

APPENDIX A

River Renaissance Visions and Strategies

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The Portland City Council endorsed the following River Renaissance visions and strategies on March 21, 2001:

Assure a Clean and Healthy River for Fish, Wildlife, and People

- Acknowledge that the Willamette River is part of a connected ecosystem that includes a system of natural functions integral to maintaining the health of the River. Work with communities and government agencies throughout the watershed to advance and coordinate watershed protection, restoration and cleanup actions that are critical to ensuring a functioning urban ecosystem. Manage watershed health and urban uses in a manner that is mutually supportive.
- Improve water quality in the river and tributaries through innovative stormwater management and control of sewage flows to the river.
- Advance Superfund clean-up activities to remove or isolate pollutants in Portland Harbor and at their source.
- Encourage environmentally-friendly building techniques and designs to use resources efficiently and minimize adverse impacts.
- Do our part to recover wild native salmon populations in the river and its tributaries.
- Restore and protect streamside habitat and floodplain areas. Plant native vegetation and control invasive species along waterways and throughout the watershed. Plan, restore, and maintain the Willamette River Greenway for fish, wildlife, and people.
- Improve habitat conditions in Johnson, Tryon, and Fanno Creeks, the Columbia Slough, and the smaller westside streams.
- Advance our scientific knowledge of clean and healthy river systems and their restoration in an urban environment.
- Restore Ross Island as a natural area in the center of our city.

Maintain and Enhance Our Prosperous Working Harbor

- Promote Portland as a hub for ship, barge, railroad, highway, and air transportation and as a Pacific Northwest gateway to the changing global marketplace.
- Provide efficient and economical freight movement for the region's industries and commerce.
- Invest in the harbor's industrial districts—a cornerstone of our regional economy.
- Explore and adopt new technologies, designs, and industrial practices that support habitat restoration and the improvement of water quality.

- Expand public awareness of the importance of the harbor and industrial waterfront in relation to the regional and state economy.
- Integrate regional freight-transportation and industrial objectives into river protection and enhancement activities.
- Use the Portland Harbor Superfund listing as an opportunity to create new partnerships and environmental clean-up industries and technologies.
- Promote Portland as a leader in sustainable business.
- Consider the needs of, and impacts on, the working harbor as we plan for river protection and enhancement.

Embrace the River as Portland's Front Yard

- Draw on the river as a place to reconnect with our history and the soul of our city.
- Acquire lands for new and expanded parks and natural areas. Assemble an open space system that focuses on, and radiates from, the river.
- Create opportunities for access to the water's edge, for boating, fishing, swimming, and other river recreation activities.
- Complete the Willamette River Greenway Trail and the 40 Mile Loop Trail to provide a continuous interconnected recreation and transportation corridor along both sides of the river.
- Connect new and existing neighborhoods to and across the river, through rails, trails, bikeways, streets, view corridors, and water-based transit systems.
- Build a world-class monument in a prominent riverfront location.
- Improve river access opportunities for motorized and non-motorized watercraft.
- Provide safe and convenient pedestrian and bicycle access to trails and roads and across bridges.

Create Vibrant Waterfront Districts and Neighborhoods

- As redevelopment occurs along the river, establish a prominent greenway with public spaces and natural places. Orient new development toward the river, and infuse buildings and neighborhoods with inspired architecture.
- Strengthen the Central City by focusing on the river as a unifying feature.
- Reconfigure the I-5 Freeway to bring together both sides of the Central City and to revitalize the eastside waterfront.
- Create new commercial and residential areas.
- Dedicate more of the waterfront to museums, cultural institutions, outdoor learning venues, Native American history, public art, and the interpretation of history and natural science.

- Establish festivals, regattas, and sporting events to build awareness of and celebrate the river.
- Provide a diversity of housing opportunities adjacent to the river and a range of riverfront experiences.
- Strengthen the regional and waterfront economy through efforts that enhance waterfront livability and environmental health.

Promote Partnerships, Leadership, and Education

- Assemble the River Renaissance Partners, a group of government, tribal, business, neighborhood, and environmental leaders to advocate for implementation of the Vision.
- Establish a multi-jurisdictional organization responsible for managing local river improvement efforts and coordinating with upstream and downstream communities.
- Inspire long-term commitment through successful early actions.
- Educate and involve our diverse community to promote stewardship of the river.
- Involve the schools and draw upon the energy, thoughts, and dreams of our future leaders.
- Recognize that neither the public sector nor private enterprise can implement the Vision alone. Foster collaboration between public and private entities.
- Work with community groups to build awareness for River Renaissance values.
- Establish a foundation or similar organization to help fund the implementation of River Renaissance.
- Emphasize strategies to share costs for salmon recovery and other river enhancements.
- Work with private property owners to leverage private investments.