



MEMORANDUM

Date: March 11, 2015

To: Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission

From: Portland Parks Board

RE: Comprehensive Plan Update Recommendation

THE PORTLAND PARKS BOARD RESPECTFULLY SUBMITS THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS ON UPDATES TO THE **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**:

In February 2014, the Portland Parks Board submitted comments to the Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS) on the Working Draft Comprehensive Plan, Part 1 (policies) and draft Citywide Systems Plan (capital improvement plan). Last July, members of the Parks Board met with BPS and Parks Bureau staff to review the Board's comments and how they have been responded to in the Proposed 2035 Comprehensive Plan Update. Bureau staff developed a detailed 'crosswalk' memo indicating where/how the Board's comments have been addressed.

At its March 4, 2015 meeting, the Parks Board voted unanimously to submit the following comments on the Proposed 2035 Comprehensive Plan Update:

1. We acknowledge the efforts of the staff of both the Bureau of Parks and Recreation and of the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability to respond to the Board's 2/14 comments and believe that the issues raised by the Parks Board in its February 2014 comments on the Working Draft Plan.
2. We express general support for the parks, recreation and natural areas space elements of the Proposed 2035 Comprehensive Plan and specifically reiterate support for Proposed Plan goals and policies to protect and enhance parks, recreation facilities, open spaces and urban natural resources and to increase their equitable distribution across the City. This support extends to the concept of establishing habitat corridors that connect important open spaces and natural areas.
3. We express concern and opposition in principle to the concept of converting one limited resource (open spaces and natural areas) to another use (industrial lands). This includes specific opposition to converting the Columbia Slough golf courses to industrial lands and support for consideration of alternative land use scenarios that do not include West Hayden Island as part of the industrial lands inventory.
4. We support a strategy of investment in green infrastructure that prioritizes neighborhoods with poor access to parks, natural areas, or with limited tree canopy.
5. We endorse comments previously submitted by the Urban Forestry Commission that promote improving, protecting and restoring Portland's urban forests.