



## Memorandum

January 10, 2012

To: Planning and Sustainability Commission

From: Ann Beier, Director, Rivers Office Rick Bastasch, Coordinator, Rivers Office Brett Horner, Interim Asset Manager, Portland Parks and Recreation Kathleen Wadden, Planner, Portland Parks and Recreation

The Office of Healthy Working Rivers and Portland Parks and Recreation appreciate the opportunity to brief the Planning and Sustainability Commission on the *Willamette River Recreation Strategy*.

As you will see from the enclosed material, the *Strategy* updates and refines the *Water Recreation Report* produced by Parks and the Bureau of Planning in 2006. In a nutshell, the *Strategy*:

- articulates a river recreation vision and goals;
- focuses on boating and City-owned river recreational facilities;
- offers new guidelines for habitat-friendly docks and in-water structures;
- identifies top-priorities for public facility improvement and expansion;
- targets near-term actions to enhance boating and environmental education, safety enforcement, data collection; and,
- establishes a new river recreation advisory group.

The *Strategy* is intended to help inform other critical City efforts, including CC2035 and the River Plan. We also see the *Strategy* as inherently consistent with, and supportive of, the Portland Plan—especially, the Plan's 2035 objectives that "All Portlanders can conveniently get to the Willamette and Columbia Rivers..."

Please note that the enclosed draft of the *Strategy* is in the process of being revised based on public comment. Our timeline is to complete revisions by the end of January and present the strategy to City Council by the end of February.

Thanks again for your interest in the Strategy.