

RESOLUTION NO. 963

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BALLOT MEASURE 26-1, BONDS TO BUY NATURAL AREAS AND FUND LOCAL PARKS.

WHEREAS, greenspaces, parks and open areas help define the character of our metropolitan area and contribute significantly to our quality of life and economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, presently, only about eight percent (8%) of the greenspaces -- trails, wildlife habitats, recreational and forested areas -- in the tri-county area are in public ownership; and

WHEREAS, with a projected increase of 500,000 new residents in the Portland metropolitan area during the next twenty years, our greenspaces are at risk of disappearing; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan creates an integrated, unified, regional strategy for protecting significant greenspaces in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington Counties; and


WHEREAS, Ballot Measure 26-1 would authorize the issuance of \$200 million in general obligation bonds by the Metropolitan Service District for the purpose of purchasing land for parks, open space and wildlife habitat; and

WHEREAS, up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the bond revenues will be distributed to local governments, thereby creating a direct benefit to the City of Wilsonville.

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

1) The City of Wilsonville recommends a "yes" vote on Ballot Measure 26-1 on November 3, 1992.

ADOPTED by the Wilsonville City Council at a regular meeting thereof this 19th day of October, 1992 and filed with the Wilsonville City Recorder this date.



GERALD A. KRUMMEL, Mayor

ATTEST:



VERA A. ROJAS, CMC/AAE, City Recorder

SUMMARY of Votes:

Mayor Krummel	<u>AYE</u>
Councilor Chandler	<u>NO</u>
Councilor Carter	<u>AYE</u>
Councilor Lehan	<u>AYE</u>
Councilor Van Eck	<u>AYE</u>

Measure No. 26-1 METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

A referral submitted to the electorate of the Metropolitan Service District by the Council of the Metropolitan Service District.

BALLOT TITLE

26-1 BONDS TO BUY NATURAL AREAS AND FUND LOCAL PARKS

QUESTION—Shall Metro buy lands for parks, open space, wildlife habitat by issuing 200 million dollars of general obligation bonds? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of section 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

SUMMARY—Permits Metro to buy, develop, maintain and operate a park, open space and recreation system. Bonds will mature in 30 years. At least 75 percent of bond funds will be for Metro parks, trails and open spaces. Balance of funds will help buy and improve local parks. Bond funds can not pay for operation and maintenance. Current Metro funds will pay to hold lands until maintenance funds are available. First year bond cost will be about 32.5 cents per one thousand dollars assessed value.

YES

NO

BE IT RESOLVED,

1. That the Council of the Metropolitan Service District hereby submits to the qualified voters of the District the question of contracting a General Obligation bond indebtedness of \$200 million. The bonds shall mature over a period of not more than 30 years.
2. That the voters of the District shall in the same measure consider the question of whether Metro may finance the acquisition, development, maintenance and operation of a system of parks, open space, and recreational facilities of metropolitan significance pursuant to ORS 268.312 (1) (c).

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

If approved by the voters, this \$200 million general obligation bond measure will allow Metro, together with local parks providers, to begin implementing the Metropolitan Greenspaces Master Plan. This Plan provides for acquiring, developing, maintaining and operating a regional, connected system of natural areas, trails and wildlife habitat, now and in the future.

The Greenspaces Plan was developed in a cooperative effort. Numerous citizens' groups, business and community leaders, and representatives of the 24 cities, three counties, and two special parks districts in metropolitan Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties spent over three years putting together the Plan.

About 8 percent of land identified as important biological resources is currently in public parks, leaving nearly 92 percent available for development. The bond measure seeks to protect natural areas in a connected system to retain wildlife habitat and open spaces.

The Greenspaces Plan identifies 57 areas of ecological resources and open spaces distributed throughout the region. The measure is estimated to enable acquisition of over 7,000 acres of privately-owned land for natural areas and trail rights-of-way. That would increase land identified as important biological resources in public ownership by over 75 percent. Included among the resource areas are the following:

- Forty-Mile Loop Trail
- Willamette Greenway
- Forest Park
- Columbia River shoreline habitats
- Volcanic Buttes in the Gresham/Boring/Sunnyside vicinity
- Sandy and Clackamas River scenic areas
- Jackson Bottom and Tualatin River access points
- Other areas nominated by citizens and local governments, including greenspaces restoration projects in heavily urbanized communities.

The Greenspaces Plan should be consulted for a complete listing of these important areas. The specific land parcels purchased for the system would be determined by opportunities and factors in each location.

The measure is estimated to increase the property tax rate in the first year by 32.5 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. The average annual rate over the 30-year life of the bond issue is estimated to be 19.45 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value assuming a four percent annual growth in assessed value. For a \$100,000 home, the first year increase is estimated to be \$32.50.

Up to 25 percent of the bond proceeds will be distributed to local governments that are providing park services. These funds will be available for locally-determined land acquisition and capital improvements for park and recreation facilities. At least 75 percent of the bond proceeds will be used by Metro to protect and improve resources identified in the Master Plan.

No portion of the bond funds can be used for operations and maintenance. Bond funds will be used for costs incidental to land acquisition. Existing Metro funds will allow land-banking. New funding is needed for maintenance and passive recreation operations.

Voter approval of this measure provides the funds and the legal authority for Metro to buy resource lands consistent with the Greenspaces Plan.

(This explanatory statement was prepared by the General Council of the Metropolitan Service District and certified by the Circuit Court of Multnomah County.)