solid Waste/Recycling Cost Effective Government Greenspaces/Parks Other Don't Know/No Answer	% 20% 15% 10% 5% 2% 28% 14%

- ♦ Planning for Growth is more important among those who can name Metro as the regional government; those who support the idea of having a regional government; people from Clackamas County and Washington County; 35-44 year olds; and those from Council District #3, 4 & 7.
- ♦ The interest in **transportation related** issues is more apparent among those who couldn't name Metro as the regional government; those who support the idea of having a regional government; 5-10 year residents; Washington County respondents; those in the 45-54 age group; and those from Council District #1 & 4.
- ♦ Interest in light rail is more pronounced among respondents from Washington County; males and those from Council District #3.
- A listing of the verbatim responses offered by respondents follows:

Light Rail Light rail. (16) Leaving the stop at the Wash Park Zoo. Keeping within budget & pushing N/S light rail. Finish light rail (6) Finish the tunnel & rail project. Light rail- which would be fair to OMSI. Get the light rail done- cost effective. Light rail-further out. Traffic which includes light rail. Get this mess of light rail cleaned up. Light rail would be nice to get finished. Light rail & transportation. Light rail to Clackamas. Transportation- light rail system to Aloha. Tri-met / light rail. Land use & light rail. Light rail- should be privately owned. Light rail- transportation. Getting Max. out to Hillsboro. North / south rail. North south light rail to hospitals.

Growth Management

Urban growth boundaries.

Land use planning.

Promoting urban density & maintaining urban growth boundaries.

Growth management.

Population growth.

Quality of life /housing, transportation & senior help.

Growth control.

Housing.

Growth boundaries.

Land management.

Planning for growth.

Low income housing.

Land use (7)

Regional planning

Ecology.

Growth.

Growth management (9).

Keep Oregon livable for all.

Land use planning.

Quit moving out farther, we use to live in the country.

Too much ground is becoming cement.

Urban growth (12).

Try to control population, so we don't keep building.

Probably the growth management.

Expanding the city out further, don't want it to come out farther.

Environmental issues.

Land use planning.

Land use- environmental.

Managing growth in outlying areas.

Urban planning.

Growth & land use.

Controlling growth & building.

Long range planning.

Infrastructure.

2040 planning (3).

Growth issues- no more density.

Growth planning.

Regional planning.

Growth planning - freeways.

Sub-value/ low income housing/ review this program.

Environmental issues.

Land use planning.

Growth planning.

Urban planning.

Environmental issues.

Growth & planning.

Limiting urban sprawl.

Long term growth.

Long term growth & traffic planning.

Recycling- the environment.

Regional planning.

Land use.

Development.

Long range planning.

Planning.

Land management.

Lane use planning.

Growth issues- transportation.

Clean up what we have so it's safe to use.

Land management-better long range growth planning.

Quality of life in Portland

. Land use & urban boundaries.

Controlling growth better.

Planning urban growth.

Environmental issues.

Population moving out.

Population control for suburb.

Population growth.

Make new building match resources that are available. Too much new growth - not enough sewers.

schools, etc., to handle it.

Land use planning.

Control urban growth.

N. Portland planning.

Growth planning, light rail.

Hope they get the sewer fixed.

Land development

Clean air, clean water.

Growth planning.

Transportation Issues.

Transportation & growth.

Transportation for seniors.

Transportation (22)

More transit- transportation.

Mass transportation.

Traffic (10)

Public transportation- especially for elderly.

Solving transportation problems (2)

Traffic and transportation planning.

Transportation planning.

Make less traffic tie-ups.

Build a mono rail and get those stupid things off the street.

Transportation-light rail.

The bad traffic problems.

More lanes for bikes & pedestrians.

Traffic congestion (4)

Traffic, especially early- 5:30 busy even then.

Traffic, cost efficiency.

Traffic, which includes the light rail.

More accessibility for pedestrians.

Improving the roads.

Traffic & growth.

Transportation issues.

Transportation issues.

Transportation for the handicapped

Road maintenance.

Better traffic management.

Highways and freeways worked on.

Traffic problems.

Parks/Greenspaces

Park improvements.

Parks supervision- policing.

Greenspaces (4)

Provide more recreational activities.

Parks (2)

Parks & wetlands.

Greenspaces, accessibility for handicapped

Green space- growth.

Earthquake planning.

In light of world wide earthquakes, preparing the city.

Earthquake planning, especially now.

Earthquake planning (4)

Earthquake awareness.

Disaster preparedness.

Highways / bridges ready for earthquake.

Earthquake readiness.

Earthquake preparedness.

Solid Waste/Recycling

Recycling- more plastics (2)

Recycling for apartments.

Collecting the garbage.

Waste disposal (6)

Waste management.

Recycling (3)

Curb side recycling of plastics.

Recycling & garbage.

Get deeper into recycling/ they are missing a lot of stuff.

Facilities

Zoo.

Governance

Eliminating themselves.

Disbanding (5)

Same as they're doing now.

Consistency.

Focus on one thing and do it best.

Dissolving (3)

Internal house cleaning.

Continue present programs.

Reduced to a minimum size.

Different sources of revenue.

More information on budget spending.

More inf. to the public.

Community involvement.

Downsizing Metro itself.

Cut down on duplication between city, county & metro.

Not balling up works- work so that something can get done.

Pulling everyone together.

Down sizing government.

Cost Effective Government

Less taxation.

Cutting cost of government.

Better use of funds- cost effective.

Keeping cost down (2)

Keeping our taxes down.

Quit spending so much money!

Keep spending down, it is affecting us out here.

Keeping taxes & expenses down.

Maximizing funds use(better spending of tax money).

Taxation.

Keep expenses down (2)

Stop getting pay raise when they can't afford it.

Make sure programs are productive.

Cutting our taxes.

The way citizens pay taxes & where they go.

Transit

Keep the bus stop at the zoo.

East- west transit - transit police.

Public transportation.

More attractive mass transit to help traffic.

Transit- environment control/ urban renewal.

Youth Programs

More activities for youth.

Activities to help youth.

Kids & education.

Youth problems.

Kids! Our future!

Youth services.

Youth programs.

Some place for young people to go that is fun & legal.

Kids.

Crime

Crime control.

Crime/ safety (3)

Crime spreading out.

Crime if they are involved with that . If not, maybe they should be.

Crime (12)

Gang & youth program.

All the issues are important, but gangs & youth are most important.

Safety of streets.

Violence in society- safety of streets.

Stop the violence.

Emphasis on youth guidance.

Jail space.

Gang activity & graffiti.

Get involved with gang consequences.

Growth of crime.

Better judicial system.

Safety (2)

Justice system.

Crime & security solid waste.

Safety in neighborhoods.

Crime in our streets.

Schools & crime (2)

Gang problems & schools.

Schools gangs.

Gang problems.

Taxes & crime.

The crime in our area.

Schools & crime issues.

Gangs.

Other

Water & salmon issues- Hydro.

Sewer problems with Willamette River.

Racial relations.

Schools- stop giving condoms at school.

Homeless problems.

Schools - place more emphasis on learning, rather than sports activities, etc.

Assisting the individual.

Financing.

Family issues.

Cut costs for elderly.

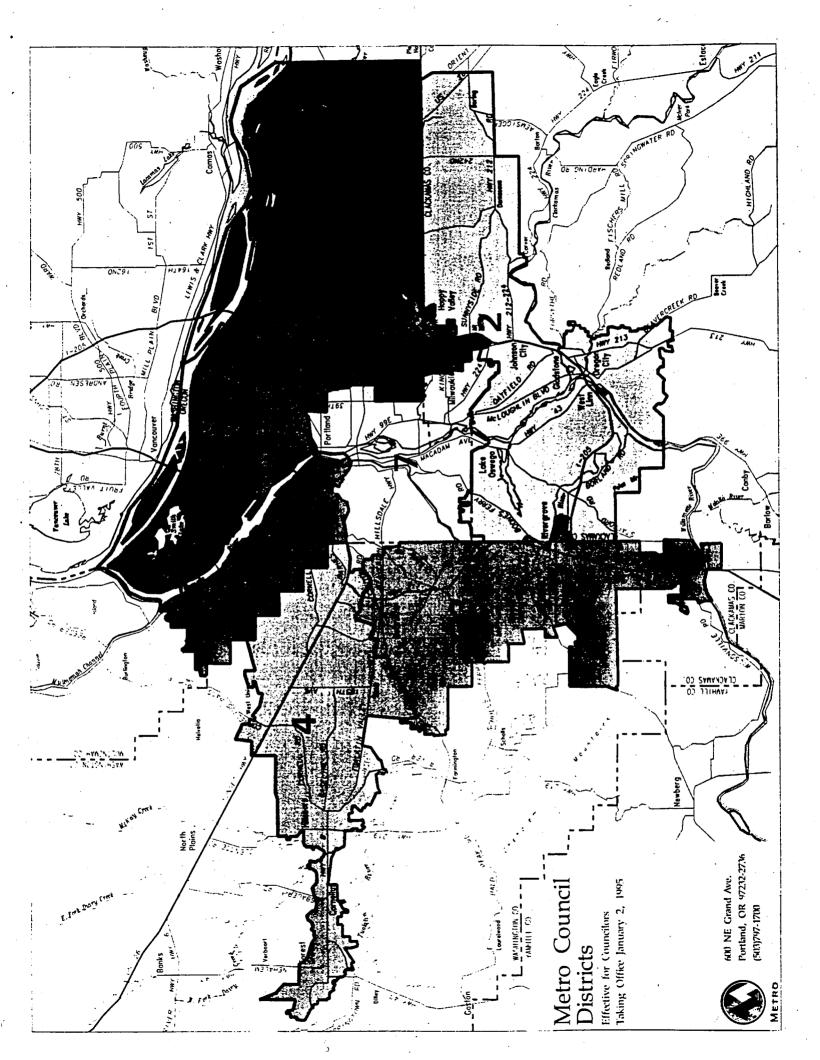
Schools-budget- crime- safety- transportation.

Schools & waste (garbage/ recycling

Education.

Quality of education & better use of school facilities- year round school programs.

Schools.



REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE AREA SERVED BY METRO - JANUARY 1995

Council District	Multnomah	<u>Clackamas</u>	Washington	<u>Total</u>
# 1 McFarland	95,124 (25%)			95,124 (13.6%)
# 2 Morissette	1,830 (2%)	101,170 (77%) .(98%)	29	103,029 (14.8%)
# 3 . Kvistad		7,849 (6%) (8%)	9 5,023 (50%) (92%)	102,872 (14.8%)
# 4 McLain			91,031 (48%)	91,031 <i>(13.1%)</i>
# 5 Washington	100,086 (27%)		•	100,086 (14.3%
# 6 Monroe	88,927 (24%) (92%)	7,551 (6%) (8%)	·	96,478 (13.8%)
# 7 McCaig	9 0,53 1 <i>(24%) (83%)</i>	14,748 (11%) (14%)	3,584 (2%) (3%)	108,863 (15.6%
TOTAL	376,498 (54%)	131,318 <i>(19%)</i>	1 89,667 <i>(27%)</i>	697,483 (100%) (100%)

^{%&#}x27;s <u>after</u> number represent % of county voters in each district (read down the page) % <u>below</u> number represent % of district voters in each county (read across the page)

SOURCE:

CB.	
Multnonah County Elections	Donna, 248-3726
Clackamas County Elections	Darlene 655-8510
Washington County Elections	T 648-8670

Western Attitudes January, 1995

METRO - "Citi-Speak IV" December 1994
"Hello, I'mcalling for Western Attitudes, an Oregon public opinion survey
company. This is not a sales call. We're asking people in your area some questions
about government. If you're a registered voter and have about 5 minutes, would
you like to share your opinion with us?" (If yes, proceed. If no, ask if there is another
registered voter in the household who might like to participate. If not, go to next #.)
togistered votes in the negative was an property of the second of the se
Question 1: Can you tell me the name of the regional government for the
metropolitan area in and around Portland? (Don't read. Circle # by answer.)
1. Metro 2. Tri-Met 3. Other 4. Don't Know
1. INCHO
Question 2: The regional government for the Portland Metropolitan area is called Metro. Before this call, had you heard of Metro? 1. Yes 2. No
Question 3: Can you tell me some of the things Metro does? (Note first two mentioned)
First Second
Metro provides a variety of planning activities and specific services in the metropolitan area. I'd like to read some of these to you, and have you tell me, for each one, how important you think the activity or service is, using a 1-5 scale where 1 is Not Very Important, and 5 is Very Important. (READ Q4-7. After each one, ask respondent, "How important do you think this activity or service is for the region?" Circle a number from 1-5, 6 = Don't Know, to indicate response. Rotate order of asking Q4-7.)
Question 4: Growth management, land use and transportation planning that
coordinates the efforts of cities, counties and other governments in the region.
1 2 3 4 5 6
Question 5: Disposing of solid waste and garbage after it has been collected by local garbage haulers throughout the region.
1 2 3 4 5 6
1 2 3 4 5 0
Question 6: Operating regional spectator facilities, e.g. the Oregon Convention Center, the Expo Center, the Metro Washington Park Zoo, Civic Auditorium, Civic Stadium and the Portland Center for the Performing Arts.
1 2 3 4 5 6
Question 7: Operating parks and recreation facilities in Multnomah County,
formerly managed by the county.
1 2 3 4 5 6
Question 8: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Generally, the services and activities we've just been talking about, work better when they are handled at a regional, rather than a local or statewide level?" 1. Agree 2. Disagree 3. Don't Know
1. Agree 2. Disagree 3. Don't know

Question 9: Generally, are you inclined to support or oppose the idea of havi regional government like Metro?	
1. Support (Ask Q9a.) 2. Oppose (Skip to Q9b.) 3. Don't Know (Go to	Q10)
Question 9a: If you generally support the idea of regional government, why is	that?
Question 9b: If you are opposed to the idea of regional government, why is the	at?
Question 10: Have you heard of the following Metro sponsored programs? (Circle the # by programs respondents have heard of. Leave blank if they haven't) 1. Region 2040 Planning 3. North/South Light Rail Corridor S 2. Greenspaces 4. Earthquake Planning Program	Study
Question 11: Can you tell me the names of any of your elected officials at Met	ro?
FirstSecond	
Question 12: What are your two best sources of information about public issu the region? (Don't Read. Circle first two mentioned.) 1. Television 3. Radio 5. Friends/ neighbors 7. Other 2. The Oregonian 4. Local newspapers 6. Newsletters 8. Don't Knowski and the region of the regio	
Question 13: How long have you lived in the Portland Metropolitan Area? RI 1. 5 yrs or less 2. 6-10 yrs 3. 11-15 yrs 4. 16-20 yrs 5. Over 2	EAD 20 yrs
Question 14: In which of the following age groups are you? READ 1. Under 35 2. 35-44 yrs 3. 45-54 yrs 4. 55-64 yrs 5. 65 & 6	Over
Question 15: Finally, what in your opinion is the most important thing the Mc Council should be focusing on in the next twelve months?	etro
THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO SHARE YOUR OPINIONS WITH US. Question 16: County of Residence. (Don't ask. Note from calling sheet.) 1. Multnomah (26) 2. Clackamas (03) 3. Washington (34)	
Question 17: Postal zip code number. (Note from sheet.) 97	
Question 18: Gender (Don't ask. Note from voice on phone.) 1. Male 2. Female	
Question 19: Metro Councilor District (Don't ask. Note from calling sheet, if available 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	i.)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4.4 Meeting Date February 28, 1995

Report on NARC Conference and Congressional Visits



MEIRO

Date: February 21, 1995

To: Ruth McFarland, Presiding Officer

Councilors Don Morissette, Jon Kvistad, Susan McLain,

Ed Washington, Rod Monroe and Patricia McCaiq

From: Merrie Waylett, director, Office of Public and

Covernment Relations

Andy Cotugno, director, Planning Department

Subject: 1995 National Association of Regional Councils

(NARC) Washington Policy Conference and Congressional Office Visits, Feb. 4-7, 1995

NARC CONFERENCE

Merrie Waylett and Andy Cotugno attended the NARC conference in Washington, D.C. representing Metro. The conference was aimed at providing a federal government and congressional update for officials and staff of regional councils at the beginning of the first session of the 104th Congress.

NARC executive director John Eppling emphasized that NARC has moved its focus from technical assistance to advocacy and lobbying at the federal level.

Conference sessions focused on:

The 104th Congress and what to expect from the new Republican majority in both the House and Senate:

Conference keynoter Norman Ornstein said that as the 104th Congress convenes there is more cooperation between the White House and Republicans than among the Democrats, but predicted that the Republicans would have a difficult time maintaining unity, particularly in the Senate where there are a number of moderate Republicans. He also said that the new federalism will result in less dollars returning to the states from the federal government and there will still be strings attached to the mandates. Ornstein said that local government needs to assert itself so Congress recognizes there is a third tier of government that must be addressed. The anti-business rhetoric developing among the bedrock right wing. And he also said that the business community does not support the new federalism because it does not want to deal with 50 different states. Ornstein predicted that a Balanced Budget Amendment would be disastrous for local transportation and

1995 NARC Washington Policy Conference

planning efforts, allowing the federal government to use the Highway Trust Fund for non-transportation needs and also resulting in cuts in mass transit funding and other programs.

Cooperation and coalitions:

Representatives of the National League of Cities, U.S. Conference of Mayors, the National Association of Counties and National Governor's Association all emphasized the need for development of coalitions and cooperation not only among their own members but between the associations. The International City Managers Association is addressing the issue of regionalism at its conference this year in Denver possibly leading to the strengthening regional councils through their interface.

Proposed reorganization of the U.S. Department of Transportation and department programs and funding:

The President's budget was released during the conference and was the focus of several sessions. It proposes to consolidate numerous grant programs and agencies within the U.S. Department of Transportation (ODOT), downscale the federal role and reduce funding. This raises numerous questions regarding funding to the state versus the region, the role of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and an overall reduction in federal funding. As proposed, the budget maintains a "Discretionary" program to fund "New Rail Starts." As expected, this signals the beginning of the ISTEA reauthorization process within which a South/North funding commitment is being sought. This could be accomplished this year through the action on the President's budget or through an ISTEA amendment required this year when adoption of the National Highway System map is scheduled before Congress.

Telecommunications:

Telecommunications policy has fallen behind technology and Congress is looking at both telecommunications policies and legislation.

The Puget Sound Regional Council in the Seattle metro area covers 6000 square miles with a population of 3 million people. The Council has included the movement of information in its 2020 Plan. Movement of Information includes telecommuting and teleconferencing as part of their transportation demand strategy. As is Metro, they also see future involvement of citizens through cable television and electronic bulletin boards. Metro is ahead of most other regional councils in the nation with the electronic bulletin board pilot project.

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CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE VISITS

Appointments were scheduled with members of Congress from Oregon and southwest Washington to brief the members or their aides on Metro programs which are federally funded and/or impacted by federal regulation. Briefings focused on the need to secure a commitment for funding through the next Intermodal Surface Transportation Act (ISTEA) for South/North Light Rail: FY 96 and FY 97 funding for the Regional Earthquake Hazard Mapping and Preparedness program; and Greenspaces program funding through U.S. Fish and Wildlife. Also participating in many of the earthquake program briefings was Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries director Don Hull.

Meetings were held with:

Representative Jim Bunn, House Appropriations Committee Senator Mark Hatfield's appropriations assistant Mark Vanderwater

Representative Elizabeth Furse and her legislative director Christ Porter

Doug Badger, legislative assistant to <u>Congressman Wes Cooley</u> Chris Warner, legislative assistant to <u>Congressman Peter</u> DeFazio

<u>Congressman Ron Wyden</u> and his legislative director Ben McMakin Ashley Anderson, legislative assistant to <u>Senator Bob Packwood</u> Ted Case, legislative assistant to <u>Congresswoman Linda Smith</u> who represents Clark County and Vancouver

Mike Egan, legislative assistant to <u>Washington Senator Patty</u> <u>Murray</u> who is on Senate Appropriations

Trent Erickson, legislative assistant to <u>Washington Senator</u> <u>Slade Gorton</u> who is also on Appropriatons

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA)

Merrie Waylett and DOGAMI director Don Hull met with Richard Moore, FEMA deputy director in charge of mitigation programs, to update him on our joint earthquake program.

Moore stressed the need to better define in both project proposals and the project management plan how the project can be applied in other parts of the country. He said it would be helpful for the two Oregon agencies to be able to describe the process and technology to save money for 41 other states that are at risk. Moore explained there is a linkage between the Metro-DOGAMI program and a California project focusing on the Northridge area which was the hardest hit in the 1994 California earthquake. Don Hull will be working with the California group.

Moore asked Merrie Waylett to contact Denise Hunt, deputy chief of staff to Seattle Mayor Norm Rice to give them information

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NARC Washington Policy Conference Meeting with FEMA

on the Metro/DOGAMI program.

At the same meeting, an assistant to Moore told Don Hull that the \$950 thousand appropriated by Congress for FY 95 should be released to DOGAMI/Metro soon by FEMA.

cc: Executive Officer Mike Burton Attachments

2/2/95

CONGRESSIONAL AND FEDERAL AGENCY APPOINTMENT SCHEDULE NARC WASHINGTON POLICY CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 6-8, 1995

MONDAY FEB 6, 1995

10:00 AM

CONGRESSMAN JIM BUNN (OR 5TH DIST)
1517 LONGWORTH HOB
PHONE:202-225-5711 (TRACEY TURNER)
SONJA BATES, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Appropriations Committee

Subcommittees:
Interior; Water & Energy; and Foreign
Operations

11:00 AM

SENATOR MARK HATFIELD
711 HART BUILDING
PHONE:202-224-9889 (BRENDA HART)
STEVE NOUSEN, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
MARK VAN DE WATER, APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTE
STAFF
Chair, Appropriations Committee
Chair, Subcommittee on Transportation
Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Rules and Administration
Joint Committee on the Library
Joint Committee on Printing

1:30 PM

CONGRESSWOMAN ELIZABETH FURSE (OR 1ST DIST)
316 CANNON HOB
PHONE:202-225-0855 (JULIA THORSEN)
JENNIE KUGLE, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
CHRIS PORTER, LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR
Commerce Committee
Subcommittees: Commerce, Trade and
Hazardous Materials; and Oversight
and Investigations

3:00 PM

RICHARD MOORE, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR MITIGATION FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGMENT AGENCY 500 C ST, SW PHONE:202-646-2711 (SHIRLEY)

EVENING

OREGON NARC DELEGATION DINNER
Delegates from Rogue Valley, Lane COG, Mid-Willamette COG(Salem), Cascades COG Corvallis-Albany-Newport), Metro will go out for dinner Time and Location to be announced. Bill Hershey from Salem is coordinating dinner

CONGRESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS FEBRUARY 6 - 7, 1995

TUESDAY FEB 7, 1995

10:00 AM CONGRESSMAN WES COOLEY (OR 2ND DISTRICT)

-2-

1609 LONGWORTH HOB

PHONE: 202-225-6730 (DOUG BADGER)

DAVE REDMOND, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Agriculture Committee Resources Committee

Veterans Affairs Committee

11:00 AM SENATOR PATTY MURRAY (WASH STATE)

302 HART BUILDING

PHONE: 202-224-2621 (ANNETTE)

PATRICIA AKIYAMA, ACTING OF CHIEF STAFF

MIKE EGAN, LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT

Appropriations

Banking

Housing and Urban Affairs

Budget Committee

1:30 PM CONGRESSMAN RON WYDEN (OR 3RD DIST)

1111 LONGWORTH HOB

PHONE: 202-225-4811 (BRUCE)

JOSHUA CARDEN, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Commerce Committee Subcommittees -

Small Business Committee

3:00 PM CONGRESSMAN PETER DEFAZIO (OR 4TH DIST)

2134 RAYBURN HOB

PHONE: 202-225-5416 (LAVONNE MURPHY)
PENNY DODGE, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

JEFF STIER, LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR CHRIS WARNER, LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT

Resources Committee

Transportation Committee

3:45 PM CONGRESSWOMAN LINDA SMITH (WASH 3RD DIST)

1217 LONGWORTH HOB

PHONE: 202-225-3536 (DIANE)
PATRICK FISKE, CHIEF OF STAFF

Resources Committee

Small Business Committee

CONGRESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS FEBRUARY 6-7, 1995

-3-

TO BE CONFIRMED:

SENATOR BOB PACKWOOD 259 RUSSELL BUILDING

PHONE: 202-224-5244 (SHELLY CARTER) HANS HANEY, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Chr., Senate Finance Committee

Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee

Joint Committee on Taxation



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE SUBCOMMITTEES: General Farm Commodities Livestock, Dairy and Poultry

COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES

SUBCOMMITTEES: Water and Power Resources National Parks, Forests, and Lands

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE: Education, Training, Employment and Housing

February 7, 1995

Merrie Waylett Andrew C. Cotugno Metro 600 NE Grand Avenue Portland, OR 97232

Dear Merrie and Andy:

I'm writing to thank you for your recent visit to my office in Washington, D.C. on February 7, 1995.

I appreciate your time and willingness to meet with my Legislative Assistant, Doug Badger. Although an inadvertent delay forced me to miss our scheduled appointment, Doug has reviewed with me the information discussed during the meeting.

I applaud you for your efforts to create a well-researched earthquake reaction plan for the Portland area. There is no doubt that the recent tragedy in Kobe, Japan has reinforced the need to be prepared with emergency services, power, and a sustained infrastructure when an earthquake strikes a metropolitan area. I look forward to similar plans being researched and implemented in the cities of the Second Congressional District. As matters concerning your need for increased funding come before the full House, rest assured that I will keep your comments in mind.

Again, thanks for taking the time to come in and I look forward to the next opportunity to meet with you. As always, please don't hesitate to let me know if I can assist you in any way. Keep in touch.

Sincerely,

WES COOLEY

Member of Congress

WASHINGTON OFFICE 1609 LONGWORTH BUILDING WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-0539 (202) 225-6730 FAX: (202) 225-3046 MEDFORD OFFICE 259 BARNETT ROAD, SUITE E MEDFORD, OREGON 97501 (503) 776-4646 TOLL FREE: 800-533-3303



February 17, 1995

DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND

MINERAL

INDUSTRIES

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Mr. Richard T. Moore Associate Director for Mitigation Federal Emergency Management Agency 500 C Street SW Washington DC 20272

Dear Dick:

I enjoyed our discussion earlier this month of the mitigation project in the Portland metropolitan area. We look forward to continuing cooperation on this effort which already is paying dividends through transfer of the methodology into urban areas in Washington state. As we indicated in our meeting we look forward to sharing the methodology with our counterpart agency and others in California. We are available to travel to California for this purpose. Alternatively, we would be happy to host a workshop here, perhaps in partnership with FEMA.

Please let us know how we can best assist you with vis-à-vis transfer of the "Oregon approach" to others who may be planning similar work. Separately, Merrie Waylett will be doing follow-up with Denise Hunt of Mayor Norm Rice's office in Seattle.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Hull

Director & State Geologist

cc: Myra Lee, Oregon Emergency Management

Merrie Waylett, Metro Matthew Mabey, DOGAMI Ian Madin, DOGAMI

DAH:ch/moore.let





To: Metro Council and Executive Officer

From: Ken Gervais, Senior Management Analyst

Re: Future Vision Newsletter Draft

2/28/95

Attached please find the Future Vision Commission's recommendation of material on the Future Vision for inclusion in the March Newsletter.

This material was reviewed and edited by the Commission at a regularly scheduled meeting last night. Twelve members, including Councilor McLain, were present and participated in the three hour discussion.

C: Future Vision Commission

- 1 February 28, 1995
- 2 Tabloid Copy
- 3 2021 Words

1	FUTURE	VISION
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- 5 Our ecological and economic region goes beyond Metro's current
- 6 boundaries and stretches from the Cascades to the Coast Range,
 - 7 and from Longview to Salem. It is made up of nine counties:
 - 8 Clackamas, Clark, Columbia, Cowlitz, Marion, Multnomah, Polk,
- 9 Washington, and Yamhill. Any vision for a territory as large and
- 10 diverse as this must be regarded as both ambitious and a work-in-
- 11 progress. We offer this vision of the nine-county region in 2045
- 12 in that spirit and as a first step in developing policies, plans,
- 13 and actions that serve our bi-state region and all its people.
- 14 While Metro recognizes that it has no control over surrounding
- 15 jurisdictions and is not responsible for the provision of public
- 16 safety and other social services, the ability to successfully
- 17 manage growth within this region is dependent on and impacts each
- 18 of these.
- 19 Future Vision is mandated by Metro's 1992 Charter. It is not a
- 20 regulatory document; rather it is a standard against which to
- 21 gauge progress toward maintaining a livable region. It is based
- 22 on a number of core values essential to shaping our future:
- We value taking purposeful action to advance our
- aspirations for this region, realizing that we should act to
- meet our needs today in a manner that does not limit or
- eliminate the ability of future generations to meet their
- 27 needs and enjoy this landscape we are privileged to inhabit.
- We value the greatest possible individual liberty in
- politics, economics, lifestyle, belief, and conscience, with
- the understanding that this liberty cannot be fully realized
- 31 unless accompanied by shared commitments for community,

- 32 civic involvement, and a healthy environment.
- We value our regional identity and sense of place, and celebrate the identity and accomplishments of our urban neighborhoods and suburban and rural communities.
 - We value vibrant cities that are an inspiration and a crucial resource for commerce, cultural activities, politics, and community building.
 - We value a healthy economy that provides stable familywage jobs. We recognize that our economic well-being depends on unimpaired and sustainable natural ecosystems, and suitable social mechanisms to insure dignity and equity for all and compassion for those in need.
 - We value the conservation and preservation of natural and historic landscapes. Widespread land restoration and redevelopment must precede any future conversion of land to urban uses.
 - We value a life close to nature incorporated in the urban landscape.
 - We value nature for its own sake, and recognize our responsibility as stewards of the region's natural resources.
 - We value meeting the needs of our communities through grass-roots efforts in harmony with the collective interest of our regional community.
 - We value participatory decision making which harnesses the creativity inherent in a wide range of views.
 - We value a cultural atmosphere and public policies that will insure that every child in every community enjoys the greatest possible opportunities to fulfill his or her potential in life.
- 62 It is, after all, primarily for our children, and for their 63 children, that we propose this vision.

OUR VISION

66 EACH INDIVIDUAL:

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- 67 As inhabitants of this bi-state region, we are committed to the
- 68 development of each individual as a productive, effective member
- 69 of society. This region must make clear and unambiguous
- 70 commitments to each individual in order that we all may have a
- 71 vibrant, healthy place to live. We seek the full participation
- 72 of individuals in the prosperity of this region, accompanied by
- 73 acceptance of their responsibility for stewardship of the
- 74 community and region. Our vision statements for Each Individual
- 75 are:
- CHILDREN In 2045, the welfare of children is of critical
- 77 importance to our well-being. Creating and sustaining public and
- 78 private initiatives that support family life are among our
- 79 highest priorities.
- 80 EDUCATION In 2045, education, in its broadest definition,
- 81 stands as the core of our commitment to each other. Life-long
- 82 learning is the critical ingredient that enables the residents of
- 83 this region to adapt to new ideas, new technologies, and changing
- 84 economic conditions. Our commitment to education is a commitment
- 85 to equipping all people with the means not only to survive, but
- 86 to prosper.
- 87 For example, we will provide opportunities for all children
- and community residents, regardless of income, to engage in
- the visual, literary, and performing arts in community
- 90 centers close to their homes.
- 91 PARTICIPATION In 2045, all residents, old and young, rich and
- 92 poor, men and women, minority and majority, are supported and
- 93 encouraged to be well-informed and active participants in the
- 94 civic life of their communities and the bi-state region. Ours is
- 95 a region that thrives on interaction and engagement of its people
- 96 to achieve community objectives.

- 98 OUR SOCIETY:
- 99 The ability to work together is the hallmark of great communities
- 100 and flourishing societies. Our vision statements for Our Society
- 101 are:
- VITAL COMMUNITIES In 2045, communities throughout the bi-
- 103 state region are socially healthy and responsive to the needs of
- 104 their residents. Government initiatives and services have been
- 105 developed to empower individual communities to actively meet the
- 106 needs of their residents. The economic life of the community is
- 107 inseparable from its social and civic life.
- SAFETY In 2045, personal safety within communities and
- 109 throughout the region is commonly expected as well as a shared
- 110 responsibility involving citizens and all government agencies.
- 111 Our definition of personal safety extends from the elimination of
- 112 prejudice to the physical protection of life and property from
- 113 criminal harm.
- ECONOMY In 2045, our bi-state regional economy is diverse,
- 115 with urban and rural economies linked in a common frame.
- 116 Planning and governmental action have created conditions that
- 117 support the development of family wage jobs in centers throughout
- 118 the region.
- 119 For example, we will encourage further diversification of
- our economy, the creation of family wage jobs, and the
- development of accessible employment centers throughout the
- nine-county region.
- CIVIC LIFE In 2045, citizens embrace responsibility for
- 124 sustaining a rich, inclusive civic life. Political leadership is
- 125 valued and recognized for serving community life.
- DIVERSITY In 2045, our communities are known for their

- 127 openness and acceptance. This region is distinguished by its
- 128 ability to honor diversity in a manner that leads to civic
- 129 cohesion.
- ROOTS In 2045, our history serves us well, with the lessons
- 131 of the past remembered and incorporated in our strategies for the
- 132 future. Knowledge of our cultural history helps ground social
- 133 and public policy in the natural heritage we depend on and value.
- 134 OUR PLACE:
- 135 We are committed to preserving the physical landscape of the
- 136 region, acknowledging the settlement patterns that have developed
- 137 within it, and supporting the economy that continues to evolve.
- 138 We live in a varied and beautiful landscape. Our place sits at
- 139 the confluence of great rivers--the Columbia, Lewis, Sandy, and
- 140 the Willamette and its tributaries, which dominate the landscape.
- 141 This is a region of water, volcanic buttes, and forest-clad
- 142 mountains and hills. Our vision statements for Our Place are:
- A LIFE IN NATURE In 2045 The metropolitan region is
- 144 recognized as a unique ecosystem, known for the intelligent
- 145 integration of urban and rural development as evidenced by:
- 146 -- improved air and water quality, and increased
- 147 biodiversity;
- 148 -- views of Mt. Hood, Mt. St. Helens, Mt. Rainier, Mt.
- Adams, Mt. Jefferson, and other Cascade and coastal peaks,
- unobstructed by either development or air pollution;
- 151 -- Greenspaces and parks within walking distance of every
- 152 household;
- 153 -- a close and supportive relationship among natural
- resources, landscape, the built environment, and the economy
- of the region; and
- 156 -- restored ecosystems, complemented by planning and
- development initiatives that preserve the fruits of those
- 158 labors.

- For example, we will manage watersheds to protect, restore, and manage the integrity of streams, wetlands, and floodplains and their multiple biological, physical, and social values.
- RURAL LAND In 2045, rural land shapes our sense of place by 164 keeping our cities separate from one another, supporting viable 165 farm and forest resource enterprises, and keeping our citizens 166 close to nature, farms, forests, and other resource lands and 167 activities.
- 168 For example, we will develop and implement local plans and
 169 the urban growth boundary and rural lands elements of the
 170 Regional Framework Plan to actively reinforce the protection
 171 of lands currently reserved for farm and forest uses. No
 172 conversion of such lands to urban, suburban, or rural
 173 residential use will be allowed.
- 174 DOWNTOWNS - In 2045, downtown Portland continues to serve an 175 important defining role for the entire region. In addition. 176 reinvestment, both public and private, has been focused on 177 historic urban centers such as Ridgefield, Camas, Vancouver, Gresham, St. Helens, Beaverton, Hillsboro, Lake Oswego, Oregon 178 179 City, Molalla, Woodburn, and others throughout our bi-state 180 This pattern of reinvestment and renewal continues to be 181 the centerpiece of our strategy for building and maintaining 182 healthy communities.
- VARIETY IN OUR COMMUNITIES AND NEIGHBORHOODS In 2045, our region is composed of numerous distinct communities. Each community provides a wide variety of healthy, appealing, and affordable housing and neighborhood choices. They are physically compact and have distinct identities and boundaries. Truly public space exists in every community, and serves as the stage for a rich and productive civic dialogue.

190	For example, we will encourage a choice of neighborhood
191	types, including new neighborhoods with suburban densities,
192	neighborhoods of traditional (pre-WWII) densities, and
193	mixed-use neighborhoods of a more urban design.

- WALKING In 2045, residents of this region can shop, play, and socialize by walking or biking within their neighborhoods. Walking, biking, or using transit are attractive alternatives for a wide range of trips within neighborhoods, between important regional centers, and outside of the urban area. This region is known for the utility of its non-auto transportation alternatives.
- LINKAGES In 2045, goods, materials, and information move easily throughout the bi-state region. Manufacturing, distribution, and office employment centers are linked to the transportation and communication systems in a comprehensive and coordinated manner.
- EQUITY In 2045, the tradeoffs associated with growth and change have been fairly distributed throughout the region. Our commitment to managing growth is matched by an equal commitment to social equity for the communities of today and tomorrow. The true environmental and social cost of new growth has been paid by those, both new to the region and already present, receiving the benefits of that new growth.
- For example, we will address the issues associated with concentrations of poverty throughout the nine-county region through tax base sharing, pursuing changes in tax codes, overcoming physical and economic barriers to access, providing affordable housing throughout the area, and targeted public investments.
- GROWTH MANAGEMENT In 2045, growth in the region has been

- 220 managed. Our objective has been and still is to live in great
- 221 cities, not merely big ones. Performance indicators and
- 222 standards have been established for our Vision and all other
- 223 growth management efforts, and citizens of the bi-state region
- 224 annually have an opportunity to review and comment on our
- 225 progress. The results of that review process are used to frame
- 226 appropriate actions needed to maintain and enhance our regional
- 227 quality of life.
- 228 IMPLEMENTATION:
- 229 Clearly, Metro has a critical role to play as planner, convener,
- 230 monitor, and leader. However, as in the past, the success we
- 231 achieve in the future will be a collaborative accomplishment.
- 232 We have an unparalleled opportunity to create an environment of
- 233 consensus and predictability in the region for what Metro's
- 234 planning and policy making ought to accomplish. The full report
- 235 of the Future Vision Commission contains detailed suggestions for
- 236 acting on each vision statement, examples of which have been
- 237 provided, above.
- 238 Perhaps the most critical implementing step is Metro's commitment
- 239 to a continuing dialogue with the citizens of this nine-county
- 240 region to address 21st century problems and issues. An annual
- 241 review of the region will allow us to promote, lead, and engage
- 242 citizens in an ongoing discussion of our future, including a
- 243 discussion of carrying capacity. The relevant question is
- 244 not "when" carrying capacity will be exceeded, but "how" we will
- 245 collectively restore, maintain, and enhance the qualities of the
- 246 region.
- 247 As a region, our aspiration is to match the spectacular nature of
- 248 our landscape with an equally spectacular and regular civic
- 249 celebration of our sense of the region--truly our sense of place.
- 250 For it is only through the creation of a shared and far-reaching
- 251 culture of this place that our accomplishments will match our

- 252 aspirations. Our Vision is a work in progress and we challenge
- 253 future generations to continue our work.