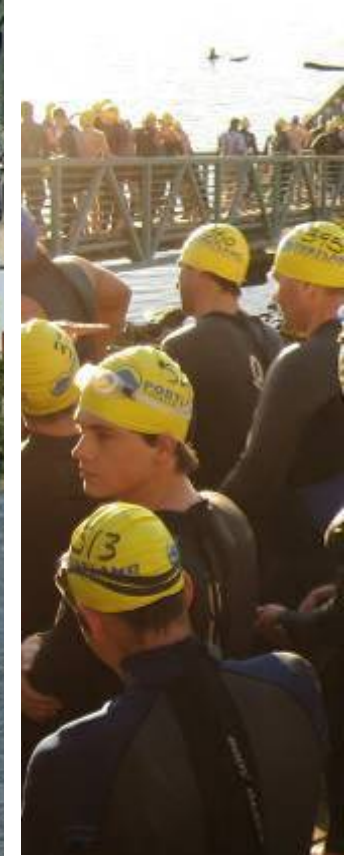


Willamette River Recreation Strategy





Given...

Watershed care

Stormwater management

+ Big Pipe's completion

cleaner Willamette now

Portland Plan

River Plan

+ Central City 2035 Plan

better Willamette ahead

... it's a great time to revisit and reaffirm
Portland's Willamette River recreation needs

Willamette River Recreation Strategy



Willamette River Recreation Strategy **Public Boating Facilities**

February 2012



PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION
Healthy Parks. Healthy Portland



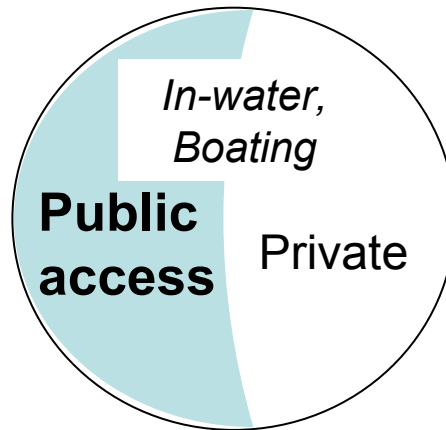
City of Portland, Oregon
RIVERS OFFICE
Office of Healthy Working Rivers



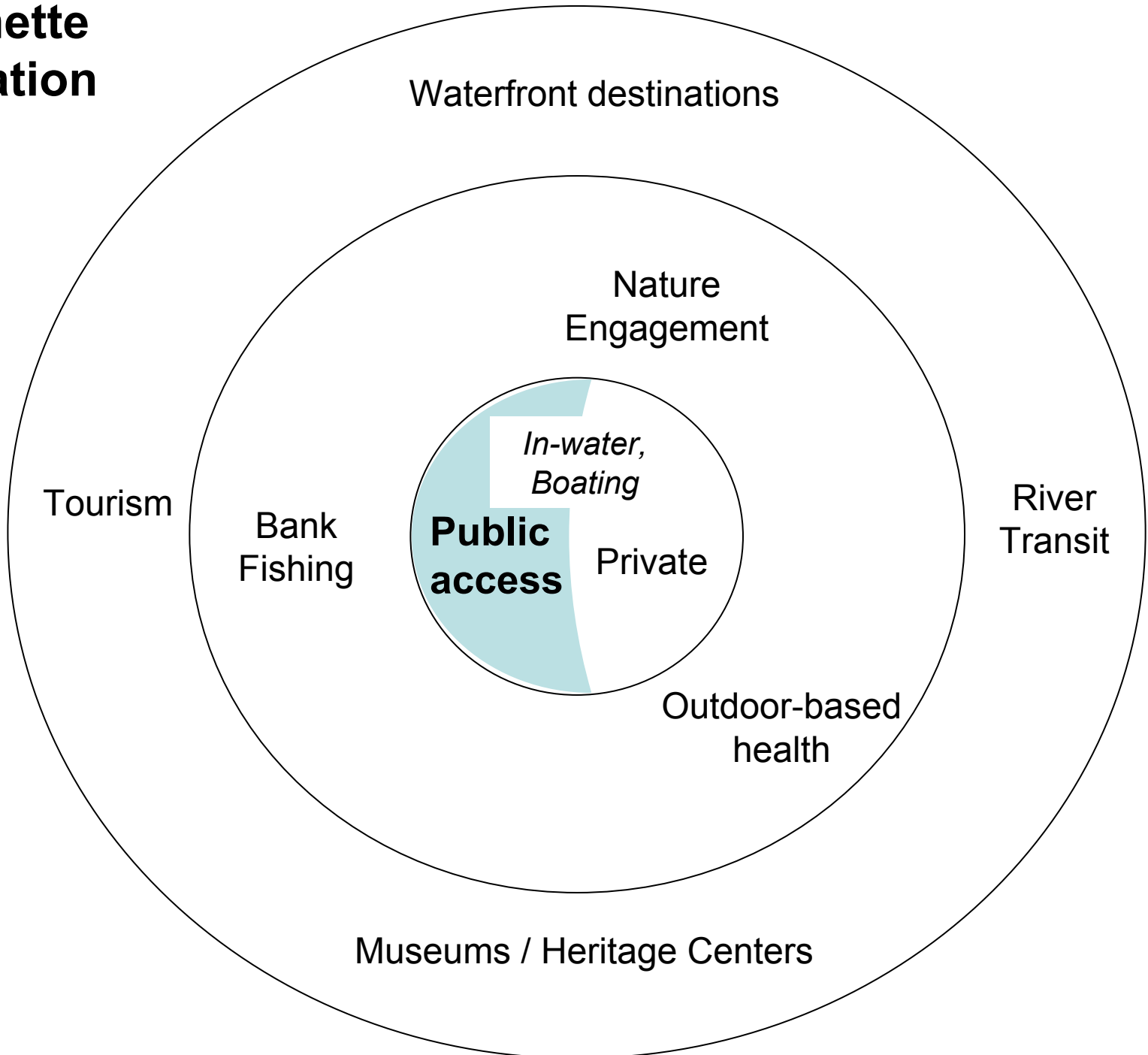
Willamette River Recreation Strategy

- Articulates City's comprehensive vision
- Documents recreation uses, trends & needs
- Zeros-in on public facilities
- Stresses importance of serving both recreational & environmental needs.
- Priority "To Do" list for next 15 years.

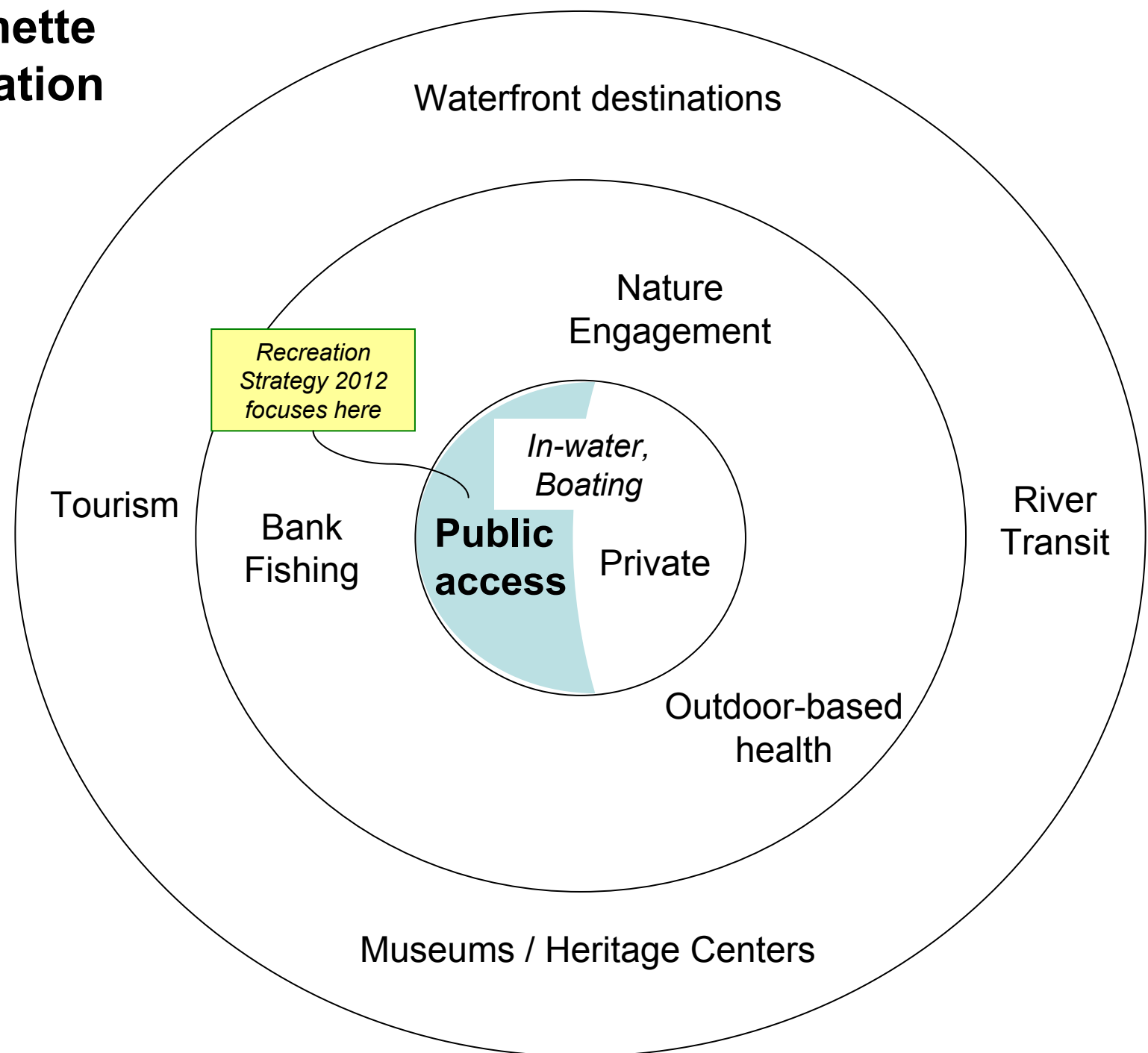
Willamette Recreation



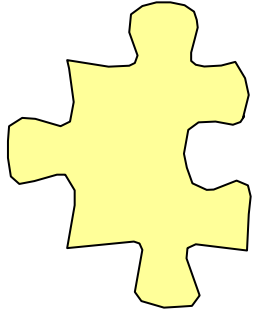
Willamette Recreation



Willamette Recreation



Factors Shaping the Strategy

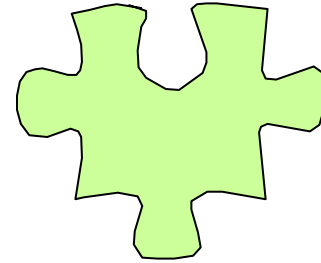


Recreation

Cleaner River

Growing Demand

Aging Facilities

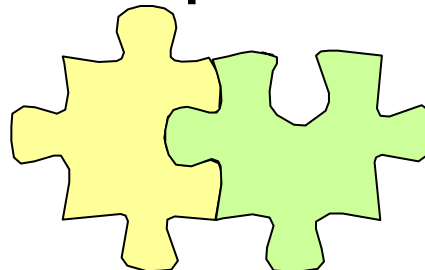


Stewardship

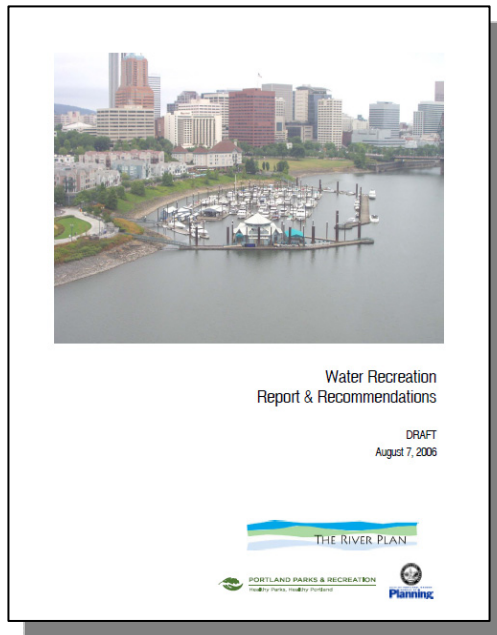
Habitat Loss

Species Safeguards /
Permitting Environment

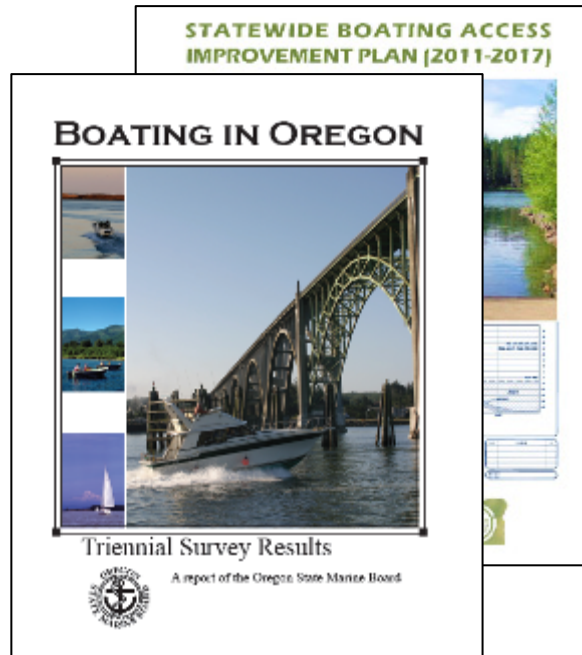
Integrated, Comprehensive Strategy



Information Shaping the Strategy

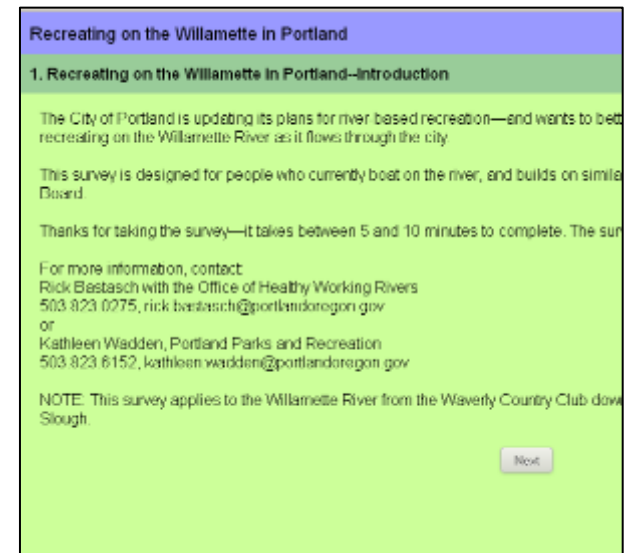


2006 Water
Recreation Report



Marine Board information

- *Columbia & Willamette: most-boated waterbodies in Oregon*
- *Multnomah one of busiest boating counties*
- *Portland's Willamette: one of the few spots where boating is increasing for all segments*



City on-line surveys

- *1,800 responses*
- *2,500 comments*

What We Heard

- *Important to serve full range of river recreation experiences*
- *Take care of the facilities we already have*
- *River recreation and river stewardship can and should work together.*
- *More education and enforcement*

River Recreation Vision and Goals

Vision

A clean and healthy Willamette River is the pride of Portlanders who fish, paddle, sail, pleasure-boat, swim, experience nature, and sightsee on its waters.

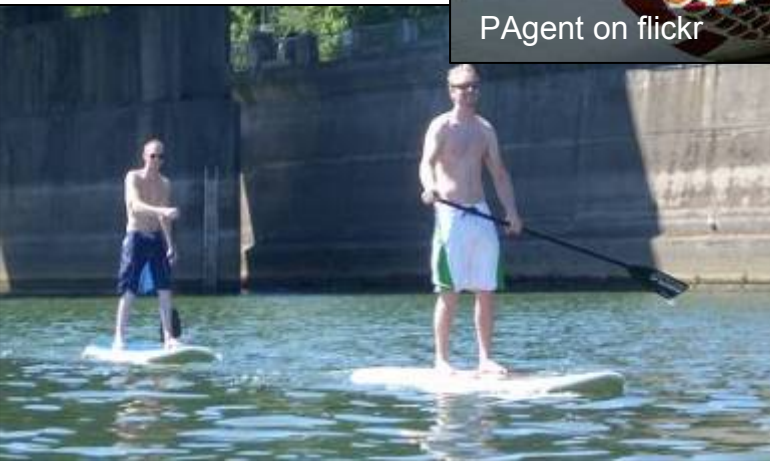
Goals

- Increase enjoyment of, and direct experience with, the Willamette.
- Bring people closer to the river to foster an improved understanding of river history, economy, and ecology.
- Manage recreation in concert with other City priorities to secure a net improvement in river health
- Provide for safe, enjoyable, and valuable on-water recreational experiences for all uses.

Traditional Uses



Newer Uses



Safe Uses



Strategy Summary

- Portland's **PUBLIC** river recreation infrastructure:
 - *inspired, but aging, patchwork of facilities...*
 - *... built for different reasons,*
 - *...at different times.*
- To-date, there has been no unifying framework to:
 - *guide City investment in maintenance, operations, or expansion;*
 - *help manage river user conflicts; or*
 - *track how Portlanders use, and want to use, the River.*



Strategy Summary

- re-emphasizes City policy to encourage thoughtful recreational use of the Willamette;
- focuses on public recreational boating facilities ...;
- ... as a singular community asset that must be managed as a system;
- calls out the regional importance of river recreation in the Portland area
- puts a premium on taking care of the facilities we already have;
- targets a handful of new or expanded facilities in the next 15 years;
- emphasizes the need for new strategies and partnerships to fund improvements;
- establishes a river recreation advisory group;
- sets forth detailed guidelines for building boating facilities that minimize impacts to fish and wildlife habitat.

Environmental Guidelines (content)

- Integrate dock & facilities planning, citywide;
- Assure existing facilities are well-used before adding new;
- Avoid high-value habitat;
- Minimize impacts through design;
- Mitigate, inc. by removing overwater structures
 - *City's 2011 GIS-based overwater structure inventory*
 - *Piling inventory on-going*
- Public education

Major Goal: assure people enjoy the river by practicing environmental responsibility.



Environmental Guidelines (*meaning*)

- Getting people to the River is an important priority of the City of Portland.
- We're taking a very careful approach to in-water structures by:
 - making the best use of what we already have, and
 - ID-ing just 3 new dock-related sites over the next 15 years
- When we do build docks, we will be rigorous in siting and design, using latest info from natural resource agencies.
- This is our good faith effort to safeguard our river environment while meeting recreational demand...
- ...and hopefully bodes well for improved program alignment.

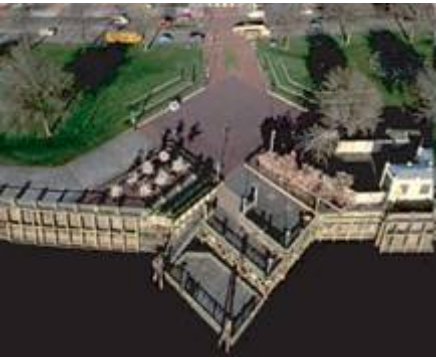
Recommendations for next 5 to 15 years



Improve Existing Facilities

- *Willamette Park boat ramp: dredge and repair toe ramp and debris boom*
- *Replace Swan Island boat ramp boarding float*
- *Renovate Cathedral Park boat ramp facility & implement Park Master Plan*
- *Replace dock at Sellwood Riverfront Park*
- *Repair McCarthy Park's non motorized river access points*

Recommendations for next 5 to 15 years



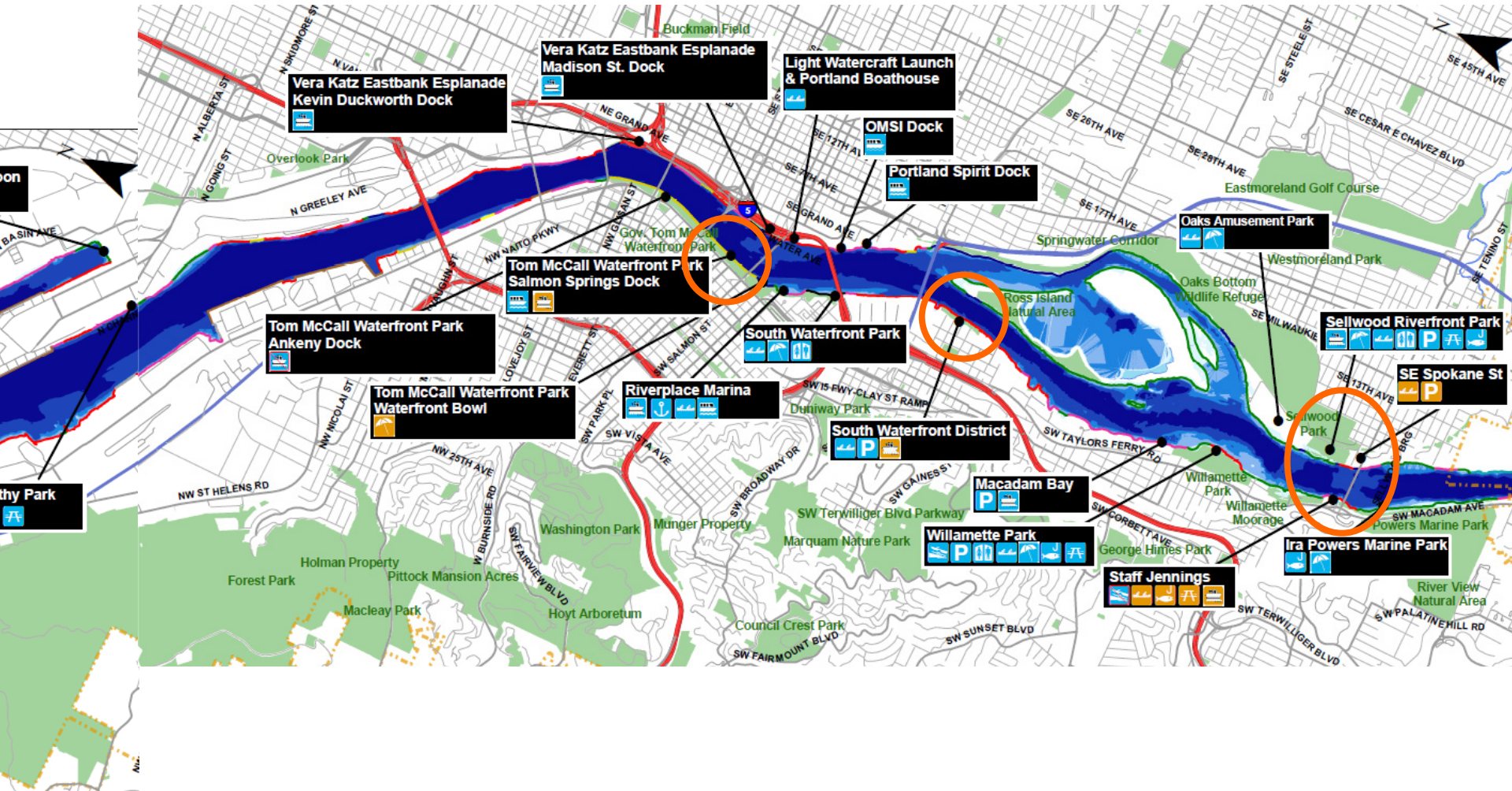
Develop New Facilities for Anticipated Recreation Demands

- *Replace Ankeny Dock in downtown Portland*
- *Build a new dock in the South Waterfront District*
- *Explore SE Spokane Street light watercraft launch*
- *Investigate Staff Jennings site for dock, beach launch, park*
- *Promote Waterfront Park “Hawthorne Bowl” beach access*

*“By water”
destinations*



Areas for potential new facilities



Recommendations for next 5 to 15 years

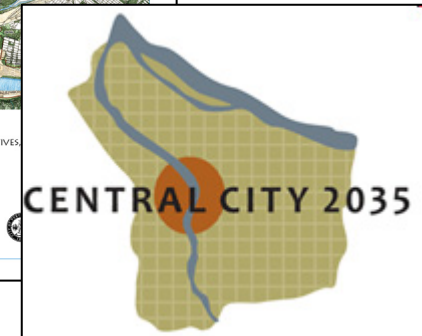
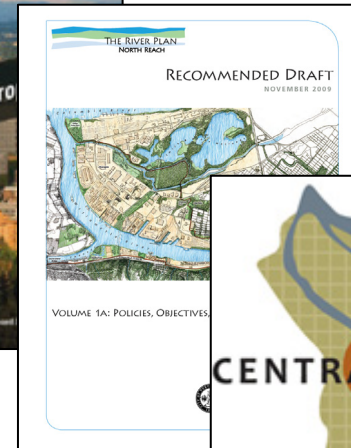
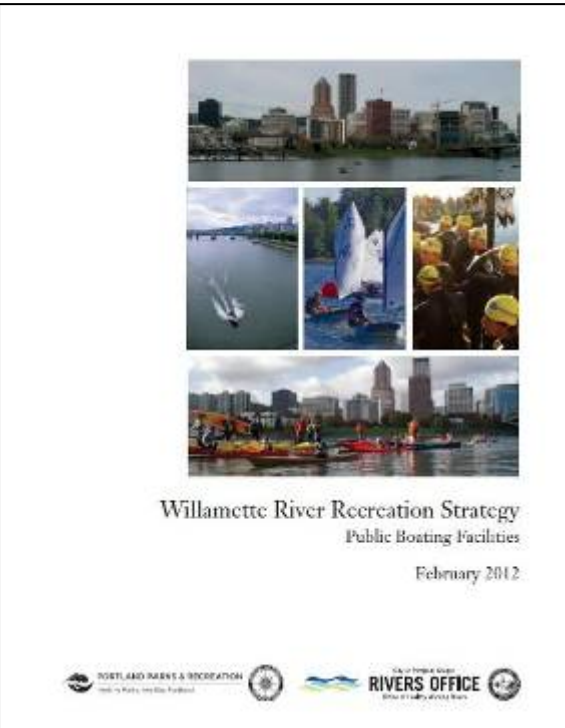


Coordination & Education Needs

- *Collaborate to enhance waterway enforcement*
- *Improve education & recreation programs*
(inc. riverbank clean-up, safe boating & river stewardship).
- *Get better information:*
 - *river use (demand, trends, recreation preferences);*
 - *river recreation economic impacts.*
- *Develop asset management plan;*
formulate partnership-based funding plan.
- *Establish river recreation advisory group.*

Strategy Roles

- Do the “To Do’s”
- River Recreation Advisory Group



Partnerships



- Capital Improvement Program
- Asset Management

Willamette Recreation Strategy Partnerships



River Recreation Advisory Group



Yachting

Portland Boathouse



COLUMBIA CROSSINGS





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