

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE)	RESOLUTION NO. 99-2813
CLACKAMAS RIVER GREENWAY TARGET)	
AREA REFINEMENT PLAN)	Executive Officer
)	Introduced by Mike Burton

WHEREAS, in July 1992, Metro completed the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan which identified a desired system of natural areas interconnected with greenways and trails; and

WHEREAS, at the election held on May 16, 1995, the Metro area voters approved the Open Spaces, Parks and Streams Bond Measure (Ballot Measure 26-26) which authorized Metro to issue \$135.6 million in general obligation bonds to finance land acquisition and capital improvements; and

WHEREAS, Exhibit B of the Open Spaces Acquisition Bond Measure Resolution states "Donations, bequests and grants will be sought to enable the program to protect and acquire more natural resource land.", and;

WHEREAS, on March 21, 1996 via resolution 96-2308, the Metro Council adopted a refinement plan for the Clackamas River Greenway regional target area, which included a confidential tax-lot specific map identifying priority properties for acquisition, and:

WHEREAS, the refinement plan map for the Clackamas River Greenway target currently ends at the boundary of a 239-acre former aggregate mining operation bisected by the Clackamas River called "River Island", thereby excluding it and additional properties adjacent to the River Island property identified in Exhibit A to this Resolution, and;

WHEREAS, an objective of the Clackamas River Greenway target area refinement planning focused on acquiring continuous blocks of riparian corridor to support wildlife, fish, water quality, scenic and recreational values; and

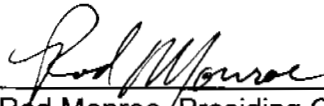
WHEREAS, the River Island property contains the potential to enhance fish preservation efforts, provide recreational and scenic opportunities, support existing abundant wildlife, and provide a connection to rapidly urbanizing areas via the proposed Estacada Corridor of proposed Springwater Trail, and;

WHEREAS, an opportunity now exists through a negotiated agreement between Metro and the owner of the River Island property, for Metro to receive a donation of approximately 130 acres and to purchase an additional 109 acres, building on publicly owned riverfront land to the North and South of the River Island property.

BE IT RESOLVED,

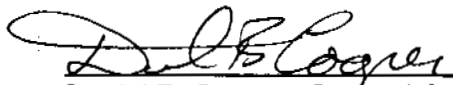
That the Metro Council amends the Clackamas River Greenway regional target area refinement plan to include the properties identified in Exhibit A.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 15th day of July, 1999.



Rod Monroe, Presiding Officer

Approved as to Form:



Daniel B. Cooper, General Counsel

EXHIBIT A

Resolution 99-2813

Properties in the Clackamas River Greenway to be added to the Clackamas River Greenway target area refinement plan:

River Island /Parker-Northwest Paving Co. properties to be acquired:

Clackamas County

Tax Account Number Acreage

Township 2 South, Range 3 East, Section 26, Willamette Meridian

Tax Lot X106937 Mobile Home

Tax Lot 00100 and 100A1 109.00

Tax Lot 00300 1.90

Tax Lot 00301 3.4

Township 2 South, Range 3 East, Section 23, Willamette Meridian

Tax Lot 01000 96.88

Tax Lot 01100 8.87

Township 2 South Range 3 East, Section 23 DB

Tax Lot 00300 .53

Tax Lot 00800 .39

Tax Lot 01200 4.00

Additional properties to be added to the refinement plan:

Township 2 South, Range 3 East, Section 23 DB

Tax Lot 00100 .99

Tax Lot 00200 .52

Tax Lot 00400 .54

Tax Lot 00500 .54

Tax Lot 00600 .53

Tax Lot 00700 1.43

Tax Lot 00900 .39

Tax Lot 01000 .78

Tax Lot 01100 .39

METRO OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 99-2813, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE CLACKAMAS RIVER GREENWAY TARGET AREA REFINEMENT PLAN.

Date: July 14, 1999

Presented by: Councilor Atherton

Committee Action: At its July 7, 1999 meeting, the Metro Operations Committee voted 3-0 to recommend Council adoption of Resolution No. 99-2813. Voting in favor: Councilors Atherton, Kvistad and Washington.

Council Issues/Discussion: Charles Ciecko gave the staff presentation for this resolution. The Clackamas River Greenway, between Barton and Gladstone, is one of six regional trails and greenways identified in the \$135 million Metro Open Spaces bond measure passed in 1995. Three tiers are indicated in the refinement plan for the greenway, that in turn prioritize land that Metro would like to purchase. These tiers include lands on both the north and south banks of the river. This purchase, including a donation of 130 acres, totals about 240 acres of land, with river front on both sides of the river. It is also adjacent to other publicly held properties.

Resolution 99-2813 amends tiers 2 and 3 of the refinement area to include this acquisition. The acquisition includes valuable salmon rearing habitat and presents excellent opportunities for natural resource related recreation, and expanded river access. The Springwater Corridor is planned to pass immediately adjacent to this property.

The property owner, Mr. Stevens, gave a personal recollection of his involvement with this parcel.

Staff Report

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 99-2813 FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE CLACKAMAS RIVER GREENWAY TARGET AREA REFINEMENT PLAN

Date: June 14, 1999

Presented by:

**Charles Ciecko
Jim Desmond**

PROPOSED ACTION

Resolution No. 99-2813 requests amendment of the Clackamas River Greenway target area refinement plan.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

In May 1995, voters in the region passed the Open Spaces, Parks and Streams bond measure enabling Metro to purchase open space properties with \$135.6 million in bond proceeds. The bond measure identified fourteen regional target areas and six regional trails and greenways for property acquisition, including the Clackamas River Greenway. The Clackamas River Greenway comprises a "river trail" with acquisition objectives of protecting key sites along the river, and providing support of wildlife, fish, water quality, scenic and recreational values.

The refinement plan adopted by Metro Council on March 21, 1996 pursuant to Resolution No. 96-2308, identified three distinct "tiers" within the target area. It describes the north bank of the Clackamas River between Gladstone and Barton Park as Tiers 1 and 2, and the south bank as Tier 3, giving the north bank (Tiers 1 and 2) a higher priority for acquisition. Metro's Open Spaces Acquisition Division staff have exhausted the acquisition possibilities in Tier 1, except for one large parcel that is in the negotiation process. Over 100 acres have been acquired in Tier 2, with additional parcels totaling 130 acres being pursued.

This resolution would amend Tiers 2 and 3 of the tax-lot specific refinement plan to include an approximate 239-acre parcel (hereafter "River Island") adjacent to the existing refinement plan boundary and Barton Park. Although the property was south of the river at the time of the refinement plan in 1996, the river has altered its course as a result of the two floods in 1996-97, and now the property has frontage on both banks. It has ponds and wetlands formed by past mining operations that are accessible from the river and provide important juvenile salmon-rearing habitat protection and enhancement opportunities. The site also presents excellent opportunities for natural resource related recreation and expanded river access.

The Clackamas River Watershed Atlas, produced by Metro in December of 1997 with funding from the Environmental Protection Agency, listed the threats to naturally spawning anadromous salmonids as a key concern in the Clackamas River watershed. The river supports several species of anadromous fish, including spring and fall chinook salmon, coho salmon, cutthroat trout, and summer and winter steelhead. Goose Creek enters the Clackamas at River Island and is one of the creeks listed as "Essential Salmon Habitat" in the Atlas. Staff have been working with potential restoration partners, such as PGE, to evaluate the degree to which the site could be used in the region-wide fish habitat conservation effort. The River Island site contains several "pool" areas that provide excellent "rearing" habitat for juvenile salmonids.

Control of both sides of the river in this area provides a unique opportunity to protect significant riparian resources from incompatible land uses including timber harvest and aggregate mining. An approximate 50-acre portion of the site that is adjacent to the river and in the floodplain is suitable for additional aggregate removal. Acquisition of the River Island property by Metro would effectively halt further mining in the floodplain. Experts in the field of salmonids and fluvial geomorphology believe terminating aggregate mining at this time will significantly enhance the protection of anadromous fisheries in the Clackamas River.

The site is bordered by publicly-owned land to the north and south (Clackamas County's Barton Park and a 132-acre Bonneville Power holding). This assemblage of undeveloped area supports a large variety of wildlife species, including bald eagles and osprey. An adjoining 100-acre private property sustains a heron rookery with at least 30 nests. Recreational possibilities include picnicking, camping, and watersports as well as environmental education, complementing the nearby Barton Park.

The River Island parcel lies directly west of the proposed Estacada Corridor portion of the Springwater Corridor Trail, providing the future possibility of an easy day's bike ride from the River Island property to or from the Portland city center. The River Island property is situated four miles from the current Urban Growth Boundary, less than two miles from the Metro boundary, and within three miles of Urban Reserve areas 8,9,10 and 11.

Nine small properties bordered on several sides by the River Island property are also to be included in the map amendment, and Metro will seek donations of these relatively undevelopable parcels. Metro has negotiated a purchase and sale agreement that includes a donation of approximately 130 acres of the 239-acre River Island property, subject to the Metro Council's approval. In order to acquire the 239-acre property, and to authorize the potential acquisition of the remaining nine properties as noted in map in Attachment A, Metro must amend the Clackamas River Greenway Target Area refinement map to include these properties.

FINDINGS

- The objectives of the Refinement Plan for the Clackamas River Greenway include acquisition of the floodplain lands and continuous riparian corridors for flood storage, and protection of wildlife, fish, water quality, scenic and recreational values. Acquiring the parcels in question would clearly further these objectives. Stakeholders interviewed in the original refinement plan process specifically advocated for Metro's acquisition of the River Island site.
- The donation of the 130 acre portion of the property is significant and would represent the largest land donation made to Metro in the history of the Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department.
- Acquisition of the River Island parcel provides a potential linkage and destination point from one of the eastern branches of the Regional Trail and Greenway system, the Springwater-Estacada Trail, to the rapidly growing areas of Clackamas County.
- If the remaining 50-acre potential quarry site is allowed to be mined, it would likely have a negative impact on fish runs in the lower Clackamas River.

- There are adequate funds in the Clackamas River Greenway target area budget to acquire the River Island property under the terms and conditions of the sale agreement.
- Resolution No. 99-2813 would amend the refinement map for the Clackamas River Greenway target area, authorizing Metro to acquire the entire River Island property pursuant to terms of the Open Space Implementation Workplan, and permit the possible acquisition of the remaining nine lots, all as identified in Attachment A.

BUDGET IMPACT

Bond funds will supply acquisition money. One residence on the property will provide rental income to offset some landbanking expenses. Partnerships and grants to implement fish habitat enhancement projects at this site have high prospects and are being actively pursued with prospective partners.

Executive Officer's Recommendation

The Executive Officer recommends passage of Resolution No. 99-2813.

