

**RESOLUTION NO. 830**

**A PROPOSED RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CONTINUED GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION IN ADDRESSING PARKS AND NATURAL AREAS FORMALIZING THIS COORDINATION AND COOPERATION THROUGH ADOPTION OF A REGIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT.**

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for local governments, the Metropolitan Service District (Metro), the states of Oregon and Washington, Federal agencies, and the private sector to cooperate and work together in addressing regional parks and natural areas issues affecting the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, since 1988, Metro has regularly convened a regional "Parks and Natural Areas Advisory Group" with representatives from over 30 cities, various special districts, counties, State and Federal agencies, park advocate organizations, business and development interests, and citizens working in partnership to identify parks and natural areas of significance to the region and to develop strategies to effectively protect and preserve these areas; and

WHEREAS, natural areas, as described in Exhibit "A" and attached hereto as "Position Paper", in the urban and urbanizing rural environment are critical ecologically to supporting diverse plant and animal communities while enhancing air and water quality; and

WHEREAS, the maintenance of natural areas contributes to the overall quality of life, health and well being of the region's citizens by providing visual diversity and aesthetic benefits; opportunities to recreate in natural settings; and by serving as a critical educational resource for the future preservation of wildlife and its habitat; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wilsonville has an acknowledged Comprehensive Plan that includes findings that the City is in substantial compliance with Statewide Planning Goal 5 (Natural Resources) and that the mandatory inventories have, in fact, been accomplished; and

WHEREAS, natural areas further provide the region economic benefits through the attraction of businesses which value the quality environment and through increased property values for residences and commercial properties proximate to natural areas; and

WEHREAS, natural areas, like many important resources, cross governmental boundaries, making them, in the common interest of all jurisdictions and special districts to cooperate and coordinate in the establishment of a regional natural areas planning program to complement and enhance existing city, county and special district park programs; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the region's citizens to continue to improve and strengthen cooperative bi-state efforts between Oregon and Washington to further the natural areas planning process; and

WHEREAS, Metro with its Parks and Natural Areas Advisory Group's support and direction, is initiating a planning process to develop a regional plan for the preservation, protection and public acquisition of natural areas, open space, and land for greenways and trails; and

WHEREAS, it is important that plans developed by the Parks and Natural Areas Advisory Group and adopted by Metro, be in substantial compliance with the existing City and County Comprehensive plans and that agreements be reached and adopted which address the preservation, protection and public acquisition, where possible, of lands with each affected jurisdiction through formal intergovernmental agreements; and

WHEREAS, it is of vital importance to develop the regional plan expeditiously as significant natural areas have been lost since 1980 and will continue to disappear if not identified for protection, preservation and potential acquisition.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF WILSONVILLE RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

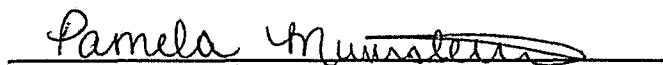
That the City Council of the City of Wilsonville does hereby support a cooperative regional planning process, conducted through Metro's Parks and Natural Areas Advisory Group, and a policy committee of elected officials and citizens to be established by Metro this spring, to develop a Regional Plan in cooperation with the City of Vancouver, Clark County and the Intergovernmental Resource Center of Clark County for Natural Areas, Open space and Corridors; and that the City Council does hereby agree to participate with other Metro jurisdictions in a coordinated and cooperative effort to continue the inventory of natural areas, conduct appropriate analyses to identify significant natural areas in potential conflict with development patterns, and to develop funding strategies for acquiring and managing natural areas, with the intent of establishing a regional natural areas system.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Wilsonville at a regular meeting thereof this 20th day of May, 1991 and filed with the Wilsonville City Recorder this date.



GERALD A. KRUMMEL, Mayor

ATTEST:



PAMELA MUNSTERMAN, City Recorder Pro-Tem

SUMMARY of Votes:

Mayor Krummel	<u>Aye</u>
Councilor Chandler	<u>Aye</u>
Councilor Carter	<u>Aye</u>
Councilor Lehan	<u>Aye</u>
Councilor Van Eck	<u>Aye</u>

## EXHIBIT A

### FORWARD

Over the past couple of years interest in urban growth management and the need for a comprehensive natural areas program has grown in the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan region. To date, the Metropolitan Service District (Metro) has taken a lead role in coordinating a Natural Areas Inventory, that could develop into a natural areas program. This project was undertaken by consensus and with the participation by all four counties, numerous cities, and park districts in the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan region.

In January of 1990, a group of twenty-nine people, including elected officials, planners, park professionals, and environmental consultants visited the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) in Oakland, California. The purpose of the trip was to tour an existing regional park system to learn about EBRPD's administrative, financial, political, educational, recreational and land acquisition programs.

The consensus of the elected officials on the tour, from Clackamas, Clark, Multnomah and Washington counties, the city of Portland, the city of Beaverton, and Metro, was that there is a need for and advantages to creating a regional system in the four-county Portland-Vancouver area.

Attendees of the East Bay trip decided that an important follow up task was to define the rationale, goals and purposes of a regional natural areas program. The group also decided that a list of tasks and timelines was needed. We were asked to draft this "position paper", to describe what lies ahead to the elected officials and park professionals who attended the East Bay tour, and to their colleagues and constituents. A resolution incorporating the concepts presented in this position paper will be drafted for action by local officials at each city and county within the four-county metropolitan area. It is important to note that numerous jurisdictions have already provided support for the regional Natural Areas Inventory through Metro's Parks & Natural Areas Advisory Group and its forums, and the color infrared aerial photo project coordinated by Metro. However, it is now time to involve a broader segment of elected officials, and to formalize the support through the resolution process.

It should be emphasized that, while there was a strong consensus for moving forward toward the development of a regional natural areas program, there is currently no consensus on how to

achieve that end. The development of such a system will be an evolutionary process, one which must be initiated immediately.

This "position paper" outlines the need for the establishment of a regional natural areas system, defines the tasks associated with developing the system, and identifies a timeline and potential sources for funding system development.

## INTRODUCTION

We are fortunate in this region to enjoy a high quality of life which is, in a large part, attributable to the large green spaces and vegetated stream and river corridors within the urban environment. What we have is unique. However, as our population continues to increase, the loss of natural areas proportional to the growth will continue. We must take immediate action to preserve the quality of life that we all agree is crucial to the maintenance of livability and economic development.

Recent urban growth management and natural resources conferences held in the Portland-Vancouver area have been filled to capacity, and have had to turn away registrants. This underscores the growing interest in management of urban growth and protection of natural resources. A sense of urgency for resolution of these issues has been a recurring theme in these meetings.

However, this is not merely a quality of life issue. Numerous scientific studies throughout the United States and internationally, have demonstrated the economic, educational, recreational and social values of green spaces within the urban landscape.

With respect to the economic values of urban natural areas; the business community is taking an increased interest in the protection of natural areas and in incorporating natural features into site designs. Two European publications, "Industry Caring For The Environment" (Britain) and "Business and the Environment," (Germany) clearly state a philosophical and business-oriented basis for corporate participation in the protection and management of urban natural areas. Locally, advertisements for the high tech industry specifically "sell" our quality of life and open space as an inducement for industry to locate in the Portland-Vancouver region. The National Park Service has recently completed a study which documents the economic value of greenways. The California Parks and Recreation Society has completed a similar study which establishes the economic value of parks to local communities.

## **PHYSICAL SETTING**

The Portland-Vancouver Metropolitan region sits astride the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia rivers. In Oregon, to the west of the Willamette are the Tualatin Mountains, which rise sharply from the east bank of the river. East of the Willamette, the nearly flat terrain rises gently to the foothills of the Cascades, broken by numerous volcanic, forested buttes. In Washington state, along the Columbia River a corridor of wetlands, lakes and stream corridors are the dominant features of the remaining landscape.

The combination of buttes, Tualatin Mountains, foothills of the Cascade and Coast ranges, river alley, and flat lands dotted with numerous wetlands and riparian corridors, provide a great diversity of green space and wildlife habitat in a highly urbanized setting.

West of the Tualatin Mountains lie the communities of Beaverton, Tigard, Hillsboro, and Forest Grove on a rapidly urbanizing landscape of farm and forest. To the east are located the rapidly developing areas of Clackamas and East Multnomah counties, and Gresham, Oregon's fourth largest city. The cities of Lake Oswego, Milwaukie, Oregon City, Gladstone, West Linn, and Wilsonville, expanding residential communities bordered by agricultural and forest lands, form the southern edge of the metropolitan region.

The rapidly expanding Vancouver metropolitan area is putting development pressure on the Vancouver Lake lowlands and associated wetland systems.

Although some significant natural resources within the Metropolitan region are publicly owned, and enjoy some level of protection, approximately 98% of the landscape is privately owned. This combination of private ownership and rapid development contribute to the urgent need for identification, acquisition and management of natural areas.

## **RECENT NATURAL AREAS ACTIVITIES**

Many agencies and groups are currently working on natural resource management and conservation, water quality, and recreational issues and projects throughout the region. However, creation of a regional natural areas database, overlaid with land use designations and natural features, and with strategies for management, protection and enhancement, will broaden the knowledge base, encourage cooperation and coordination, and facilitate joint planning and implementation.

Appendix A is a partial list of agencies and groups working on these issues. Any omissions are not intentional. Readers are invited to submit any additional on-going projects for inclusion to the list.

## **THE ROLES OF METRO AND LOCAL JURISDICTIONS**

Recently, Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties and their associated cities have cooperated with Metro, in developing a "Natural Areas" map prepared for the Metropolitan Service District area. The map was developed using 1980-1981 aerial photography. The information provided by the map was general in nature, and was derived from out-of-date sources that do not reflect the current conditions. To update and refine the information, Metro has undertaken an ambitious effort in inventory and analyze the region's natural areas south of the Columbia River, in cooperation with all jurisdictions.

Phase 1 of the project began early in 1989, when Metro, working closely with Portland Audubon Society, Portland State University, and environmental consultants, coordinated an effort to acquire new color infrared photography for the four-county area, including Clark County, Washington. Flights to obtain the photography occurred during May and June 1989, and were funded by the combined support of city and county governments, federal and state agencies, non-profit organizations, neighborhood groups, private environmental consultants and several local businesses. The participation of over 40 cooperators is indicative of the diverse support for this project.

Phase 2 of the project, currently in progress, is the development of an updated and more detailed inventory of natural areas. The inventory, coordinated by Portland State University's Geography Department, will include the preparation of a photo mosaic of the 460 square mile Metro jurisdiction, a new and more detailed map based on the 1989 photography, and a set of site descriptions based on data provided by local environmental experts, and field inventories to be conducted in the spring of 1990.

The first two phases of this project are primarily a data collection and compilation effort. This data will be used in an analysis effort during Phase 3 and will provide that basis to:

- \* identify areas of regional and local importance;
- \* develop a short term strategy for the monitoring and protection of natural areas;

- \* develop a long term plan for the funding, acquisition, permanent protection and management of natural areas;
- \* develop a digital database of natural areas information.

The database will provide information on the occurrence and distribution of different vegetative communities and wildlife habitats throughout the metropolitan area. Coupled with information on size, ownership, adjacent land use and interspersions with other "Natural areas," the data will aid in identifying the suitability of sites that might be included in a natural areas system, in addition to identifying ways to avoid and minimize adverse impacts. The aerial photo mosaic will aid in promoting the "big picture," the regional overview required to design the natural areas system. Identification of potential interconnections and corridors/trails will be an important focus of the study.

Clark County is in the process of initiating a similar study. The participation of Clark County provides the basis for developing a uniform data set for the entire region and the information necessary to identify and create a bi-state, multi-jurisdictional natural areas system.

For the past year, Metro has chaired a Parks and Natural Areas Advisory Group, made up of park, natural resource and land use planners, state and federal agencies, non-profit organizations and neighborhood groups. The function of the group has been to identify the needs and concerns and coordinate natural areas management and acquisition by cities and counties within the metropolitan region.

Metro will soon form a Policy Advisory Committee for the Natural Areas Program. This group made up of elected officials, will serve as the final policy advisory body to the Metro Council. Its purpose will be to ensure that local jurisdictional concerns are addressed and considered fully by the Metro Council. Concurrence of local jurisdictions is essential to the success of the program.

In addition to these jurisdictional bodies, an ad hoc citizen group has recently formed to provide grassroots support for the project. The first meeting of this group, FAUNA (Friends and Advocates of Urban Natural Areas), took place on January 10, 1990. Over 250 interested citizens were in attendance. FAUNA will promote strategies, management and acquisitions of natural areas within the region.



## **WHY AREN'T EXISTING PROGRAMS SUFFICIENT?**

Neither state-wide land use programs (Goals 5 & 15 in Oregon) nor federal and state regulatory programs are sufficient to ensure adequate protection and management of urban natural areas. They are essential adjuncts to a regional natural areas program, but cannot address the critical issues surrounding acquisition, protection in perpetuity, and recreational uses. They are typically site-specific and do not address the needs of a comprehensive natural areas program.

Current park programs are not, at present, able to address the full range of issues associated with a regional natural areas program. There are examples of local park providers moving in that direction. Some, such as the City of Portland, Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District, Multnomah County and Clark County, already have substantial holdings of natural areas. However, there are no programs exclusively dedicated to the identification, acquisition, management and interpretation of open space.

## **HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE**

It is important to recognize that several proposals in the past promoted an integrated natural areas strategy within the Portland-Vancouver urban landscape. Many important ideas and concepts embodied in these proposals should be incorporated into this current project.

In their 1903 comprehensive plan for a City of Portland park system, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. and John Charles Olmsted proposed establishment of an integrated park system:

"... a connected system of parks and parkways [would be] manifestly far more complete and useful than a series of isolated parks."

In 1938, Lewis Mumford suggested a similar idea in an address to the City Club of Portland. Later that year in his "Regional Planning in the Pacific Northwest: A Memorandum" presented to the Northwest Regional Council (Portland), he promoted the concept of a bi-state regional natural areas system. .

In 1971, the Columbia Region Association of Governments (CRAC) resurrected the idea of a regional park system in "The Urban Outdoors: A proposal to the Portland-Vancouver Community For A Metropolitan Park and Open Space System."

In 1988, Portland Audubon Society proposed the establishment of a regional Metropolitan Wildlife Refuge system (MWRS). The objectives of the proposal are to:

- \* promote a comprehensive, regional (bi-state) management program for the management of urban natural areas;
- \* promote appropriate use of sensitive natural areas by the general public and educational institutions;
- \* provide an appropriate organization(s) to receive donations of significant lands or conservation easements by the private sector;
- \* provide a system for research by natural resource agencies and the scientific community.

Sites that would be included in the proposed system would be park lands managed primarily for their ecological values, with passive human recreational activities as an important element.

If such a system were implemented, it would be the first bi-state, multi-jurisdictional Metropolitan Wildlife Refuge System in the United States.

### **PROPOSED STRATEGIES**

Given these historical recommendations, Metro's current natural areas program, and Clark County's emerging program, we recommend the establishment of a Portland-Vancouver Regional Natural Areas System. The proposed goals of this system are to:

- \* promote a coordinated, comprehensive program for the inventory, acquisition and management of urban natural areas within Clackamas, Clark, Multnomah and Washington counties, and their associated cities.
- \* establish a system of interconnecting greenways, greenbelts, corridors and trails which play a major role in the conservation of regional natural and scenic values.
- \* promote appropriate use of natural areas by the general public and educational institutions.

- \* promote a mechanism for the business community to be more effectively involved in protection of natural areas.

## TASKS

The following tasks need to be completed in order to establish a Regional Natural Areas System. Some of the tasks have already been incorporated in the Metro Natural Areas Inventory. The appropriate agencies, personnel and infrastructure to complete each task need to be identified.

1. Complete the natural areas inventory for the entire four-county region.
2. Digitize the natural area delineations into a standard geographic information system (GIS/ArcInfo) format.
3. Add other existing information (e.g., zoning, land use, floodplain delineations, storm water runoff) to data base.
4. Analyze the data.
5. Identify lands most sensitive or in jeopardy of development.
6. Develop a program that includes participation and input from policy makers, park and land use planners, natural resource professionals, the business and development community, and neighborhood and public interest groups.
7. Develop an analysis of economic incentives and impacts of natural areas on planning, land values, development and recreation.
8. Develop strategies for acquisition or conservation and management of these areas.
9. Develop regional strategies to respond to changes in growth and development patterns.
10. Identify funds for acquisition or conservation.

11. Develop maintenance, management, or enhancement strategies for each property.
12. Develop cooperative programs with regulatory and natural resource agencies to add expertise and resources to the program.
13. Develop strategies for development within and adjacent to these properties.
14. Develop an interpretive and public education program.
15. Develop an outreach program with the schools.

### RECOMMENDED TASKS AND TIMELINE

The tasks defined in the previous section need to be completed in a timely manner.

	TASK	COMPLETION DATE	WHO
1.	Complete natural areas inventory	9-90	MNAI*
2.	Digitize natural area delineations	10-90	MNAI*
3.	Add other existing information	3-91	MNAI*
4.	Analyze data	6-91	MNAI*
5.	Identify lands most sensitive	6-91	MNAI*
6.	Develop a program encouraging broad base participation	On-going	
7.	Develop an economic analysis	9-90	
8.	Develop acquisition strategies	On-going	
9.	Develop regional strategies	On-going	
10.	Identify funds	On-going	

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| 11. Develop management strategies                        | On-going |
| 12. Develop cooperative programs with regional agencies  | On-going |
| 13. Develop strategies for adjacent property development | On-going |
| 14. Develop a public education program                   | On-going |
| 15. Develop an outreach program with the schools         | On-going |

\*MNAI - Metro Natural Areas Inventory

**NEXT STEPS**

Immediate

- \* Obtain Funding to Complete Inventory
- \* Complete Inventory
- \* Perform Economic Analysis
- \* Brief all the local jurisdictions and special districts, state and federal agencies about the program
- \* Adoption of Resolution By All Jurisdictions
- \* Carry-out an extensive public outreach effort to inform the citizens of the region of the Natural Areas Program

Now and Future

- \* Plan for a potential regional Bond Measure or Other Financing Methods for Acquisition, Management and Education
- \* Develop Management Strategies
- \* Identify and Implement Educational Strategies
- \* Acquisitions

**SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATIONS**

We are fortunate in this region to enjoy a high quality of life which is, in large part, attributable to our remaining green spaces and stream and river corridors within the urban environment. What we have is unique. However, as our population continues to increase,

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the loss of natural areas proportional to growth will continue. We must take immediate action to preserve the quality of life that we all agree is crucial to the maintenance of livability and economic development. A sense of urgency for the resolution of these issues has been a recurring theme in growth management and natural resources meetings held over the past year.

We recommend the formal adoption of the following Natural Areas System Resolution by each associated county and city as the next step, concurrent to completing the Natural Areas Inventory and developing funding strategies and sources.

# PLANNING MEMO

City of  
**WILSONVILLE**  
in OREGON

30000 SW Town Center Loop E • PO Box 220  
Wilsonville, OR 97070  
(503) 682-1011

May 3, 1991

TO: Mike Kohlhoff, Interim City Manager

FROM: Wayne Sorensen, Planning Director 

SUBJECT: METRO GREENSPACE PROGRAM

I am submitting a draft of a resolution that will support the Metro Greenspace Program. This will go to the Planning Commission for their regular meeting to be held on May 13, 1991, and I will recommend that the Commission request that the City Council adopt the Resolution at the Council's May 20th meeting.

I did obtain copies of resolutions from Oregon City, West Linn, Tualatin, and Clackamas County that support the Greenspace Program and I have them on file if you care to review them. I modified the suggested Metro resolution to more closely follow the resolution that was adopted by the City of Tualatin. This enforces the concept of a regional intergovernmental agreement between all parties.

Please review and edit. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please call.

## THANK YOU!

## PLANNING MEMORANDUM

City of  
**WILSONVILLE**  
in OREGON



DATE: March 2, 1991

TO: Mike Kohlhoff, Interim City Manager  
30000 SW Town Center Loop E • PO Box 220  
Wilsonville, OR 97070  
(503) 682-1011

FROM: Wayne C. Sorensen, Planning Director *Wayne*

SUBJECT: Regional Natural Areas and Open Space Program (METRO)

I have reviewed the proposed Natural Areas & Open Space Program that the City received from Mel Huie, Senior Regional Planner and I submit the following comments for your consideration:

\*\*It is evident that wetlands, natural areas and open space issues are becoming more significant matters of concern in the Portland Metro Areas, including Wilsonville. I am somewhat concerned, in light of state and federal regulations regarding wetlands, that our existing inventory base is not adequate. It would seem reasonable to cooperate with an agency who can provide the necessary expertise to compile an adequate inventory.

\*\*I am supportive of the strategy to identify and acquire sensitive natural areas and to provide for the maintenance and management of those areas. I believe that it may be appropriate for some agency other than the cities and counties to undertake this function.

\*\*I would note that our CAD system (AutoCad 10) is compatible with the Metro GIS/ArcInfo system. That means we should be able to "capture" Metro's data and produce it on our own maps produced in-house. We (i.e. myself and Susan Johnson) have been closely following Metro's computer mapping program for the past three or four years and I am not very impressed so far with the results they have obtained; especially, considering the amount of money spent. I believe our own in-house system will be much more accurate and cost-effective as well as being compatible with the Metro project.

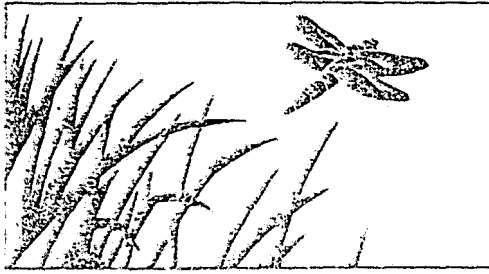
\*\*I note that the memo is very vague on how the proposed funding would occur. Can Metro, or anyone else, tell us exactly how much this will cost the City? I would think that Portland, who will benefit greatly, should pay a significant cost compared to Wilsonville. Oftentimes, if you're inclined to watch Metro, all cities are charged the same fee or rate regardless of size.

\*\*Perhaps the Friends of Goal 5 group that was recently formed in Wilsonville could help coordinate the local effort and inventory. This may be something the ASSISTANT PLANNER (when filled) could help support at the staff level. Janet Morris was going to be our staff "expert" on wetlands and natural areas before she took all that knowledge back to Beaverton.

I believe that it is very important for the City to develop and maintain a good working relationship with Metro, the Counties and our sister cities. I also believe that many of our neighbors are not so far-sighted, nor as fortunate, as Wilsonville has been in planning and preserving our natural areas. Therefore, I would recommend that the City adopt the Resolution and support the Natural Areas & Open Space Program.



## Greenspaces map and inventory information available



An inventory of the remaining natural areas within the Portland/Vancouver region has been completed and the information cataloged into Metro's Regional Land Information System computer mapping system. A

color map delineating six categories of natural areas - forest, meadow, water, rock and bare soil, shrub/scrub and clear cut - will be available in April for city and county parks departments, planning offices and co-sponsors of the Metropolitan Greenspaces program. Copies of the map will be available for purchase by the general public.

Because the maps are computer generated, the number of acres for each category of natural area will also be available in a report summarizing Phase 2 of the program, to be published shortly. These figures will give a baseline to track the net loss of natural areas in the region.

In addition, the mapping system will allow review of the current zoning, comprehensive planning designation, adjacent land uses, ownership and assessed values, and public protection of these natural areas. The analysis of natural areas will occur during the next 12 to 14 months.

The Greenspaces map of natural areas is the first of its kind for the region. Rather than each local jurisdiction conducting its own inventory, Metro spearheaded a cooperative approach to the creation of a unified natural resources database. Metro was joined by more than 50 agencies and organizations to develop the natural areas map and database. Common data, inventories, methodologies, definitions, field survey information, mapping techniques and a coordinated planning process were employed. A technical advisory committee of local planners and park managers assisted in the creation of the natural areas map and database.

A consultant team headed by Dr. Joseph Poracsky of Portland State University's Geography Department, environmental consultants Esther Lev and Lynn Sharp and other wildlife biologists were contracted by Metro to carry out the inventory, field collection and mapping work. Mike Houck, urban naturalist with the Audubon Society of Portland, helped generate grassroots support and interest by state and federal agencies for the natural areas inventory. FAUNA (Friends & Advocates of Urban Natural Areas) carried the message of the importance of such an inventory to neighborhood groups, business organizations and environmental fairs. Metro Councilors Richard

Devlin and Ruth McFarland attended city council and county commission meetings to gain local government support. Neighborhood briefings on the project were also held throughout the region.

During the next year, Metro will lead the effort to assess the significance of the remaining natural areas, open spaces and wildlife corridors and determine which areas might be acquired and protected by the public. A long-range protection, acquisition, finance and management plan will be created in cooperation with government agencies, the business community and the general public. Workshops and public forums will be held throughout the region allowing for direct citizen input. It is anticipated that a Greenspaces master plan will be completed by early 1992 to guide future acquisition and protection initiatives. A public vote on establishing a regional fund to buy and protect greenspaces could occur as early as May 1992.

For more information about Metropolitan Greenspaces, contact Mel Hule, Pat Lee or David Yamashita.

## Urban growth boundary 1991 amendment request scorecard

Three petitions for locational adjustments have been received:

**Case No. 90-1: Wagner** - petition to add about 6 acres east of Wilsonville. Approved in concept by Metro Council on Dec. 13, 1990. Awaiting action by the Portland Metropolitan Area Local Government Boundary Commission to annex into the Metropolitan Service District prior to final approval.

**Case No. 90-2: West Coast Grocery** - withdrawn by applicant.

**Case No. 90-3: Washington County** - petition to add about 6 acres in conjunction with the Tualatin/Sherwood/Edy Road project in the vicinity of Cipole Road. Adopted by the Metro Council Feb. 28, 1991.

In addition, Metro expects to receive a petition from the state in April for a major amendment to bring Dammasch State Hospital and the Callahan Center into the urban growth boundary. Annexation to the Metropolitan Service District and the city of Wilsonville will be considered by the Boundary Commission.

Deadline for submission of petitions for locational adjustments in 1991 is July 1. For further information about these cases or the amendment process, contact Ethan Seltzer.

## Metropolitan Greenspaces program flourishing

**"A** *Cooperative Regional System of Natural Areas, Open Space, Trails and Greenways for Wildlife and People.*"

Metropolitan Greenspaces is a truly regional approach to protecting natural resources. It is a bi-state, four-county program that will knit a mosaic of natural areas into connecting green-spaces preserved for the future urban environment. The urban portions of Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties in Oregon, and Clark County in Washington make up the study area.

The system will protect expanses of natural areas and wildlife habitat and create greenway corridors for people, plants and animals. The Metropolitan Greenspaces program is coordinated by Metro, in partnership with conservation, recreation, and business interests, state and federal agencies, cities, counties and the region's citizens.

Phases of the program are as follows:

### **Phase 1:** Infrared photography (completed)

More than 600 aerial infrared photographs were commissioned for the urban portions of the four-county region (Clark, Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington). Through this inventory, natural areas across the four counties were pinpointed.

### **Phase 2:** Mapping, field research and computer analysis (completed)

From the photographs, maps of natural areas were produced and field research was conducted at more than 160 sites. This data has been digitized into Metro's Regional Land Information System (RLIS) computer mapping system.

### **Phase 3:** Greenspaces analysis and planning, and public outreach (1991)



The region's remaining open spaces, wildlife corridors and greenways will be studied and a priority list will be developed of natural areas that could be acquired. A long-range protection and management plan will be developed in cooperation with government agencies and the public. Public forums will be held throughout the region. Green-space tours will be offered throughout the year.

### **Phase 4:** Greenspaces acquisition/protection (1992 on)

A public outreach and environmental education program will be conducted. Options on how to acquire and protect lands will be investigated. Local jurisdictions will work with Metro to decide how lands will be managed.

The program has generated public interest and support. Two-thirds of the region's cities and counties passed resolutions endorsing the concept of working together to preserve natural areas and greenspaces from development. Several non-profit and environmental groups also endorsed the concept of cooperative planning to save greenspaces.

A \$600,000 grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Department will enable Metro to produce local demonstration projects to restore and enhance natural areas. When completed, the program will serve as a model for other cities around the country.

For more information, call Mel Huie or Dave Yamashita.

## Livability/profitability conference a success

**M**ore than 150 persons attended the "Urban Greenspace Economics: Livability and Profitability - Seeking the Balance of Nature and Business" conference in Portland. Purpose of the Nov. 8 conference, sponsored by Portland General Electric, Metro and Friends and Advocates of Urban Natural Areas (FAUNA), was to bring together the business community and show that natural resources play a major role in the economic viability of the Portland/Vancouver metropolitan area.

Environmental quality is one of our competitive advantages in attracting business and growth to the region. Speakers for local and national companies presented case studies on how business and the community both gain when greenspaces are included in site development and expansion. As the Greenspaces planning process moves forward, active participation and support of citizens, neighborhood groups and business will be needed.