

RESOLUTION NO. 2981

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTINUED STUDY OF POTENTIAL FUTURE ACTION RELATING TO THE PORTION OF THE DESCHUTES RIVER UPSTREAM FROM AND INCLUDING THE PACIFIC POWER HYDRO-ELECTRIC DAM

Findings

- A. The City has been working with the Bend Park and Recreation District (District) and others to develop options relating to Mirror Pond. This includes the portion of the Deschutes River from Galveston Bridge to the PacifiCorp Dam and hydro-power plant.
- B. The interest in the Dam and Mirror Pond stems from the realization that the Dam may be reaching the end of its functional life, the partial failure of the dam, the uncertainty regarding the future of the Dam, sedimentation in Mirror Pond, and the community's belief that Mirror Pond is an iconic feature of Bend.
- C. Since 2011, various groups have been established to look at issues relating to the Dam and Mirror Pond, including the Mirror Pond Management Board, the Mirror Pond Steering Committee and the Mirror Pond Ad Hoc Committee.
- D. The Ad Hoc Committee recommended a preferred alternative vision for Mirror Pond that was presented to the City Council in a work session on March 4, 2015 and to the Bend Parks and Recreation District Board on March 2, 2015. This alternative has been characterized as a "middle ground" between the "Status Quo" option of dredging Mirror Pond while maintaining the Dam in place, and the "Natural River" option of removing the Dam and allowing the river to flow naturally, with natural vegetation infill.
- E. The Ad Hoc Committee identified the following seven goals for the Dam and Mirror Pond:
 - 1. Retain Mirror Pond in near historic form;
 - 2. Modify the Dam to function more like a natural part of a river environment;
 - 3. Enhance habitat;
 - 4. Enable fish passage;
 - 5. Maintain or improve public spaces;
 - 6. Reduce the frequency and quantity of future sediment removal efforts; and
 - 7. Identify funding source(s) other than tax dollars.
- F. The elements of the funding strategy as proposed may include creation of an Urban Renewal District by the City and use of the City drainage fund, a public/private partnership, donation by PacifiCorp of land including the existing powerhouse and relocation of the power substation, District funds for park development, potential state funding, and/or sale or leases of City and District property.
- G. The preferred alternative put forward by the Ad Hoc Committee has been

determined to best meet the identified seven goals listed in Finding 'E'. This option would require substantial expenditures of time and money, would involve a transfer of ownership of the Dam to some other entity and may require a transfer or creation of water rights.

Based on these findings,

THE CITY OF BEND RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City supports the Preferred Alternative Vision as recommended by the Mirror Pond Ad Hoc Committee consistent with the presentation and supporting materials provided at the March 4, 2015 Council Work Session.

Section 2 The City authorizes the continuance of the Ad Hoc Committee as and directs the Committee to conduct a feasibility study and economic analysis as well as recommend a governance and project management structure for the Preferred Alternative. The results and recommendations of this effort will be reported back to the City Council and Parks and Recreation District Board for further action.

Section 3. This resolution takes effect immediately upon adoption.

Adopted by roll call vote by the City Council on March 18, 2015.

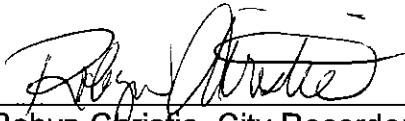
Yes: Sally Russell
Victor Chudowsky
Doug Knight
Nathan Boddie
Casey Roats
Barb Campbell

No: Jim Clinton, Mayor
Nathan Boddie
Barb Campbell



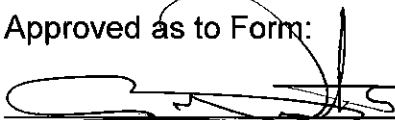
Jim Clinton, Mayor

Attest:



Robyn Christie, City Recorder

Approved as to Form:



Mary Winters, City Attorney