



**FRIENDS**  
of Buford Park  
& Mt. Pisgah



**Mount Pisgah**  
**Arboretum**

December 2, 2015

Board of Commissioners  
Lane County  
125 East 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Eugene, Oregon 97401

RE: Joint Arboretum and Friends resolution regarding the Lane County Parks and Open Space Master Plan Update (POSMP).

Dear Commissioners,

The boards of directors of Mount Pisgah Arboretum and the Friends of Buford Park & Mt. Pisgah reviewed and considered the Lane County Parks and Open Space Master Plan Update and jointly approved the following resolution:

**Resolved**, Mount Pisgah Arboretum (the Arboretum) and The Friends of Buford Park and Mt. Pisgah (the Friends) applaud Lane County Parks for working to update the comprehensive master plan for its 70 recreation sites. The Friends and the Arboretum shall offer support to Lane County Parks in working to improve the comprehensive Lane County Parks and Open Space Master Plan (POSMP). Both organizations believe that, in reference to HBRA, the POSMP should:

- 1) Contain and reflect the purpose of HBRA as stated in the adopted HBRA Master Plan – “*to provide varied opportunities for primarily low intensity outdoor recreation and education activities while protecting, conserving, enhancing, and maintaining the natural, scenic, historical, rural, and recreational qualities of this... park.*” We believe this purpose statement accurately reflects the current uses and activities at HBRA. New uses or facilities should be compatible with this statement.
- 2) Clarify the roles, and the scope of the benefits provided by the Friends, the Arboretum, and other partners that contribute to the stewardship of HBRA – The "Current Features" portion of the HBRA narrative in the POSMP should include a detailed statement of the goals and contributions of the Friends and the Arboretum.
- 3) Define priority trail and facility improvement goals for HBRA. The Park Vision portion of the HBRA narrative should clearly state that future development of facilities must be compatible or consistent with the preservation and protection of the natural features of HBRA.
- 4) Incorporate the recommendations of the Lane County Large Events Task Force (LETF) – We support the recommendations for limiting and managing large events at HBRA and other parks included in the LETF report as approved by the Lane Board of County Commissioners on November 10, 2015.

- 5) Further define the process for issuing special use permits for overnight camping (General Policies Item 5) to reflect consideration of potential impacts – The POSMP should clarify that special use permit requests will be carefully evaluated to identify potential negative impacts to resource and habitat values. We believe such permits should follow the recommendation of the LETF for large events at HBRA, that priority be given to “events with a primarily educational or nature based theme”.

Note that, in addition to this resolution, staff and volunteers of the Friends and the Arboretum have reviewed the POSMP and plan to offer further edits and clarifications under separate cover.

Both the Friends and the Arboretum value our strong partnership with Lane County, We will continue to collaborate to enhance the habitats and trails on HBRA and to offer appropriate recreational and educational opportunities to park visitors.

Sincerely,



Brad van Appel  
Executive Director  
Mount Pisgah Arboretum



Chris Orsinger  
Executive Director  
Friends of Buford Park & Mt. Pisgah

*on behalf of Arboretum board members:*

Lann Leslie, President  
Nathan Cawood, Vice President  
Rich Kelly, Secretary  
Trevor Campbell, Treasurer  
Elizabeth Chan  
Aryana Ferguson  
Tim King  
David McLean  
Jonathan Stafford  
Sarah Ulerick

*on behalf of Friends board members:*

Chaz Dutoit, President  
Brian Millington, Past-President  
Philip Bayles, Vice President  
Jill Hoyenga, Secretary  
Bob Wright, Treasurer  
Tim Blood  
Christian Fox  
Greg Hyde  
Rich Linton  
Kevin Shanley

cc: Steve Mokrohisky  
Marsha Miller  
Mike Russell  
Pat Hoover