

APPENDIX C Future Vision

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADOPTING) ORDINANCE NO. 95-604A
A FUTURE VISION FOR THE)
REGION) INTRODUCED BY COUNCILOR SUSAN
) MCLAIN

WHEREAS, The voters of the Metro region adopted the 1992 Metro Charter in November, 1992; and

WHEREAS, The Charter provides for the creation of a Future Vision Commission and adoption of a Future Vision no later than July 1, 1995; and

WHEREAS, The Charter calls for the Future Vision to be "a conceptual statement that indicates population levels and settlement patterns that the region can accommodate within the carrying capacity of the land, water and air resources of the region, and its educational and economic resources, and that achieves a desired quality of life;" and

WHEREAS, The Charter further requires the Future Vision to be "a long-term, visionary outlook for at least a 50-year period which is to address, "(1) use, restoration and preservation of regional land and natural resources for the benefit of present and future generations, (2) how and where to accommodate the population growth for the region while maintaining a desired quality of life for its residents, and (3) how to develop new communities and additions to the existing urban areas in well-planned ways;" and

WHEREAS, The Future Vision is not a regulatory document; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 93-1755, adopted on February 23, 1993, established the framework and appointing authorities for creating the Future Vision Commission; and

WHEREAS, Future Vision Commission members were appointed by adoption of Resolution 93-1801, by MPAC appointment, and by actions of the Governors of Oregon and Washington; and

WHEREAS, The Future Vision Commission met for over eighteen months, reviewed available materials, heard from many authorities, and commissioned four reports on jobs, carrying capacity, settlement patterns, and education; and

WHEREAS, The Future Vision Commission issued its final report on March 4, 1995, which deals with Charter-required matters as well as providing valuable suggestions for how to achieve the Vision; and

WHEREAS, The Future Vision is to be part of an ongoing regional planning process; and

WHEREAS, The Council and Future Vision Commission held a series of public hearings throughout the region to receive public testimony on the Commission's final report, in order to give the Council guidance in adopting the region's Future Vision; now, therefore,

THE METRO COUNCIL ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Pursuant to Section 5 (1) of the 1992 Metro Charter, the Future Vision for the region, attached as Exhibit A and including the Future Vision map, is adopted.

2. Ideas and suggestions from the Future Vision Commission for implementing the Future Vision and achieving its goals are attached as Exhibit B.

3. The final report of the Future Vision Commission, attached as Exhibit C, is accepted.

4. The Future Vision is not a regulatory document, and has no effect that would allow court or agency review of it. The Regional Framework Plan required by the Charter shall describe its relationship to the Future Vision. The Regional Framework Plan is not required by the Charter or by this ordinance to comply with or conform to the Future Vision.

5. The Future Vision shall be completely reviewed and revised no later than July 1, 2010, in a manner prescribed by ordinance and in conformance with the terms of the Metro Charter.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 15th day of June, 1995.

/s/
J. Ruth McFarland, Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

/s/
Cathy Ross, Recording Secretary

EXHIBIT A
FUTURE VISION

Our ecological and economic region goes beyond Metro's boundaries and stretches from the Cascades to the Coast Range, and from Longview to Salem. Any vision for a territory as large and diverse as this must be regarded as both ambitious and a work-in-progress: it is a first step in developing policies, plans, and actions that serve our bi-state region and all its people.

While Metro recognizes that it has no control over surrounding jurisdictions and is not responsible for the provision of public safety and other social services, the ability to successfully manage growth within this region is dependent on and impacts each of these.

Future Vision is mandated by Metro's 1992 Charter. It is not a regulatory document; rather it is a standard against which to gauge progress toward maintaining a livable region. It is based on a number of core values essential to shaping our future. As a region:

- We value taking purposeful action to advance our aspirations for this region, realizing that we should act to meet our needs today in a manner that does not limit or eliminate the ability of future generations to meet their needs and enjoy this landscape we are privileged to inhabit.
- We value the greatest possible individual liberty in politics, economics, lifestyle, belief, and conscience, with the understanding that this liberty cannot be fully realized unless accompanied by shared commitments for community, civic involvement, and a healthy environment.
- We value our regional identity and sense of place, and celebrate the identity and accomplishments of our urban neighborhoods and suburban and rural communities.
- We value vibrant cities that are inspiration and a crucial resource for commerce, cultural activities, policies, and community building.
- We value a healthy economy that provides stable family-wage jobs. We recognize that our economic well-being depends on unimpaired and sustainable natural ecosystems, and suitable social mechanisms to ensure dignity and equity for all, with compassion and adequate income for those in need.
- We value the conservation, restoration, and preservation of natural and historic landscapes.

- We value a life close to nature incorporated in the urban landscape.
- We value nature for its own sake, and recognize our responsibility as stewards of the region's natural resources.
- We value meeting the needs of our communities through grass-roots efforts in harmony with the collective interest of our regional community.
- We value participatory decision making which harnesses the creativity inherent in a wide range of views.
- We value a cultural atmosphere and public policies that will ensure that every child in every community enjoys the greatest possible opportunities to fulfill his or her potential in life; as a high priority, every child, regardless of income, has the opportunity to engage in the literary, visual, and performing arts in community centers.

REGIONAL VISION STATEMENT

EACH INDIVIDUAL:

As inhabitants of this bi-state region, we are committed to the development of each individual as a productive, effective member of society. This region must make clear and unambiguous commitments to each individual in order that we all may have a vibrant, healthy place to live. We seek the full participation of individuals in the prosperity of this region, accompanied by acceptance of their responsibility for stewardship of the community and region. Our vision statements for Each Individual are:

- CHILDREN - In 2045, the welfare of children is of critical importance to our well-being. Creating and sustaining public and private initiatives that support family are among our highest priorities.
- EDUCATION - In 2045, education, in its broadest definition, stands as the core of our commitment to each other. Life-long learning is the critical ingredient that enables the residents of this region to meet the responsibilities of citizenship, to gain pleasure from a rich cultural and social life, and to adapt to new ideas, new technologies, and changing economic conditions. Our commitment to education is a commitment to equipping all people with the means not only to survive, but to prosper.

- PARTICIPATION - In 2045, all residents, old and young, rich and poor, men and women, minority and majority, are supported and encouraged to be well-informed and active participants in the civic life of their communities and the bi-state region. Ours is a region that thrives on interaction and engagement of its people to achieve community objectives.

OUR SOCIETY - The ability to work together is the hallmark of great communities and flourishing societies. Our vision statements for Our Society are:

- VITAL COMMUNITIES - In 2045, communities throughout the bi-state region are economically vital, socially healthy and responsive to the needs of their residents. Government initiatives and services have been developed to empower individual communities to actively meet the needs of their residents. The economic life of the community is inseparable from its social and civic life.
- SAFETY - In 2045, personal safety within communities and throughout the region is commonly expected as well as a shared responsibility involving citizens and all government agencies. Our definition of personal safety extends from the elimination of prejudice to the physical protection of life and property from criminal harm; to hazard mitigation and preparation for and response to natural disasters.
- ECONOMY - In 2045, our bi-state regional economy is dynamic and diverse, with urban and rural economies linked in a common frame. Planning and governmental action have helped create conditions that support the development of family wage jobs in accessible centers throughout the region.
- CIVIC LIFE - In 2045, citizens embrace responsibility for sustaining a rich, inclusive civic life. Political leadership is valued and recognized for serving community life.
- DIVERSITY - In 2045, our communities are known for their openness and acceptance. This region is distinguished by its ability to honor diversity in a manner that leads to a civic cohesion.
- ROOTS - In 2045, our history serves us well, with the lessons of the past remembered and incorporated in our strategies for the future. Knowledge of our cultural history helps ground social and public policy in the natural heritage we depend on and value.

OUR PLACE:

We are committed to preserving the physical landscape of the region, acknowledging the settlement patterns that have developed within it, and supporting the economy that continues to evolve. We live in a varied and beautiful landscape. Our place sits at the confluence of great rivers-the Columbia, Lewis, Sandy, and the Willamette and its tributaries, which dominate the landscape. This is a region of water, volcanic buttes, and forest-clad mountains and hills. Our vision statement for Our Place are:

- A LIFE IN NATURE - In 2045, this region as a unique ecosystem, known for the intelligent integration of urban and rural development which seeks to:
 - Improve air and water quality, and increase biodiversity;
 - Protect views of Mt. Hood, Mt. St. Helens, Mt. Rainier, Mt. Adams, Mt. Jefferson, and other Cascade and coastal peaks;
 - Provide Greenspaces and parks within walking distance of every household;
 - Assure a close and supportive relationship among natural resources, landscape, the built environment, and the economy of the region; and
 - Restore ecosystems, complemented by planning and development initiatives that preserve the fruits of those labors.
- RURAL LAND - In 2045, rural land shapes our sense of place by keeping our cities separate from one another, protecting natural resource lands and supporting viable farm and forest resource enterprises, and keeping our citizens close to nature, farms, forests, and other resource lands and activities.
- DOWNTOWNS - In 2045, downtown Portland continues to serve an important defining role for the entire region. Historic urban centers such as Ridgefield, Camas, Vancouver, Gresham, St. Helens, Beaverton, Hillsboro, Lake Oswego, Oregon City, Molalla, Woodburn, and others throughout our bi-state region are an important part of sub-regional identity. In addition, investment, both public and private, is focused in our historic and our new urban centers throughout the region. This pattern of investment and renewal continues to be an important part of our strategy for building and maintaining healthy communities.
- VARIETY IN OUR COMMUNITIES AND NEIGHBORHOOD - In 2045, our region is composed of numerous distinct communities. Each community provides a wide variety of healthy, appealing, and affordable housing and neighborhood choices. They are physically compact and have distinct

identities and boundaries. Public space exists in every community, and serves as the stage for a rich and productive civic dialogue.

- WALKING - In 2045, residents of this region can shop, play, and socialize by walking or biking within their neighborhoods. Walking, biking, or using transit are attractive alternatives for a wide range of trips within neighborhoods, between important regional centers, and outside of the urban area. This region is known for the utility of its non-auto transportation alternatives.
- LINKAGES - In 2045, goods, materials, and information move easily throughout the bi-state region. Manufacturing, distribution, and office employment centers are linked to the transportation and communication systems in a comprehensive and coordinated manner.
- EQUITY - In 2045, the tradeoffs associated with growth and change have been fairly distributed throughout the region. Our commitment to managing growth is matched by an equal commitment to social equity for the communities of today and tomorrow. The true environmental and social cost of new growth has been paid by those, both new to the region and already present, receiving the benefits of that new growth.
- GROWTH MANAGEMENT - In 2045, growth in the region has occurred, but it has been managed so our citizens have maintained or improved their quality of life. Our objective has been and still is to live in great communities, not merely big ones. Our desire for separate communities is reflected in the Future Vision Map which depicts settlement patterns. Carrying capacity and sustainability concepts help measure and track progress toward maintaining a desired quality of life but they can not be used to set population limits. Our successes in balancing our region's growth with its livability come from a commitment to ongoing reviews of our past achievements combined with appropriate actions to maintain and enhance our quality of life. The Values and Vision Statements herein should be used to guide the establishment of new communities.

EXHIBIT B
SUGGESTIONS

Clearly, Metro has a critical role to play as planner, convener, monitor, and leader. However, as in the past, the success we achieve in the future will be a collaborative accomplishment. We have an unparalleled opportunity to create an environment of consensus and predictability in the region for what Metro's planning and policy making ought to accomplish. The full report of the Future Vision Commission contains suggestions for acting on each vision statement.

Perhaps the most critical implementing step is Metro's commitment to continuing dialogue with the citizens of our greater region to address 21st century problems and issues. An annual review of the region will allow us to promote, lead, and engage citizens in an ongoing discussion of our future. The relevant question is not "when" carrying capacity will be exceeded, but "how" we will collectively restore, maintain, and enhance the qualities of the region.

As a region, our aspiration is to match the spectacular nature of our landscape with an equally spectacular and regular civic celebration of our sense of the region-truly our sense of place. For it is only through the creation of a shared and far-reaching culture of this place that our accomplishments will match our aspirations. Future Vision is a work in progress - a challenge to future generations to think ahead and make decisions.