

To Mayor Holladay and City Council
CC: City Manager David Frasher

The Natural Resource Committee was established during Mayor Alice Norris' first term as an advisory committee in service to Oregon City.

Our mission was broad as per the ordinance but was always envisioned to serve you, your departments and your citizens.

With the leadership of your administrator, we focused our mission and focus to five areas of responsibility rather than the original fourteen. We involved a pro bono citizen to serve as facilitator during that process.

We adopted our new purpose, mission and work plan and submitted it to your staff with the request that it be forwarded to the City Commission. Our work included a more concise mission statement, more realistic goals and a supporting work plan. Please see attached.

At this time there seems to be some question by the city as to our focus and whom we serve. We want you to know as already stated we are here to serve you, your departments, and your citizens.

~~We are wondering if you see the value of having an internal citizens group advocating for your need when it comes to the environment and natural legacy values. We believe it would be prudent for the city to continue the NRC efforts because of the many agencies you will be interfacing with in city projects.~~

~~We are requesting you guidance and direction in seeking the best fit for the NRC. (Is our present department the best?) We further request your direction on whether you see our new bylaws and work plan as the focus for our efforts. We would like to meet with you in a work session. We would be greatly pleased.~~

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We understand that you were provided with a copy of our goals at your goal setting session and that a Commission study session would be set up to review the responsibilities of the Natural Resource Commission. We welcome such a session and ask that you review our new bylaws and work plan as a focus of the discussion.

Currently, our committee is staffed by the Community Development Department, which is logical since it provides us the opportunity to comment on the effect of development on natural resources. We feel that our committee could also provide input as the Public Works Department as it develops new standards for storm-water management that can enhance wild-life habitats. We also feel that we can provide input to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee and the Community Services Department as they consider the use of open space and natural areas.

We look forward to meeting the Oregon City Commission in the future.

Thank you for your consideration.

Commented [DN2]: Suggested revision

Ginger Redlinger Douglas DeHart Jerry Herrmann Doug Neeley Bryon Boyce
Bill Clark Richard Craven