

Agenda Item Number 7.

Special Presentation Metropolitan Regional Parks and Open Space Study

Presenter: Jeff Krueger, LCOG Senior Planner

Action: Discussion

Background:

The *Metropolitan Regional Parks and Open Space Study (Rivers to Ridges)* was initiated by the Eugene and Springfield City Councils, the Lane County Board of Commissioners, and the Willamalane Park and Recreation Board by unanimous consent in November 2000. LCOG manages this project, which began in August 2001, working with a staff team that consists of two representatives from each jurisdiction. The first phase of this study is nearing completion. Phase I included extensive analysis mapping, assessment of existing policy, a visioning work session involving over 30 representative from local state and federal agencies, development of a range of implementation options, and completion of some limited citizen outreach.

Phase II of the project will begin in July 2002 and will focus on citizen outreach, additional analysis mapping, vision refinement and project prioritization, and a benefits analysis. At the completion of Phase II, the refined vision will be presented to the Eugene and Springfield City Councils, the County Commission, and the Willamalane Board for endorsement and will guide the protection of regionally significant park and open space in the years to come.

The attached background material summarizes the project purpose and goals, guiding principles (policy direction), and visioning process, and includes a draft working vision map.