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[Comprehensive Plan] Form submission from: Comprehensive Plan Planning Commission Comment Form

Multnomah County <webmaster@multco.us>
To: compplan@multco.us

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Submitted on Monday, May 9, 2016 - 3:32pm
Submitted values are:

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Comments:

I recently volunteered my time and input on Metro's North Tualatin Mountain Project as well as the Newell Creek Project in Oregon City. Both projects are attempting to connect the nearby public with recreation. I reviewed the Metro comment letter and support most of the changes, except for the new terms ("No negative impacts") making recreational development to be judged more strictly than other kinds of development. The residences of the metro area voted to expand and protect natural resources, not just to keep them fenced off from people. The future of the environment depends on people experiencing nature via hiking, walking, birdwatching, biking and other outdoor activities.

The comp plan is intended to serve all residents of the county, not just rural. Residents of the rural areas should be accepting of city visitors accessing their spaces, just as city visitors embrace rural visitors to their spaces. This is what makes our communities healthy and equitable. As the growing disparity between the wealthy and poor grows, our region needs to keep access to the outdoors and the environment equitable. This means it needs to be closer so people can ride transit, bikes or walk to it.

Recreational access is critical to meeting future growth and providing healthy opportunities for people to engage with nature nearby. This will help meet climate action plan goals and avoid sending thousands of people 60 or 100 miles away from Multnomah County for an activity that can be provided near their homes. The overall impact to fish/wildlife and humans will be much less when access to nature is provided locally.

I urge you to integrate the Metro comments submitted, and remember this planning effort encompasses many types of areas, habitats as well as potential uses now and into the future. Careful selection of terminology could avoid unintended consequences in the future to project county wide.

Thank you
Matthew Kaiel

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://multco.us/node/28556/submission/52596>

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