



Bureau of Planning and Sustainability  
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## MEMO

**DATE:** July 6, 2012

**TO:** Planning and Sustainability Commission

**FROM:** Susan Anderson, Director

**CC:** Dean Marriott, Director, Bureau of Environmental Services  
Mike Abbate, Director, Portland Parks and Recreation  
Paul Scarlett, Director, Bureau of Development Services

**SUBJECT:** Compliance with Metro Title 13, Nature in Neighborhoods

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I am pleased to submit for your consideration Portland's draft Request for Metro Determination of Substantial Compliance - Title 13, Nature in Neighborhoods. The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability developed this draft report in collaboration with the Bureaus of Environmental Services, Parks and Recreation and Development Services.

The well-established regulatory and non-regulatory programs presented in the report protect and restore thousands of acres of regionally significant natural resources in Portland. No new regulations are proposed as part of this compliance request. Based on this program package we believe that Metro can readily find the City in substantial compliance with Title 13.

We are glad to reach this milestone given Portland's long history of natural resource protection and enhancement. However we recognize that Title 13 compliance is a snapshot in time and that maintaining healthy watersheds will require a long-term commitment on the parts of local jurisdictions and Metro.

To confirm this commitment post-determination of substantial compliance, the City plans to document its intent in an agreement with Metro. The agreement would affirm the City's



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intent to complete specified projects and continue implementing proven programs to enhance watershed health in an agreement with Metro. The agreement would also call for collaboration on issues of regional concern (e.g., addressing industrial land supply and natural resources protection) through the Comprehensive Plan update and other projects.

So along with our draft request for determination of substantial compliance, I will be inviting your feedback on an initial outline for a potential agreement between Portland and Metro. If there is support for such an agreement, the actual document will be drafted for consideration by the Portland City Council.

