

RESOLUTION No. **37293**

Accept the *Central City Potential Swimming Beach Sites Study* (Resolution)

WHEREAS, through the Central City 2035 Plan and River Plan/Central Reach, community members expressed the desire to improve public access to and into the Willamette River for wading, swimming, sunbathing and boating in the Central City; and

WHEREAS, major improvements to the City's systems for managing wastewater and stormwater runoff made the Willamette River cleaner and safer for swimming, and swimming enthusiasts are actively promoting development of public beaches and safe river access; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 37147, adopted on July 29, 2015, approved the Central City 2035 Southeast Quadrant Plan and included Central City-wide goals, policies and actions that are intended to increase public access to and along the Willamette River, to enhance the river's role for recreation, and increase the community's enjoyment and direct experience with the river, providing for safe and valuable water-based recreation for all users, and studying the most feasible locations in the Central City for formal public beach access and swimming; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Design Concept for the Willamette River in the Central City, based on stakeholder recommendations from a 2013 Willamette River Central Reach Workshop and subsequent public comment, identified potential locations for public access to and into the river; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability worked cooperatively with Portland Parks and Recreation and a consultant to complete Exhibit A, the *Central City Potential Swimming Beaches Sites Study*, July 29, 2016, in concert with, and to inform the *Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan* (March 2017); and

WHEREAS, five sites in the Central Reach of the Willamette River: McCormick Pier, Hawthorne Bowl, "Poetry at the Beach," the Zidell property and the Eastbank Crescent, were selected for evaluation as potential family-friendly beaches based on their ease of access to the Central City, their current use as river access for swimming, the presence of shallow, wadable water, current public ownership or plans for future public recreational uses, and location outside of and away from industrial areas; and

WHEREAS, criteria for a safe, desirable public river swimming beach were developed based on successful river beaches in the Pacific Northwest including George Rogers Park in Lake Oswego, Wintler Park in Vancouver, Riverbend Park in Bend, Boise River Park in Boise, and Waterfront Park in Hood River, and the five sites were assessed according to these criteria and ranked by their potential for development as a public beach; and

WHEREAS, public outreach included meetings with stakeholders, a survey of potential beach users, solicitation of online comments and a public open house to gather public input on the study that helped inform site evaluation criteria and specific beach site potential improvements; and

WHEREAS, public comments from an April 2016 Parks and Recreation Public Beach Survey confirmed 87% of respondents are interested in river swimming beaches provided there are amenities like restrooms and parking, and respondents also expressed concerns over water quality, trash and debris; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council accepts Exhibit A, the *Central City Potential Swimming Beach Sites Study*, July 29, 2016, and directs Parks and Recreation to consider the findings in future planning efforts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Portland Parks and Recreation implement a pilot swimming beach program in the summer of 2017.

Adopted by the Council:

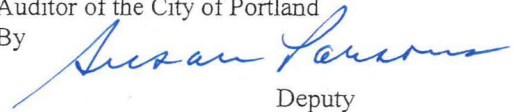
JUN 07 2017

Commissioner Mayor Ted Wheeler
Prepared by: Debbie Bischoff
Date Prepared: May 22, 2017

Mary Hull Caballero

Auditor of the City of Portland

By



Deputy

644

Agenda No.

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Title

Accept the Central City Potential Swimming Beach Sites Study (Resolution)

INTRODUCED BY Commissioner/Auditor: Ted Wheeler <i>Wc</i>	CLERK USE: DATE FILED <u>MAY 30 2017</u>
COMMISSIONER APPROVAL Mayor—Finance & Administration – Wheeler Position 1/Utilities - Fritz Position 2/Works - Fish Position 3/Affairs - Saltzman Position 4/Safety - Eudaly	Mary Hull Caballero Auditor of the City of Portland By: <i>[Signature]</i> Deputy
BUREAU APPROVAL Bureau: Planning and Sustainability Bureau Head: Susan Anderson <i>Michael Armstrong</i> Prepared by: Debbie Bischoff Date Prepared: May 22, 2017	ACTION TAKEN:
Impact Statement Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends Budget <input type="checkbox"/>	
Portland Policy Document If "Yes" requires City Policy paragraph stated in document. Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
City Auditor Office Approval: required for Code Ordinances	
City Attorney Approval: required for contract, code, easement, franchise, charter, Comp Plan	
Council Meeting Date June 7, 2017	

AGENDA	FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:	
TIME CERTAIN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Start time: 2:00 pm Total amount of time needed: 2 hours (for presentation, testimony and discussion)		YEAS	NAYS
CONSENT <input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR <input type="checkbox"/> Total amount of time needed: _____ (for presentation, testimony and discussion)	1. Fritz 2. Fish 3. Saltzman 4. Eudaly Wheeler	1. Fritz 2. Fish 3. Saltzman 4. Eudaly Wheeler	✓ ✓ _____ _____ ✓