

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPROVING THE ) RESOLUTION NO. 23-5341  
SMITH AND BYBEE WETLANDS NATURAL )  
AREA INTERIM PLAN ) Introduced by Chief Operating Officer  
) Marissa Madrigal in concurrence with  
) Council President Lynn Peterson

WHEREAS, Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area provides essential habitat for rare plants and a diversity of wildlife, as well as critical off-channel refugia to listed state and federal endangered fish species; and

WHEREAS, Metro’s St. Johns Landfill (also referred to as the St. Johns Prairie) is included in the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area, providing important upland prairie habitat supporting rare birds, mammals, reptiles, butterflies, and plants; and

WHEREAS, since 1990, the greater Smith and Bybee Wetlands area has been restored and managed pursuant to adopted vision statements and management plans with the assistance of the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, in 2013 the original 1990 Natural Resource Management Plan transitioned into the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Comprehensive Natural Resource Plan (CNRP) as the guiding plan for the area; and

WHEREAS, the CNRP was adopted as a conditional use master plan approved by the City of Portland involving multiple property owners obtaining pre-approvals of land use actions for a 10-year period; and

WHEREAS, the CNRP expires on June 17, 2023; and

WHEREAS, to prevent a gap in management guidance, Metro, with the assistance of the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Advisory Committee, created the 2023 Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area Interim Plan (Interim Plan) to take the place of the CNRP; and

WHEREAS, the Interim Plan updates the CNRP, continues the same vision and goals for the natural area, and will guide Metro’s actions to protect, enhance, and restore the natural area, as well as support and manage access to nature on land Metro owns and manages; and

WHEREAS, the Interim Plan will remain in effect until Metro undertakes a formal master planning process; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council approves the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area Interim Plan.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

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Lynn Peterson, Council President

Approved as to Form:

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Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney