Introduction to the Regional Urban and Rural Reserves Growth Management Process

Multnomah County
Department of Land Use and Transportation

Forest Park Neighborhood Association
Skyline Ridge Neighbors

Spring 2008
Needed: A New Approach to Growth Management

- Region’s population projected to grow by one million people over next 30 years

- Current growth management system:
  - Every 5 years Metro projects housing & land supply needs for next 20 years; a report recommends areas to bring into the UGB; local governments, citizens & groups comment; Metro moves the UGB
  - Can lead to expansion in areas difficult to serve
  - Does not provide for long-term protection of rural areas
The New Approach: Reserves

• Metro, and Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties agree on urban and rural reserves for next 40-50 years
  – **Urban Reserve**: An area outside the current UGB that *may be used* for potential urban development in the next 40-50 years
  – **Rural Reserve**: An area outside the current UGB that *cannot be used* for urban development in the next 40-50 years

• The State has given Metro a 2-year extension of the 5-year UGB review to implement reserves
The Purpose of Reserves

- Shape what the region will look like over the next 40-50 years

- Identify land needs to increase:
  - Long-term protection of farmland, natural areas
  - Predictability about location of future growth
  - Efficiencies in services and infrastructure
  - Region-wide support for regional growth decisions
Shape of the Region Study (2006)

• Reviewed land in the region, identifying:
  – Lands functionally critical to the agricultural economy
  – Natural landscape features that help define the region
  – Factors that enable development of sustainable and complete communities

• Information will be used to help designate urban and rural reserves
NATURAL LANDSCAPE FEATURES

Below are the twenty-six identified natural landscape features, listed clockwise starting at the Columbia River in the east portion of the region.

1. Columbia River Gorge Scenic Area
2. Cascade foothills
3. Sandy River Gorge
4. Rest Butees
5. Deep Creek Canyons
6. Clarkamass River
7. Clarkamass River Bluffs and Gorge
8. Clear Creek Canyon
9. Netwalk and Absorbent Coastal
10. Lower Pudding River
11. Willamette Narrows to Cottonwood Slough
12. Toweran Geological Area
13. Tualatin River
14. Clackamas Mountains
15. Mount Hood
16. Willamette River floodplain
17. general wetland wilderness parks
18. Wapato Lake
19. Tillamook State Forest
20. Lower Gales Creek
21. Dairy and Mixcy Creeks Confluence
22. Rock Creek Marshes
23. Forest Park Confluence
24. Clack Mountain
25. Sauvie Island
26. Columbia River Islands
Senate Bill 1011 (2007)

- Authorized creation of rural reserves
- Requires concurrent development of urban and rural reserves throughout Metro area
- Requires Metro and counties to work together and agree on reserve designations
Key Milestones for Designating Urban and Rural Reserves

2008
Identifying and analyzing options for urban and rural reserves study areas

- Winter: Reserve steering committee established
- Spring: LCDC adopts reserves administrative rule
- Summer: LCDC briefing
- Fall: Reserve study areas recommended

Legend:
- Milestones/Decisions
- Preliminary recommendations
- Analysis work
- Public input

2009
Final analysis and decisions on urban and rural reserves

- Winter: Input from regional transportation track
- Spring: Preliminary reserve areas recommended via intergovernmental agreements
- Summer: Reserve areas recommended
- Fall: LCDC briefing

2010
Future decisions

- Winter: Input to investment track
- Spring: Metro council designates urban reserves
- Summer: Counties designate rural reserves
- Fall: Counties submit reserves to LCDC for acknowledgment

Conceptual planning
Multnomah County
Public Process

- Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
- Presentations at community meetings, open houses, business meetings throughout the county
- Interactive website with information and chance to share ideas, concerns; ask questions
Multnomah County Citizens Advisory Committee

- **Membership:** 18 (from cities and rural planning areas, with vocations including agriculture, business, economic development, environment, homebuilding, real estate, transportation, planning)
- **Task:** Recommend areas to study, and location of urban and rural reserves in Multnomah County to County Commission
  - Consider and integrate interests, concerns and technical information
  - Identify common ground
  - Develop recommendations that meet state requirements
- **Timeline:** Active spring 2008 – summer 2009
- **Meetings:** Publicized and open to the public
The Process, Phases I-III

- **Winter - spring 2008**: Introduction to reserves project; *public involvement*

- **Summer 2008**: Selection of areas to study for possible future reserve designation; *public involvement*

- **Fall 2008 - Spring 2009**: Analysis of reserve study areas; *public involvement*

- **Spring 2009**: Preliminary recommendations for areas to be designated as urban and rural reserves; *public involvement*
The Process, Phases IV-VI

- **Spring - Summer 2009**: Urban and rural reserves recommended through intergovernmental agreements between counties and Metro; *public involvement*

- **Fall 2009**: Metro Council designates urban reserves in regional plan; Counties designate rural reserves in comprehensive land use plans; *public involvement*

- **2010**: Metro makes growth management decisions; *public involvement*
Goals for the Reserve Process

• Greater certainty about which areas will accommodate future growth

• Increased long-term protection of agricultural, rural and natural areas

• More region-wide support for:
  – The process used to make regional growth decisions
  – The resulting regional growth decisions
For More Information

• **Multnomah County**
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  - Sign up for email updates, provide comments, or find additional information about Urban and Rural Reserves, access: www2.co.multnomah.or.us/reserves

• **Metro**
  - Ken Ray: 503-797-1508
  - Email: reserves@oregonmetro.gov
  - Web: www.oregonmetro.gov/reserves