

IN CONSIDERATION OF **RESOLUTION NO. 25-5475** FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING ACCESS TO METRO PROPERTIES AND SUPPORTING THE FILM AND TELEVISION INDUSTRY IN THE GREATER PORTLAND REGION

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Presenter(s), (if applicable): Andrew
Scott, Deputy Chief Operating Officer
Length: 20 minutes

ISSUE STATEMENT

As the steward of over 19,000 acres of parks and natural areas in the region, as well as the owner and operator of additional properties and venues, Metro provides access for special events like filming through special use permits.

Metro's special use permits program provides applicants with the ability to access certain properties under specific circumstances. However, access to certain places—like natural areas—are complicated by Metro's dedication to preserving habitat. Nonetheless, Metro's portfolio of parks and natural areas offers ample substitutes and opportunities exist for modifying permitted uses to achieve both goals.

ACTION REQUESTED

Council approval of Resolution No. 25-5475, to support film and television industry partners and other residents and businesses through increased and more efficient access to Metro parks, natural areas and properties for special uses.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

Adoption of Resolution No. 25-5475 will increase access to Metro parks, natural areas and properties by improving the process for securing special use permits. Increased access will directly support local film and television industry partners by providing more reliable filming locations, which will in turn generate more economic activity in the region, support local businesses like restaurants and retailers, help workers retain their family-wage jobs and benefits and support arts and culture in the greater Portland region.

POLICY QUESTION

Should Council direct Metro's Chief Operating Officer to streamline special use permitting, increase predictability and enhance filming opportunities while protecting habitat?

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

Council may adopt Resolution No. 25-5475 to support the local film and television industry and benefit residents and other industries seeking more efficient access to Metro parks, natural areas, and properties for special uses.

Alternatively, Council may reject the resolution and retain the existing special use permitting processes.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend Council adopt Resolution No. 25-5475 to provide greater clarity and reliability to industry partners and support strong partnerships to maximize filming opportunities while protecting habitat.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

The film and television industry in the greater Portland region has, for decades, showcased Oregon's pristine natural areas, its vibrant and unique culture and the talents of local artists.

Through the years, the industry has not only filmed many beloved movies and television series in greater Portland but has supported tens of thousands of workers in jobs that pay family wages and provide much-needed benefits, such as health insurance. The industry generates economic activity in the greater Portland region that supports local restaurants, shops and other businesses, and the industry draws visitors to the region by sparking excitement about the region's cities and natural wonders.

Film and television industry partners would benefit directly were Metro's Chief Operating Officer to identify opportunities to proactively support special use permit applicants, including a single point of contact for all types of properties, and to work collaboratively to increase predictability for applicants. More reliability during tight filming schedules will reduce costs for production partners and ensures artists expecting work are retained, paid and can continue to access benefits.

ATTACHMENTS

None