

Proposed 2006 Metro Natural Areas Bond Measure

**Protecting natural areas, clean water,
and fish and wildlife habitat**



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**Presentation to Portland City Council
Metro Council President David Bragdon and
Councilors Rex Burkholder and Robert Liberty
March 1, 2006**

Need for **natural area** protection



- Disappearing habitat
- Threats to water quality
- Acquisition is the strongest tool
- The opportunity is now



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1995 bond measure



- 62% voted “yes”
- \$135.6 million total
- 8,120 acres and 74 miles of river and stream frontage
- \$25 million local share for over 100 natural area related projects
- One million trees and shrubs planted
- 50,000 volunteer hours donated to natural areas
- \$2 million in grant funds leveraged for restoration



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Local share results from 1995 measure: Portland



- **\$7,479,313 provided in local share moneys**
- **Projects funded include:**
 - Hoyt Arboretum visitor center and park addition
 - Neighborhood greenspace acquisitions
 - Botanical Garden expansions
 - Numerous trails and greenway projects



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Proposed 2006 bond measure **elements**



- **Regional natural area and greenway acquisition**
- **Local acquisition and natural area improvements**
- **Capital grant program for neighborhood projects**



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Proposed 2006 bond measure **elements**



- **\$220 million total package:**
 - **\$165 million for regional natural areas**
 - **\$44 million local share**
 - **\$11 million capital grant fund**
- **Cost to property tax payers is estimated at 18 cents per \$1,000 assessed value**



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Protecting regional **natural areas**



- Water quality
- Habitat value
- Rarity
- Parcel size
- Restoration
- Connectivity
- Scenic resources
- Public access
- Partnerships



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Protecting regional **natural areas**



- **Headwaters and upper watersheds**
- **Land along rivers and streams**
- **Ridge tops, bluffs and buttes**
- **Wetlands and floodplains**
- **Regional greenways and trail corridors**



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Johnson Creek **target area**



Opportunities for:

- Floodplain acquisition
- Restoration of wildlife habitat in stream corridor
- Enhancement of water quality
- Connection with existing public natural areas



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Columbia Slough target area



Opportunities for:

- Re-creation of wildlife habitat in heavily developed urban areas
- Enhancement of water quality
- Providing trail connections to existing recreation and wildlife corridors



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Additional target areas



- **Springwater Trail**
 - Completion of the Sellwood Gap
- **Forest Park Connections**
 - Enhance wildlife corridors, trail connections
 - Continue adjacent land acquisitions
- **Willamette River Greenway**



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Local projects



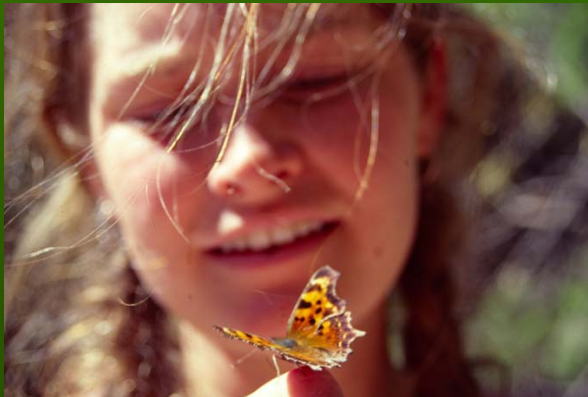
- \$44 million “pass through” for local projects
- Acquisition of natural area or land for future parks
- Restoration projects
- Improved public access to nature
- Trail design and construction
- Environmental education facilities



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Proposed Portland local share: \$15,267,410

Nature in Neighborhoods **grant program**



- “Re-nature” neighborhoods
- Engage communities
- Protect water quality
- Build partnerships and leverage resources
- Improve fish and wildlife habitat
- Increase access to nature
- Demonstrate innovative projects and design solutions



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Nature in Neighborhoods **grant program**



- Land acquisition
- Daylighting of creeks or streams
- Neighborhood parks
- Rain, bird or butterfly gardens
- Habitat restoration and enhancement
- Non-motorized trails
- Interpretive displays



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The 2006 vision



- **Build on the investment and success of the 1995 bond measure**
- **Protect water quality and critical habitat**
- **Save the best of what's left**
- **Secure a legacy for future generations**



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