



Bureau of Planning and Sustainability

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## MEMO

**DATE:** December 21, 2012

**TO:** Martha Bennett, Metro Chief Operating Officer

**FROM:** Susan Anderson, Director

**CC:** Dean Marriott, Director, Bureau of Environmental Services  
Mike Abbate, Director, Portland Parks and Recreation

**SUBJECT:** Compliance with Metro Title 13, Nature in Neighborhoods

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I am pleased to submit for your consideration Portland's request for Metro determination of substantial compliance with Title 13, Nature in Neighborhoods.

Portland's Title 13 compliance request reflects input received during public hearings before the Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission and the City Council. On November 28, 2012 the City Council voted unanimously to forward this request to Metro.

The City's compliance package is based on well-established programs, and on a number of accomplishments achieved during the two Title 13 compliance extensions that Metro granted to the City. This diverse mix of regulatory and non-regulatory programs provide protection and enhancement for thousands of acres of regionally significant natural resources in Portland. This package reflects ongoing collaboration among City bureaus and we believe that the package readily addresses Title 13 requirements as described in the attached report.

Achieving compliance with Title 13 is an important milestone for Portland. However during the public hearings community stakeholders and the Planning and Sustainability Commission wanted to make it clear that Title 13 compliance is but a snapshot in time and maintaining healthy watersheds will require a long-term commitment. In response to these concerns, City and Metro staff, in consultation with our respective legal counsels, developed the voluntary intergovernmental agreement (IGA) that I am submitting along with our Title 13 compliance request.



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This 10-year voluntary IGA affirms the City's intent to complete specified projects and continue implementing proven programs to enhance watershed health in an agreement with Metro. The IGA also calls for collaboration between the City and Metro on issues of regional concern (e.g., addressing industrial land supply and natural resources protection) through the Comprehensive Plan update and other projects.

City Council approved the IGA along with the Title 13 compliance request, and Dean Marriott, Bureau of Environmental Services Director, Mike Abbate, director of Portland Parks and Recreation, and me to sign the IGA on behalf of the City. Once Metro finds the City of Portland in compliance with Title 13, your signature as Metro Chief Operating Officer will be needed for the IGA to become effective.

I want to express my appreciation for Metro's support for the City's Title 13 compliance efforts, and look forward to continuing our respective and collective efforts to improve watershed health in Portland and across the region.

