



A DRAFT VISION FOR CENTRAL PORTLAND

A Healthy River that Centers our Community

**Light on the water,
salmon in the city,
bridges up,
ships from far away.**

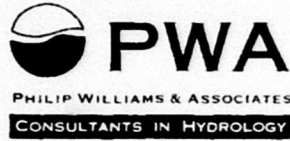
**Our river is the only open space
that comes from the mountains
and holds the sunset pure.**

The River Spirit Defines Us

The river plays multiple and sometimes conflicting roles. It is a critical ecosystem and habitat, impacting and impacted by cities and countryside covering thousands of square miles. The river is also a transportation way, a playground, a theater, and a scenic resource. The river should be more fully embraced as the center and essence of downtown, but not at the expense of the ecosystem.

The river is our heritage and our legacy. The river has given us life for centuries. In recent generations we have revered, despoiled, restored and abused our resource. Today it is our crossroad. We must find the path to clean water and rich habitat while we let the river's spirit bring us together in the heart of the city.

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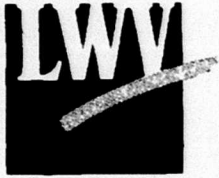


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The League of Women Voters

OF PORTLAND OREGON

921 SW MORRISON SUITE 410 PORTLAND OREGON 97205 (503) 228-1675

35742 1113

November 25, 1998

Commissioners and Mayor
1221 SW Fifth Ave
Portland, OR 97220

Dear Commissioners Francesconi, Kafoury, Sten, and Hales, and Mayor Katz

The League of Women Voters of Portland has been following the planning and development of North Macadam, the River District, Central City and the Macadam District, all of which impact the Willamette Greenway. The guidelines governing development in these areas have given rise to conflict and confusion as to how the Greenway will be developed.


After the Avalon Hotel was approved, Commissioner Francesconi and Commissioner Kafoury made a commitment to review regulations governing FAR bonuses, height, bulk and setback on river front property. Commissioner Sten concurred. The League agrees that this effort is a necessary one.

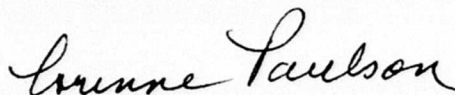
We support your designation of the Planning Bureau as the lead agency in this undertaking to review and recommend needed changes. We note that the North Macadam Steering Committee is specifically mentioned in the resolution. Since these guidelines will apply to all property along the Greenway, we urge you to include other interested parties that represent the property owners and residents along the entire Willamette River.

At the Central City Summit participants identified the Willamette River as a high priority issue for the future. This council should provide the leadership by budgeting the funds needed to effectively plan for this area. The Floor Area Ratio bonuses were put in place to encourage development of housing and other amenities in the downtown. It is important to determine whether they are still needed and what impact they have on Greenway development.

Finally, we expect better notice when these issues arise. We have made every effort to show our concern and our desire for involvement. We received slightly better than 24 hours notice on last week's hearing and that was through unofficial channels. We have been unable to obtain a copy of what we understand to be the substitute ordinance presented by the planning bureau in advance of today's meeting.

Sincerely,


Debbie Aiona
President


Corinne Paulson
Action Chair



1713
35742

AUDUBON SOCIETY OF PORTLAND

Inspiring people to love and protect nature

November 23, 1998

Mayor Vera Katz
and Commissioners
City Hall
1220 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Mayor Katz and Commissioners,

Last week's hearing on the Willamette Greenway Resolution was put off until Wednesday, November 25th so I am taking this opportunity to again communicate our strong support for adoption of a resolution that will address significant issues that we and others have raised during the past years regarding Greenway standards and design guidelines

During the Avalon Hotel discussion at the Portland Planning Commission and before Council it was clear that changes in Greenway guidelines are needed. Council pledged at the time they approved the Avalon Hotel project that they would revisit the Greenway issue and provide a mechanism to address the serious concerns that were raised during that process

We view the proposed Resolution as the first step in making good on that commitment. Last week the two most important issues at the Central City Summit were education and the Willamette River. The Franklin High School students rated the Willamette as their number one concern. Frankly, we were pleasantly surprised that the Willamette rated at the top of everyone's concerns. This resolution is an opportunity to initiate city review of current Greenway needs and modify Greenway guidelines which are now outdated.

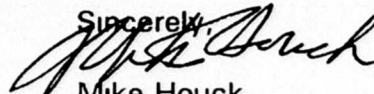
The Willamette Greenway needs updated standards and design guidelines that recognize there will be increasing numbers of people using it, especially in redeveloped areas such as North Macadam and the River District. There are significant opportunities for fish and wildlife habitat

restoration along the entire Greenway which are not being realized under the current guidelines. As we learned during the Avalon Hotel process, current regulations are vague and the Goal 15 inventory which I conducted with the City Planning Bureau staff in 1984 is woefully out of date. Under the current FAR bonus system development can be far too massive for the Greenway.

We support the Resolution's recommendation that BES and the Bureau of Parks and Recreation act as partners with the Planning Bureau in the Greenway update. The current Greenway setback of 25' is simply inadequate to meet today's needs, especially considering our collective interest in creating higher density, "Smart Development" near the Central City. However, Smart Development mandates that we provide the amenities that the public demands as a trade-off to higher densities. It's time the City of Portland make clear its intent to honor its commitment to meet all objectives of meeting the Region 2040 growth concept, not merely those elements associated with urban form and design.

It is interesting to note how boastful the City of Portland is about Tom McCall Waterfront Park. We can, indeed, take great pride in removing Front Avenue and replacing it with a park. Portland's downtown sits several hundred feet back from the seawall. We do not envision that substantial a setback along the rest of the Greenway, but we do expect a significant revision to the inadequate 25' setback now in place. There is simply no justification for either Council or the development community to oppose increasing the Greenway setback to 75' or 100' in North Macadam or elsewhere on the Greenway, based on Region 2040 guidelines. North Macadam and other redevelopment sites can accommodate densities which are consistent with our desire to create a compact urban form and still afford the public a real Greenway Trail and restored riverbank. These two objectives are not mutually exclusive.

We urge you to pass this Resolution and move forward with a firm commitment to create a Willamette River Greenway on both banks of the Willamette River which Portlanders can be as proud of as we are with the creation of Tom McCall Waterfront Park. We urge you to adopt this resolution and move on with a firm commitment to address these Greenway issues.

Sincerely,

Mike Houck

NORTH MACADAM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

P.O. Box 69039
Portland, OR 97201-0039
(503) 224-9570

November 18, 1998

Mayor Vera Katz
Commissioner Gretchen Kafoury
Commissioner Erik Sten
Commissioner Charlie Hales
Commissioner Jim Francesconi
1221 SW Fourth Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

Re Resolution 1708

Members of City Council

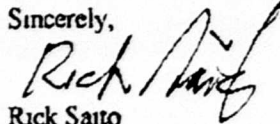
The North Macadam Development Council represents the property owners and businesses in the North Macadam area. We have been active participants of the North Macadam Steering Committee. The members of the committee, (property owners, public agency representatives, the public at large and the Portland Development Commission) have committed time and money into achieving a comprehensive framework development plan for the anticipated future development of the North Macadam area.

The North Macadam Framework Plan, of which the study of the greenway is a part, is the current step in an overall planning process which started with the property owners, public agencies and the city agreeing that a street plan for this area should be developed and recognized by all parties. The resulting street plan includes multiple public access points to the greenway that did not previously exist.

The Parks/Greenway and Land Use work groups of the steering committee are in the middle of creating recommended concepts for the development of the Greenway in North Macadam that include the consideration of such factors as desirable greenway path width in various locations, city wide, neighborhood, and property owner needs and interests, financial feasibility, environment, and the overall development opportunities in the area.

Although we agree that a comprehensive look at the entire greenway would be beneficial, we believe that altering this resolution to acknowledge the greenway recommendations for the North Macadam area which is being developed by the North Macadam Steering Committee would be appropriate and would reflect the council's support of the time and efforts spent over the past few years by the public/private partnership of the committee and its predecessors.

Sincerely,



Rick Saito
President

Greenway essay - Signups

#1713

① ✓ PONGARD Gard

② ✓ STANNE E GALICH

④ ~~Bobana Wolden~~, 1891 SW Hawthorne

⑥ Cornelia Paulson LWV

⑦ Joseph Poracsky

⑧ Amanda Fritz

⑨ Christine Perala

⑩ John Gardner

② ✓ Kirsten Krane

⑪ ✓ STEVEN STAIN (TENTATIVE)

⑫ ✓ Jeff M Lang -

⑤ GARY REDDICK

⑬ DOUG WEIR

⑭ JOE COFFMAN

⑮ Paul Gleason

! SUBSTITUTE

35742

Resolution No.

Direct the Bureau of Planning in collaboration with the Bureau of Environmental Services, the Bureau of Parks and Recreation and the Portland Development Commission to prepare a work program for a planning project that will result in a comprehensive revision of the Willamette Greenway Plan and implementing regulations (Resolution)

WHEREAS, the Willamette River plays multiple and competing roles it is a critical ecosystem and habitat, it is a transportation way and port, it is a scenic resource, it is a playground Each of these functions adds value to the City, and

WHEREAS, the Central City Summit held on November 19, 1998 affirmed that the health of the Willamette River is a priority for Portland's citizens, and Council endorses the Vision Statement from the Summit set forth in Exhibit A, and

WHEREAS, the Willamette Greenway Plan is part of Portland's Comprehensive Plan and should establish the policy framework for City actions affecting the river, including infrastructure investments, city services, and regulations affecting development, and

WHEREAS, the Willamette Greenway Plan was last updated in 1987 The update was based upon inventories and analysis of public recreation sites, significant natural areas and vegetative cover, fish and wildlife habitats and areas in flood plains, and

WHEREAS, since 1987, there have been significant changes North Macadam has been identified as an important development opportunity within the Central City Other industrial lands have become available for development or recreation The Greenway Trail has expanded Steelhead have been listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act The data and analysis completed in 1987 do not reflect these many changes, and

WHEREAS, the Greenway consists of the river's bank, the setback area between the top of bank and the setback line, and the area landward of the setback line The rules for development in each of these areas are different but inextricably linked to each other Revisions to these rules must be comprehensive, not piecemeal The revisions must be supported by adequate scientific data and physical inventories, and

WHEREAS, some citizens have expressed dissatisfaction with the standards, especially FAR bonuses, building heights and setbacks, which now apply to development in the Greenway zones, and

WHEREAS, recent land use cases have shown that the relationship of the Willamette Greenway Design Guidelines to other code provisions is ambiguous and unclear when applied to development in the Greenway zones, and

WHEREAS, City Bureaus are currently engaged in a number of separate projects related to the Willamette. These include the North Macadam framework planning process, the Master Plan for Willamette Cove, the Portland Development Commission study of bank treatment methods and the City's response to the steelhead listing. These projects are important and must continue. However, the information developed as part of these projects can contribute to an overall assessment of the River. There is currently no coordination of these projects, and

WHEREAS, the Council anticipates that the North Macadam Framework Plan will be submitted to Council in the Fall of 1999, prior to completion of a revised Willamette Greenway Plan,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Portland City Council directs the Bureau of Planning, in collaboration with the Bureau of Environmental Services, Bureau of Parks and Recreation, and Portland Development Commission to prepare a work program for a planning project that will result in a comprehensive revision of the Willamette Greenway Plan and implementing regulations. The work program must include at least the following elements

- Citizen involvement,
- Creation of a vision for the Willamette River with citizen input,
- Completion of inventories and analysis of the river bank, vegetative cover, fish and wildlife habitats, public recreation sites, natural areas, areas in flood plains and other aspects of the river, consistent with State Goal 15, and in coordination with on-going projects such as North Macadam and the City's response to the Endangered Species Act,
- Review and revision of the Willamette Greenway Plan policies, and
- Review and revision of the full range of regulations affecting the river and the river's edge, including but not limited to the zoning code, design guidelines, stormwater management standards, fill and excavation rules, Recreation Trail standards, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council directs that the work program include Bureau of Planning management of the planning process and active coordination by the Bureau of Planning of the on-going separate projects affecting the Greenway, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council directs that the work program be prepared by December 30, 1998 and provided to Council for consideration as part of the 1999-00 budget process, and

S-1713

SUBSTITUTE

Agenda No

SUBSTITUTE

RESOLUTION NO.

35742

Title

Direct the Bureau of Planning in collaboration with the Bureau of Environmental Services, the Bureau of Parks and Recreation and the Portland Development Commission to prepare a work program for a planning project that will result in a comprehensive revision of the Willamette Greenway Plan and implementing regulations (Resolution)

<p style="text-align: center;">INTRODUCED BY Commissioner Charlie Hales</p>	<p>Filed NOV 25 1998</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">NOTED BY COMMISSIONER</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Barbara Clark Auditor of the City of Portland</p>
<p>Affairs</p>	<p>By _____</p>
<p>Finance and Administration</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Deputy</p>
<p>Safety <i>Charlie Hales</i></p>	<p>For Meeting of _____</p>
<p>Utilities</p>	<p>_____</p>
<p>Works</p>	<p>_____</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">BUREAU APPROVAL</p>	<p>Action Taken</p>
<p>Bureau Planning</p>	<p>_____ Amended</p>
<p>Prepared by Date David Knowles 11/24/98</p>	<p>_____ Passed to 2nd Reading _____</p>
<p>Budget Impact Review</p>	<p>_____ Continued to _____</p>
<p>Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Required <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>_____</p>
<p>Bureau Head <i>David Knowles</i> David Knowles, Planning Director</p>	<p>_____</p>

AGENDA		FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS	
			YEAS	NAYS
Consent	Regular <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Francesconi	Francesconi	
NOTED BY		Hales	Hales	
City Attorney		Kafoury	Kafoury	
City Auditor		Sten	Sten	
City Engineer		Katz	Katz	

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parks and Greenway element of the North Macadam Framework Plan as adopted by Council will be incorporated into the revised Willamette Greenway Plan

Adopted by the Council,
Commissioner Charlie Hales
David C Knowles
November 24, 1998

NOV 25 1998

BARBARA CLARK
Auditor of the City of Portland
By

Britta Olson

Deputy