

Oregon Solutions- Organizational Structure

Prepared by Weston Miller for 1/11 Work-group meeting

Summary of Recommendations from Commissioner and Work-group Chair Meeting

General Considerations

- Commissioner expects 4% decrease in budget for Parks in Recreation for FY1011.
- Leverage momentum created by Portland Multnomah Climate Action Plan

Stage 1:

- Enhance the capacity of the current PPR/CG and FPCG program
 - Declaration of Cooperation to focus on identifying the resources needed to "shore-up" these programs!
 - The City will increase their commitment to the PPR/CG program beyond current levels
 - Perhaps a task force with City representatives from the following bureaus:
 - Water for water hook-ups and hydroparks
 - BES
 - Parks
 - Planning and Sustainability
 - PDOT
 - To determine how to create additional funding internally at City
 - Also include SWCDs and small group of other contributors
 - BIG QUESTION: If additional funding is procured by City and externally, what is the expected return on investment in terms of gardens created, clients served, programming, etc?
 - Focus on 2011 Gardening Season.
- Concurrent task force of external partners to help determine how to meet demand with organizations and projects outside of municipal Community Gardens program. Focus on 2010 gardening season and beyond.
 - Task force created
- Provide Friends of Community Gardens an opportunity to re-invent to serve enhanced role in fundraising,
 - Clearer articulation of their roles and responsibilities, i.e. what are they currently doing?
 - Clearer articulation of goals, i.e. what should they be doing?
 - TACS and/or Portland Parks Foundation support
- Consider city-wide and/or neighborhood sponsors of Community Gardens program and/or individual gardens

Stage 2:

- What would/could a regional community garden "hub" look like?
- Identify needs and resources within the metropolitan area in order to make recommendations about a regional "hub".
- Recommendations to City:
 - Fund/resource a study to assess demand and resources
 - Set up a task force to make recommendations for a regional "hub", based on the assessment
 - Initiate dialogue with Multnomah County, Metro, and other governments to potentially create something akin to RACC focused on food and food gardening.