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NORTH CLACKAMAS PARKS & RECREATION DISTRICT SEEKS CANDIDATES FOR NEWLY-ELECTED BOARD

Clackamas County, OR – The Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners voted unanimously at an Aug. 7 public hearing to place a measure on the Nov. 4 ballot to re-form the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District (NCPRD) as an independent district, separate from county government, at a new higher tax rate.

The new District would be governed by an independent board, elected by fellow District residents, and focused solely on the parks and recreation needs and desires of the citizens of the District. The election for the new inaugural board members will occur on the same November ballot as the District re-formation measure.

NCPRD residents who are interested in running for one of five at-large board positions in the Nov. 4 election can file beginning Aug. 20 with a filing deadline of 5 p.m. Aug. 26. Please note the limited timeframe to file and that the forms and payment must be received by the elections office by the deadline.

To be eligible to serve for one of the five board positions, an individual must be a registered voter who lives within District boundaries (which include the cities of Milwaukie, Happy Valley, the urban unincorporated areas between those cities, and a small part of Damascus. Go to www.ncprd.com/ncprd/are-you-in-district for a map of the District.)

NCPRD board of directors election filing specifics:

- Filing deadline is 5 p.m. Aug. 26. (Please note that forms and payment must be *received* by the elections office by this deadline, not postmarked.)
- Cost to file is \$10 (waived with 25 verified signatures from District voters).

- Filing deadline for a Candidates Statement in the voters' pamphlet (optional) is 5 p.m. Aug. 28. Cost is \$25.
- For more information and to obtain filing forms, go to www.clackamas.us/elections or call (503) 655-8510.

NCPRD ballot measure background information:

NCPRD's current tax rate is 54 cents per \$1,000 of assessed home value; the ballot measure will ask voters if they approve increasing that to 89 cents per \$1,000 (an increase which equates to about \$7 per month more on a \$250,000 home). The new rate would allow additional funding for park maintenance and programming, as well as the creation of new parks, natural areas and open spaces.

NCPRD currently has the lowest tax rate of all comparable parks districts in the State of Oregon. Those other districts collect between 91 cents and \$1.91 per \$1,000 assessed home value and they are able to offer a greater level of parks and recreational facilities and programs. The District's 2004 Master Plan and 2014 Master Plan identified the need and community desire for a greater level of parks and recreation services, which can only be provided with additional funding sources.

The District, which includes 116,000 of Clackamas County's urban residents, is currently governed by Clackamas County's Board of County Commissioners. NCPRD is the only parks and recreation district structured as a county service district in the state of Oregon. Most other urban parks districts are structured as independent districts under ORS 266, which was created specifically for parks and recreation districts. Voters will be asked if they approve of this new governance model, which would provide a board of directors made up of district residents, elected by voters, to focus solely on governing the District.

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North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District is a service district of Clackamas County dedicated to providing exceptional parks and recreation programs, facilities and services. Voters approved the formation of the District in 1990 because they saw the need for greater parks and recreation services in the north end of the county. The District – which serves more than 116,000 residents in a 36-square mile area – includes the cities of Happy Valley, Milwaukie and a large area of unincorporated Clackamas County. It includes more than 38 parks, 25 natural areas, 15 miles of trails including the 6-mile Trolley Trail, Mount Talbert Nature Park and three facilities: Hood View Sports Complex, the Milwaukie Center and the North Clackamas Aquatic Park. NCPRD's mission: To enrich community vitality and promote healthy living through parks and recreation.