

## Portland

## Editorial

# Elect John Frewing to Metro Council

The Metropolitan Service District's seven-year record of action and inaction is properly subject to harsh criticism, but one of the better decisions of the regional-government council was to choose John L. Frewing to fill the East Portland seat vacated by Ernie Bonner last February.

Frewing earned praise from public, staff and fellow board members alike for his earnest, thoughtful, constructive service as a director of Tri-Met. When public hearings were held on sensitive issues, Frewing sometimes was the only board member present to hear citizens' views. And he usually carried those views to Tri-Met board meetings, though they too often fell on deaf ears.



His calm but to-the-point style of discussion ought to serve Metro well. If heeded, it should begin to move Metro toward the regional-service mission voters and the Legislature intended in creating the elected government. He supports the tax base measure Metro has placed on the May 20 election ballot.

Frewing's participation in community affairs has been extensive. It includes service on the board of the Portland Youth Philharmonic, membership on a number of City Club study committees, co-chairmanship of the Save Ross Island Committee and chairmanship of the Oregon Environmental Foundation. A graduate of Harvard College and the University of Washington, he is a nuclear engineer and manager in PGE corporate planning.

Mike Bonner, an employee in the medical

records department of Oregon Health Sciences University and a former president of Creston-Kenilworth Neighborhood Association, also is seeking the Metro Council seat. He is not related to Ernie Bonner. He also supports the Metro tax base measure, and would focus his energies on recycling and a domed entertainment-sports-cultural complex.

Other candidates are D.R. "Dave" Moffitt, unemployed and only a six-month resident of the district, and Bill Grenfell, a much-discussed, frequent candidate for numerous offices whose public record deserves flat and firm rejection by voters. Linda K. Williams, also on the ballot, says she has withdrawn from the race.

The Oregonian recommends voters elect John Frewing to the Metro Council from District 8.



# Four campaign for Metro board Position 8

By JANET CHRIST  
of The Oregonian staff

Four Southeast Portland residents with varied experience in politics and community affairs are seeking election to Position 8 on the Metropolitan Service District Council.

On the May 20 primary election ballot will be Michael Bonner, former chairman of the Creston-Kenilworth Neighborhood Association; John L. Frewing, manager of energy planning services for Portland General Electric Co. and the appointed incumbent; Bill Grenfell, former Portland Community College Board member and former state legislator; and D.R. "Dave" Moffit, who challenged Rep. Vera Katz, D-Portland, in the 1984 House District 10 race.

Portland lawyer Linda K. Williams filed for the position but said she was no longer a candidate.

District 8 is bounded generally by the Willamette River on the west, the Multnomah-Clackamas county line on the south, the Interstate 84 freeway on the north and a line jogging from Northeast 33rd to Southeast 72nd avenues on the east.

Metro council members are elected to four-year, unpaid terms. The winner of the Position 8 race will take office Jan. 1, 1987.

Frewing, 45, was appointed to the board in February, by a 7-2 vote of Metro council members, to serve out the unexpired term of Ernie Bonner, who resigned after six years on the council.

Michael Bonner, 34, no relation to Ernie, is a medical records employee at the Oregon Health Sciences University.

He is interested in issues related to air pollution and is opposed to Metro's use of garbage burners using technology currently available.

"They would have the effect of putting dioxins (toxic compounds) into the air," Bonner said.

He prefers greater and more flexible use of recycling, especially for plastics.

Bonner criticized delays in placement of the Washington County solid-waste transfer station in the Sunset corridor.

Last month, Gov. Vic Atiyeh appointed a panel to secure a different site, but the Metro council voted 8-2 to proceed at the Sunset corridor property. A day after the council's action, landowners in the corridor succeeded in getting a Washington County Circuit Court judge to sign a writ of review blocking Metro's acquisition of the site. Metro was given a May 15 deadline to produce records of procedures leading up to its decision on the solid-waste transfer site.

"I'm very annoyed with the governor and the people in Washington County who say 'our area' is much too valuable," Bonner said.

Bonner does not favor merging all regional governments into a single body, an action suggested in a report by the Portland City Club.

In addition, Bonner said that Metro should not take over Tri-Met's mass transit services before that agency's new board has had a chance to govern.

He supports Metro's proposed \$4.37 million tax base request in the primary election but thinks that a levy supporting the Washington Park Zoo should have been separated from the tax base request.

Frewing, 45, seeks "continued enhancement of coordination between Tri-Met, the counties and cities."

While he thinks a merger of some regional staff functions may be necessary, he said he was not sure the district needed to take over Tri-Met's mass transit services.

Frewing, chairman of Metro's hazardous waste task force, said Metro had been given "only weak authority" to provide methods of solid waste disposal. Metro does not oversee local



**MICHAEL BONNER**  
Neighborhood activist

garbage collection, he said, and the state Department of Environmental Quality has been given authority to determine the site of a regional dump.

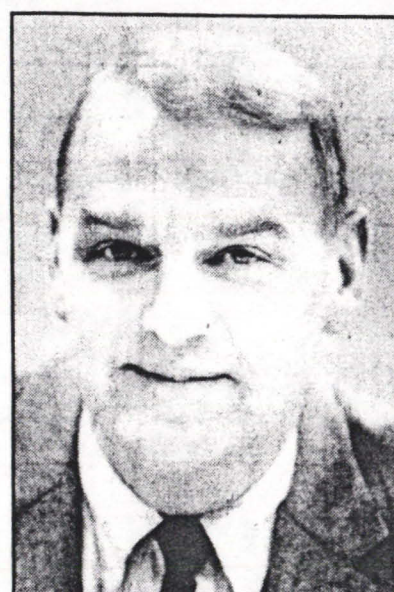
Metro should ask the Oregon Legislature "for the right authority to do an efficient job," he said.

Frewing said a landfill would always be needed. But if Metro decides to use garbage burners too, he said, small plants should be built. Large plants with byproducts of steam or electricity lock the region into producing a daily garbage quota, he said.

He supports Metro's tax base request.

Grenfell, 61, said Metro was "faulted in the original laws that set it up." One change he believes would make the agency more efficient is reducing the number of board members from 12 to seven.

Grenfell does not favor a takeover of Tri-Met. "That's like putting two



**JOHN L. FREWING**  
Appointed to unexpired term

losers together to make a winner, which is impossible," he said.

Grenfell also said the agency should not take on any new service obligations.

He said this election was the wrong time for Metro to ask voters for a tax base.

"I think they ought to clean up their own act before they come begging to the public again and again," he said.

Grenfell wants to eliminate garbage dumps and build in industrial areas large garbage burners producing energy byproducts.

He said Metro's elected executive director, Rick Gustafson, should be replaced and that the post should be an appointed position.

Moffit, 39, whose jobs have included delivering The New York Times in Portland, also supports a new director.

"I think unless the executive is



**D.R. "DAVE" MOFFIT**  
Favors Tri-Met takeover

replaced, Metro is going to confront the kind of difficulties that plagued it throughout its history said.

Moffit said Metro decision been postponed until an "artificial crisis" is created, forcing any decision that gives relief.

He said he is not sure the director should be appointed, although he thinks an appointed executive would be more accountable to the board.

The long-term priorities that should be set, Moffit said, include state-mandated public recycling of waste. "The history of voluntary recycling is abysmal," he said.

He favors a Metro takeover of Tri-Met and said he supported the tax measure, although he said it should have been requested several years before Metro "accumulated a considerable amount of baggage."



State of Oregon  
OATH OF OFFICE

STATE OF OREGON,

County of Multnomah

ss.

I, John F. Hewing, do

solemnly swear, or affirm, that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the  
Constitution of the State of Oregon, and the laws thereof, and that I will faithfully  
discharge the duties of Councilor of the Metropolitan  
Service District

according to the best of my ability, so help me God.

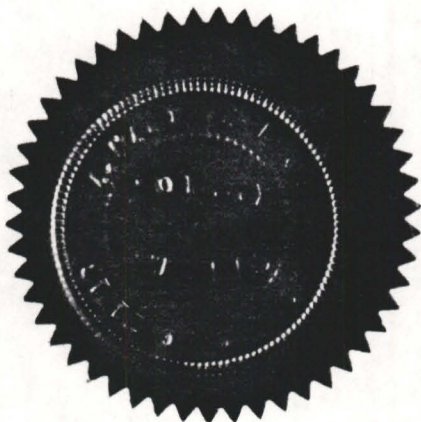
John F. Hewing

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of February, 1986

A. Marie Wilson

Notary Public for Oregon

My commission expires 4/12/89



Certified A True Copy of the Original Thereof

Amm  
Clerk of the Council



BEFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE  
METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXPRESSING )  
APPRECIATION TO JOHN FREWING )  
FOR SERVICES RENDERED TO THE )  
PORTLAND METROPOLITAN AREA )

RESOLUTION NO. 86-727

Introduced by the  
Presiding Officer

WHEREAS, John Frewing was appointed to the Council of the Metropolitan Service District (Metro) to represent the citizens of Southeast Portland in District 8; and

WHEREAS, he served well on the Metro Council from February 27, 1986 to December 31, 1986; and

WHEREAS, he served as Chairman of Metro's Hazardous Waste Task Force and provided excellent leadership in addressing regional solid waste issues and developing needed policies; and

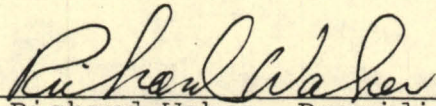
WHEREAS, he served as a member of Metro's Budget Committee and as an alternate member of the North Portland Rehabilitation and Enhancement Committee; and

WHEREAS, he participated in numerous public meetings and hearings regarding regional solid waste, transportation, zoo and urban growth issues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Metro Council express its appreciation to John Frewing for the services he has given to the Metropolitan Service District and to the citizens of his district and this region.

ADOPTED by the Council of the Metropolitan Service District this 18th day of December, 1986.

  
Richard Waker, Presiding Officer



**METRO**

**Metro Elected Officials  
Public Service Profile**

**Name:** John Frewing

**Position(s) Held and Term(s) of Office:** District 8 Councilor, 1986

**Committee Assignments/Dates:**

Mr. Frewing was connected with the following:

Oregon Water Resource Commission

Transportation Planning Committee

Local Government Boundary Commission

Metropolitan Boundary Commission

He also worked with solid waste management extensively.

**Special Awards (Describe):**

No official awards. However, he did express that personal relationships gained through his Metro experience have had profound and far-reaching benefits, which he considers a type of award for public service.

**Other Information:**

Mr. Frewing continues to be active in public service to this day, though he admittedly does not covet an elected position. He remains heavily committed to improving the community he lives in (Tigard), as well as other communities, and has a special interest in Natural Resource Management.





METRO

**Introduction to Public History  
Project A: Digital Archive of Metro Councilors  
Metro Councilor Oral History Interviews**

**Purpose and Scope of the Project**

Since 2005, students enrolled in Portland State University's *Introduction to Public History* class have been working on a practicum project to research and document the public service of Metro's elected officials, and provide public access to the information through web-based technology.

To date, students have been working with primary resources to research councilors' terms of office, district representation, internal and external committee assignments, policy initiatives, and professional background. In researching the public service of Metro councilors, students have been reviewing councilors' professional papers including (but not limited to) correspondence, speeches, newsletters, calendars, photographs, and information relating to community events, and special engagements/awards.

Another component of the practicum is for students to gain firsthand experience in conducting an oral history interview. Oral history interviewing records a person's recollection of experiences, thoughts and feelings about a specific event or a period of time. It gathers data not available in written records about people, events, decisions, and processes. In essence, oral history is spoken history grounded in memory. It can reveal how individual values and actions shaped the past, and how the past shapes present-day values and actions. With this in mind, students participating in this project have been asked to conduct interviews with Metro councilors to capture their personal reflections and anecdotes regarding their public service; to gather insight about municipal politics; and to further the goal of documenting Metro's history as a public agency.

The **Interview Release Form** provided below documents permissions and guidelines for the use and custody of the information gathered during the interview process.

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**INTERVIEW RELEASE FORM**

I hereby give my permission to BELIKY SHOEMAKER (student interviewer) to use the information gathered in this interview for educational purposes relating to their coursework in *Introduction to Public History* at Portland State University. It is my understanding that this tape recording will permanently reside in the Metro Archives, and that the transcript of this interview will become part of the **Metro Digital Archive**. Upon review (with minimal revision allowed), I release all claims and rights to this audiotape and transcript.

Signature of Interviewee: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Interviewer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Agreement: 11/3/07