

Report on issues discussed at the weekly Management Update meeting on June 1, 2009

Commissioners present: Commissioner Milne and Commissioner Carlson

INFORMATIONAL

Parks Master Plan update

Bill Worcester and Jeff Bickford, Public Works, provided an update on the Parks Master Plan process. Bill said they wanted to check-in for direction from board as they broaden the scope of the plan. Bill said staff can incorporate the information provided by the consultant to complete the final plan. Jeff discussed the addition of Keizer Rapids Park and Stayton Riverfront Park to the master plan, as well as the possibility of adding the old Macleay landfill site as a park. Jeff provided a handout outlining other city, state and federal park land.

Commissioner Milne described the master plan as a tool for planning for the future and defining needs. She said when defining the need it will be important to include an inventory of all parks in the county including those outside the county system. She explained that visitors and residents just want the opportunity to visit parks and jurisdiction isn't important to them.

Commissioner Carlson agreed and added that Marion County has 20 cities and most have some park land. She agreed it was important to reference the other park land in the plan. She said she had recently attended the grand opening of the amphitheatre at Keizer Rapids Park. She said this park was a result of partnership between the county and the City of Keizer, and while the city manages the park it is technically designated as rural Marion County. Therefore, it should be included in the plan along with Stayton Riverfront Park.

Commissioner Carlson commented on portions of the plan she had concerns about. Concerns included giving up neighborhood parks, setting financial expectations for a certain number of FTE, and recommendations for an operating levy. Commissioner Carlson said she would like to see a number of financing strategies explored. She asked what the comments had been from the Parks Advisory Board. Jeff said they parks board had not reviewed the plan yet. He said a joint board of commissioners/parks board work session has been scheduled for August 13. Commissioner Milne requested that the updated plan be distributed to the parks board and commissioners prior to the work session in order to allow time for review. She said it was important to her to get input from the parks board. Bill said they would have a draft distributed by August 1. Finally, Jeff further discussed the possibility of adding the old Macleay landfill site as a park. The commissioners were generally supportive of the idea. They requested input from the parks board on this item as well.

City of Silverton right-of-way annexation

Cindy Schmitt, Public Works, discussed proposed street right-of-way annexations of county maintained roads by the City of Silverton. Included roadways include Pine and Grant Streets and Western Avenue. Silverton is currently undergoing an expansion, to full capacity, of the high school campus. The city anticipates increased traffic and would like to increase traffic enforcement around the school. The annexation would allow citations into

municipal court rather than justice courts. County staff has requested the city take over maintenance at the same time. At this point the city has indicated they do not intend to take over maintenance on any of the affected roads. Cindy estimated the total area is less than 1000 feet of roadway. There was discussion regarding the process, the county's role and what has happened with other roads in the past. Cindy said it would be preferable to cleanly transfer maintenance at the city limits. She said there has already been some confusion regarding jurisdiction in the past. Jan Fritz, deputy county administrative officer, suggested looking for grant or stimulus funds for upgrades as an incentive for transferring jurisdiction. Cindy will submit written comments and cite past issues with a focus on transferring at least the Pine Street area.

ACTION

Request to waive floodplain development permit fees for watershed restoration project

Sterling Anderson, planning director, discussed a request by the North Santiam Watershed Council for a floodplain development permit fee waiver for two watershed restoration projects planned for this summer. Sterling mentioned that the watershed council had been granted a fee waiver last year. Sterling estimated that permit fees for the proposed projects would be under \$2,000. Commissioner Milne asked how much work was involved for county staff. Sterling said the permit would need to be reviewed and certified however, it would be less work than for a standard floodplain permit. Commissioner Milne expressed concern about setting an expectation that fees would be waived indefinitely. Commissioner Carlson asked about county benefits from the proposed projects. Sterling answered that the projects are designed to enhance habitat for endangered species. Both commissioners expressed interest in reviewing the project budgets prior to voting. Jan Fritz suggested asking the council to include permit fees in future grant applications. Sterling will request copies of the budgets for the commissioners to review and will reschedule for consideration at a future management update.

Approve changes to Oregon Garden Foundation non-profit corporation bylaws

Commissioner Milne discussed proposed updates to the Oregon Garden Foundation bylaws. She said the changes were mostly housekeeping and do not make any policy changes. Commissioner Carlson noted that the changes remove the requirement for written approval by the county and city for financial transactions and will allow the foundation to manage its own finances. Commissioner Milne and John Lattimer, chief administrative officer, said that at the beginning considerable hands on oversight was needed. The representative from Chemeketa Community College has taken over day-to-day oversight. An accountant has also been hired. Commissioner Milne said the foundation has a secretary/treasurer and there are many checks and balances in place. John said he also has county finance staff involved. Commissioner Carlson said she was satisfied with the changes as presented. The commissioners voted to approve the changes to the Oregon Garden Foundation non-profit corporation bylaws. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER

Dan Estes, senior policy advisor, discussed a resolution passed by the board to award grant funding from the Oregon Office of Community Dispute Resolution. Dan said a formal RFP has gone out and Neighbor-2-Neighbor (N2N) is the only entity that replied. Dan said they have received notification that N2N meets all of the qualifications and is eligible to receive the grant. Dan said the item is scheduled for formal consideration by the board at the Wednesday, June 10, board session.

Barb Young, senior policy advisor, provided an update on HB2940 Renewable Portfolio Standards for the waste-to-energy facility. She said there may be a hearing on this bill as early as Tuesday, June 2. The letter the commissioners signed will be read into the testimony. Barb will provide updates as more information is available.

WORK SESSIONS AND OTHER MEETINGS

6/3	Board Session, 9:00-1:00
	Woodburn/County meeting, 12:00-1:00
6/4	Salem/County meeting, 8:00-9:00
6/8	Commissioners' calendar review, 8:30-9:00
	Chamber Annual Luncheon, 11:45-1:15

Chief Administrative Officer John Lattimer authorizes this all-county e-mail.