

River Plan/North Reach – How Different Stakeholders Benefit

The River Plan/North Reach proposes a suite of new programs and investments to support the plan's five topic areas: economic prosperity, watershed health, access, riverfront communities, and working with our partners. The proposals provide benefits to the following stakeholders:

The environment

Priorities for environmental restoration identified, and initial funding strategy developed (an environmental "CIP")

Clear City land use policy guidance developed for the cleanup of contaminated lands

New, more accurate natural resource inventory

Stronger, more consistent protection of remaining natural resource areas in the North Reach

Clearer mitigation framework, including development of a mitigation bank that will facilitate more focused mitigation and better long term management of mitigation sites

Standards to increase vegetation cover along the Willamette

Stronger shallow water protections

Better linkages to surrounding upland resources (protection of connections to Forest Park and bluffs east of the river)

Industry

Harbor reinvestment strategy, with recommendations for infrastructure investments to support continued use of the harbor for industrial activity

Stronger industrial sanctuary policy

New greenway trail alignment to reduce conflicts with industrial uses
Clearer and more flexible regulations

Replacement of greenway review with more focused river environmental zone (many site activities will no longer trigger discretionary land use review)

Ability to pay in-lieu mitigation and vegetation fees rather than dedication of on-site areas for mitigation and planting

Development of a mitigation bank and standard operating procedures to better integrate City, state and federal reviews and eliminate duplication and conflict

Elimination of use-related greenway setbacks in river industrial zone

Removal of regulations from low-valued un-vegetated shoreline areas

Neighborhoods

An updated greenway trail plan to better link North and Northwest Portland communities

Improved access to the river over time, including plans for additional greenway trail connections, and extending the University of Portland campus down the bluff to the river

Strategies to address noise impacts

Greater protection of the Baltimore Woods and Overlook Bluffs to maintain a buffer between residential and industrial uses

Planning for a "whistle free" zone in St. Johns and Linnton

Creation of several zoning tools to reduce noise impacts, including requirements for additional sound insulation in new construction, and additional criteria to discourage extensive residential development in employment zones near heavy industry

Actions to help revitalize the Linnton main street and improve its recreational and habitat linkages to the river.

