

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



Work Session: Metro Plan Boundary Adjustment Proposal (Springfield Side)

Meeting Date: May 13, 2013
Department: Planning and Development
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Agenda Item Number: 5
Staff Contact: Alissa Hansen
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ISSUE STATEMENT

This work session provides an opportunity to update the City Council on the proposed Metro Plan boundary amendment to adjust the boundary on the Springfield side of the plan, prior to taking action at a subsequent meeting.

BACKGROUND

In 2011, the Lane County Board of Commissioners initiated an amendment to the Eugene-Springfield Metropolitan Area General Plan (Metro Plan) to make adjustments to the boundary of the Metro Plan. This proposal is directly related to five areas of concern previously identified by the board and discussed by the joint elected officials over the past few years. The purpose of this particular amendment is to seek jurisdictional autonomy on land use matters for those areas that are outside the urban growth boundaries of Springfield and Eugene, but currently inside the Metro Plan boundary.

The current Metro Plan amendment under consideration is to reduce the size of the Metro Plan boundary on the east side of I-5, with a resulting Metro Plan boundary that would be coterminous with Springfield's urban growth boundary (UGB). Approval of this amendment would result in Lane County having sole jurisdictional authority on all land use matters for land outside of Springfield's UGB that is currently within the Metro Plan. Copies of the current and proposed Metro Plan boundary are provided as Attachments A and B. **Adjustment of the Metro Plan boundary on the Eugene side is not part of the current proposal.**

Based on the Metro Plan's amendment procedures, Eugene is required to participate in this proposal to adjust the boundary on the Springfield side. The process includes a joint planning commission public hearing and recommendation, followed by a joint elected official's public hearing and action. All three jurisdictions must approve the same Metro Plan boundary location for the proposal to take effect.

In July 2011, the joint planning commissions of Lane County, Springfield and Eugene held the required public hearing, and held a continued hearing in August 2011. Following the close of the public hearing record, the three planning commissions met jointly in October 2011 for

deliberations and to provide recommendations to their respective elected officials. The Eugene Planning Commission voted 3-2 to recommend approval of the proposal to the Eugene City Council. A public hearing before the joint elected officials was held March 13, 2012. A total of 13 people testified at the joint public hearing. Of those testifying, one person testified in support of the proposal, two people expressed concerns or had questions about the impact, and the remaining 10 people testified in opposition to the proposed amendment. Those in opposition to the amendment expressed concern about the loss of regional planning and collaborative decision making, risk to water quality, and loss of decision making authority for the City.

Subsequently, the City of Springfield, Lane County and the Springfield Utility Board worked together to reach an acceptable solution to ensure that Springfield's drinking water sources that fall within this area would remain adequately protected once removed from the Metro Plan boundary. On March 18, 2013, the Springfield City Council voted 6 to 0 to approve the amendment to reduce the Metro Plan boundary to become coterminous with Springfield's urban growth boundary (UGB). This action, if approved by all three jurisdictions, would affect approximately 8,130 acres, all of which would come under the jurisdiction of Lane County and the Lane County Rural Comprehensive Plan, except that specific issues related to drinking water protection would remain a joint-governance matter between the Lane County Board of Commissioners and the Springfield City Council.

The Springfield City Council also voted 6 to 0 to approve the provisions of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City of Springfield and Lane County regarding a number of land use matters, but principally actions to protect Springfield Utility Board drinking water source areas. A copy of the draft IGA is provided as Attachment C.

The Lane County Board of Commissioners has tentatively approved the proposal, and is scheduled to take final action on June 4, 2013, after both cities have taken action.

As noted above, this proposal only pertains to the Springfield side of the Metro Plan Boundary. The scope and timing of a future Lane County-initiated proposal to amend the boundary on the Eugene side of the Metro Plan has not been established, and will be subject to a separate public process.

RELATED CITY POLICIES

Eugene-Springfield Metropolitan Area General Plan

COUNCIL OPTIONS

No formal action is required at this time. Council action will be scheduled for a subsequent meeting; options will be provided at that time.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

No action is required on this item. Therefore, no recommendations are offered by the City Manager. Council action will be scheduled for a subsequent meeting; the City Manager will

provide a recommendation at that time.

SUGGESTED MOTION

No action is required on this item. Therefore, no motions are suggested. Council action will be scheduled for a subsequent meeting; a suggested motion will be provided at that time.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Map of Current Metro Plan Boundary
- B. Map of Proposed Metro Plan Boundary
- C. Draft Intergovernmental Agreement between City of Springfield and Lane County

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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