

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Regional Intergovernmental Visions Enhancing River Resources (RIVERR)

September 17, 2003 - November 7, 2007

Richard Walsh, Chair.

November 1, 2007

The R.I.V.E.R.R. Task Force started meeting on September 17, 2003 and met on the third Wednesday of nearly every month until April of 2007. The grant, fund-raising and land acquisition phase was essentially completed by January of 2006. During the next year, during the Master Planning Phase the RIVERR Task Force met in joint sessions with the Parks Board. After the Master plan was approved, the task force organized volunteers into work groups for transfer to the Parks Board and then concluded its regular meetings. A smaller the work group (called the governance work group) consisting of members of both RIVERR and the Parks Board continued to meet to work out the details of the opening ceremony and the transition of responsibilities to the Parks Board. The transition plan included creating a Keizer Rapids Work Group that reports directly to the Parks Board and an expansion of the Parks Board by adding two additional members to help with the increased work load. The final piece of the plan was completed with the seating of two new Park Board members in September of 2007. Now that all tasks are complete, the RIVERR Task Force request that the City Council conclude and retire the Task Force.

RIVERR was created after Keizer and OPRD reached a tentative agreement to explore allowing Keizer to use 85 acres of OPRD property at Beardsley Bar to create a park. To take advantage of this potential opportunity Keizer needed to first obtain about \$2 million in funds to purchase adjoining land to connect the OPRD land to the Keizer city limits and for a better connection to Chemawa Road. Unfortunately Keizer only had \$300,000.00 in SDC's allocated for a new west Keizer park. Thus, the primary focus for the task force for the first two years was devoted to seeking out and obtaining grants to fund the purchase of park land and in working with staff to acquire land from willing landowners.

By January of 2006 the task force had met this goal, had purchased the property for a park by helping to acquire 9 monetary land acquisition grants. Keizer was then able to purchase the land needed to connect the OPRD property to the City and thus make the land a city park. After it was clear that Keizer would be able to create a park, the OPRD granted a full no cost 25 year lease of the 85 acres of river front property with an estimated value of over \$2 million. In order to safely provide for pedestrian and bike travel along Chemawa Road to the park, an additional allocation of \$987,482.18 was authorized by the regional SKATS transportation group bringing the total of new money and resources to Keizer for the park project to \$4,746,982.00. After adding the originally allocated \$300,000.00 in SDC funds, the total value of the Keizer Rapids project exceeded \$5 million. The task force also helped obtain 7 other grants for in kind services bringing the total for grants, awards, and allocations to 17. This resulted in Keizer obtaining a 120 acre park that more than doubled the total inventory of park land for Keizer residents to enjoy. A detailed breakdown of the grants, awards, and allocations are as follows:

SUMMARY OF GRANTS, AWARDS AND ALLOCATIONS

The following is a summary of the grants, awards, and allocations that have been granted to Keizer for the park and related projects, and which were worked on by the Task Force, our partners, members, and Nate Brown, Keizer Community Development Director:

1. River Navigator (BLM)	\$ 2,500.00
2. Chamber of Commerce	\$ 1,000.00
3. Trust For Public Lands	\$ 1,000.00
4. Marion County Sale of Detroit Lake Property	\$ 430,000.00
5. Marion County Title III	\$ 150,000.00
6. Oregon Parks & Recreation Local Government Grant	\$ 500,000.00
7. Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$ 250,000.00
8. Marine Board/ Fisheries	\$ 300,000.00
9. State Transportation Improvement Program allocation for Chemawa Road improvements for Park Access (redirected and increased prior allocation of \$200,000 for path from 15 th avenue)	\$ 987,482.18
SUBTOTAL OF MONEY AWARDS or allocations from outside Keizer	\$2,621,982.00

10. Plus estimate of value of 85 OPRD Acres @ \$25,000.00 per acre \$2,125,000.00

TOTAL MONETARY VALUE TO BE RECEIVED FOR KEIZER RAPIDS PROJECT FROM OUTSIDE KEIZER. \$4,746,982.00

Plus allocated SDC's from Keizer for matching funds for grants -\$ 300,000.00

TOTAL RESOURCES OBTAINED FOR KEIZER RAPIDS PARK ¹\$5,046,982.00

Plus In Kind donations or awards including

11. MWRC and OPRD provided environmental inventory and map
12. OPRD provided in depth study of Pond Turtle habitat
13. National Park Service grant for Technical Assistance for two years. (Dan Miller)
14. American Society of Landscape Architects services for Charette and final Master plan map.
15. River Navigator Technical Assistance (Mark Brown)
16. Boy Scouts of America Camporee work project with hundreds of youth participating in making trails.
17. Dynamic Life work project with hundreds of youth involved in clearing field.

¹For comparison purposes, the total cumulate amount the City of Keizer has allocated to all Keizer parks combined, from the general fund since the incorporation of the city in 1982 until the newly passed 2007-8 budget is \$2,123,587.00. The new park land obtained for Keizer Rapids park (120 acres) more than doubled Keizer prior park land inventory (96 acres)

After the park land was obtained, RIVERR began the task of master planning the park. In preparation for the master planning the task force recommended “Keizer Rapids,” created the park logo, an introductory brochures, five (5) separate information pieces, and a final brochure showing the master plan.

With public outreach materials in hand, the task force conducted an extensive public information, outreach and public involvement campaign. The adjoining neighborhood was included in the Task Force and public testimony was taken at every meeting which was held regularly on the third weds of every month. The project was the subject of extensive outreach and publicity throughout the community and was the subject of countless local newspaper articles and even received some exposure in national publications. Tours of the park were given including a formal “sneak preview” Iris festival event. Presentations on the park were made to the Rotary, Lions Club, and the Chamber of Commerce. Information booths on the park were set up at community events such as Iris Festival, and Marion County Fairs and Water Trail events. The task force also conducted an extremely successful survey by mail campaign with 1,560 households completing and returning the survey. The survey results showed very strong support in the community.

RIVERR also requested and then received environmental and recreational inventories. When Pond Turtle habitat was discovered RIVERR requested and received assistance from OPRD to determine that no Pond Turtles were living in the park.

After the public information and inventories were completed, RIVERR and the Parks Board worked together in joint session to complete the master plan with the assistance of a technical advisor provided by the National Park Service. The work culminated in a design Charette that resulted in huge public input and six alternate plans for the park. The RIVERR and the Parks Board, in joint session then created a final design for the park which was then approved by the City Council in October of 2006, and Marion County Commissioners in January of 2007.

After the master plan was approved, RIVERR and the Parks Board worked out a strategy for some minimal improvements to open the park to the public. A caretaker was included to provide some security at minimal cost, some essential improvements were made, and the park was opened to the public on July 21, 2007.

After Keizer Rapids Park was opened to the public on July 21, 2007 the only remaining task was to complete the transfer of the remaining responsibilities for the park to the Parks Board. A plan was developed to organized volunteers that came forward during the RIVERR task force into 10 separate project groups, each with an identified leader. These project groups would then report to a Keizer Rapids work group which would replace RIVERR but would report to the Parks Board. To assist with the additional work load the Keizer Parks Board would be increased by two members. The recommendations were followed and the new Parks Board members were seated in September of 2007.

Keizer Rapids Park would never have happened if it were not for the selfless dedication of the members of the task force, the Parks Board, the City Council and Keizer Staff (especially Nate Brown). It also can not be over emphasized that we did not do this alone but rather we received tremendous help from our regional partners. Given Keizer’s limited park resources, these partnerships should continue to be encouraged, developed, and pursued.

RIVERR Task Force

Richard Walsh, Chair **Keizer Council**
 Dan Clem, **Salem Council**
 Kasia Quillinan, **Salem Council** *
 Hersch Sangster, **Keizer Bikeways** *
 Red Vanis, **Keizer Bikeways**
 Janet Carlson, **Marion County**
 Sara McDonald, **Marion County**
 Tanya Beard, **Marion County** *
 Russ Dilley, **Marion County**
 Matt Thorburn, **Marion County** *
 Scott Norris, **Marion County**
 Barbara Young, **Marion County**
 Eric White, **Marion County**
 Christine Dieker, **Keizer Chamber**
 Mak Brown, **Bureau of Land Mgmt.**
 David Loudon, **Citizen-at-Large**
 Mike Kirby, **Citizen-at-Large**
 Darrell Mon, **Citizen-at-Large** *
 Rich Ford, **Keizer Parks Board**
 Clark Williams, **Keizer Parks Board** *
 Dan Miller, **National Park Service**
 Renee Merritt, **Trust for Public Lands**
 Ron Campbell, **Oregon State Parks**
 Dan Miller, **National Park Service**
 Renee Merritt, **Trust for Public Lands**
Additional Citizen Representatives
 Beth Daniell-Claggett Creek Watershed Council
 Jerry Nuttbrock-West Keizer

Keizer Parks Board

Rich Ford
 Clark Williams *
 David Philbrick
 Marlene Kelly *
 Garry Whalen
 Michael Gaynor
 William Riesland
 Clint Holland
 Vickie Hilgemann
 Shayne Hollandsworth *
 Marsha Clark *
 Jennie Bond Esser

Staff

Chris Eppley
 Shannon Johnson
 Rob Kissler
 Bill Lawyer
 Nate Brown

Sam Litke
 Debbie Lockhart
 Cheryl Webster
 Shane Witham

City Council

Lore Christopher, Mayor
 Richard Walsh, Council President
 David McKane Judy Smith *
 Troy Nichols Michael Gaynor*
 Charles Lee Jacque Moir
 Jim Taylor

* Indicates former member

FINAL REPORT

Regional Intergovernmental Visions Enhancing River Resources (RIVERR)

September 17, 2003 - November 7, 2007

Richard Walsh, Chair.

November 1, 2007

The Regional Intergovernmental Visions Enhancing River Resources (R.I.V.E.R.R.) Task Force is pleased to report to the Keizer City Council that it has successfully completed all assigned tasks. The grants for the purchase of the land, the public outreach, the completion of the master plan, the opening of the park and the transition of the work from the RIVERR Task Force to the Parks Board have all been completed. Accordingly, the Task Force is now ready to be discharged by the City Council.

This letter and the accompanying documents are presented to memorialize and document the work of the task force, to remind us of the tremendous help we received on the project, and to serve as a resource for future planning efforts regarding the Keizer Rapids Park.

The Task Force was created by motion on July 7, 2003. Members were solicited in August and the first meeting took place on September 17, 2003. Nate Brown was hired and provided critically needed staff assistance starting in January of 2004. To formalize the Task Force, a resolution was passed by the City Council on April 5, 2004 charging the Task Force to make recommendations to the City regarding the following:

“to facilitate the creation of a West Keizer Community Park utilizing, but not limited to, the 85 acre Beardsley Bar/Keizer Rapids Parcel owned by the Oregon State Parks, and to create a master plan for said proposed park to present to the Oregon State Parks and to propose all other action as is needed to acquire and maintain the use of the Beardsley Bar/Keizer Rapids parcel and any other potential Keizer Rapids parcels for the benefit of the public.”

To assist in the creation of Keizer Rapids Park, the task force undertook five major tasks:

1. To pursue options, grants, funding, and other resources to physically obtain park land.
2. To share information, engage and involve the public (Outreach and Survey).
3. To assess public need for park amenities
4. To create a master plan for Keizer Rapids Park
5. To lay the groundwork for the Keizer Parks Board to develop Keizer Rapids Park after the RIVERR task force ends.

A time line and summary of the history of the efforts to create Keizer Rapids Park, both before and after the beginning of the R.I.V.E.R.R. task force is attached to this report as Appendix A. Also presented with this report are various related documents including the [Council Resolution](#) creating the task force, [task force minutes](#), [various pictures](#), [aerial views](#) and [maps](#) of the park, copies of the [outreach and design Charette](#) documents and the [final master plan](#).

GOAL 1: PURSUE OPTIONS, GRANTS, AND OTHER RESOURCE OPPORTUNITIES TO PURCHASE PARK LAND FOR KEIZER RAPIDS PARK

The projected costs of a major, regionally significant park was millions of dollars and the allocation for a west Keizer park was only \$300,000.00 from System development charges. Accordingly, the first order of business was as follows:

1. Secure options on the critical properties to connect the park to Chemawa and to Keizer.
2. Identify, pursue and obtain grants,
3. Acquire a long term lease from the Oregon State Parks on the Beardsley Bar property

As one of the goals of the City Council was to reconnect to the Willamette, the RIVERR task force worked on forming partnerships with other groups who all were also seeking to create Willamette River connections through out the valley, including Keizer. Keizer had already been a partner in the creation of the Mid Willamette River Connections group M.W.R.C. (aka Water Trail Group) and during the first year of the RIVERR Keizer strengthened its relationship with those partners, including Marion County, Oregon State parks, the River Navigator, Salem, and others.

The first obstacle encountered by the Task Force was the need to do an environmental inventory of the Oregon State Parks Land as required by the OPRD. Because Keizer Rapids was part of the overall MWRC vision for the Willamette River, the MWRC gave Keizer its first grant to pay for that study and to create the Natural Resource Map (included in packet).

The second obstacle was to find resources to start the public outreach effort and to improve our chances with grant applications. To start that effort we needed printing and professional graphic designer assistance. To overcome this obstacle we again turned to the Willamette River partners, and the Willamette River Navigator and the BLM agreed to step up and pay half of these costs and the Keizer Chamber of Commerce stepped up and gave us a grant for the other half. The printer also provided copies at cost. As a result we were able to start working on public information pieces, letter head, logos, maps. (Included in packet).

Our first major grant to fund the acquisition of the park and to get the park project “on the radar screen” was a \$500,000.00 grant from the OPRD, which we received in September of 2004. Governor Ted Kulongowski made the presentation and again emphasized the park as part of the greater Water Trail project and presented the check as to Keizer along the banks of the Willamette as part of his agenda to repair, restore and recreate along the Willamette River. The connection to the Willamette River was a theme in most grant applications.

A summary of all the grants, awards and allocations is contained in the executive summary. In the end there were 17 different funding sources of money or soft matches. Of these Keizer was award 8 actual money grant for park land totaling \$1,634,499,82 plus received an allocation from the State Transportation Improvement Program funds (STIP) for \$987,482.18 for improvements to Chemawa for Park Access. This replaced a prior authorization for \$200,000.00 that was obtained to connect 15th avenue to the park that was folded into the future (STIP) allocation after the neighbors of the park presented a petition to not create a path to directly connect 15th to the

park and after the city was unable to find any property owners along 15th avenue that would sell an easement to make a direct connection to the park. Connecting 15th to the park, however, remains on the master plan in the event that in the future the city has the resources and is presented with an opportunity with willing landowners to connect the park to 15th avenue. When the STIP allocation is added to the money awards for purchase of the land, the total monetary awards total \$4,746,982.00.

OPRD also gave Keizer a no cost lease for 25 years for 85 acres of park land to be added to the park. There is every indication that this lease may be extended indefinitely. The value of the 85 acres has not been appraised as it is not being purchased. Moreover, the value of this lease is difficult to assess as the area contains a wide array of land, both in and out of the flood way. Some is heavily forested and some of the land (especially in the north forest) could someday be buildable land. Other sections of the park are scoured yearly by the rising Willamette River. Even the scoured area, however, has previously had some value as an aggregate source and was used by ODOT for that purpose during the construction of I-5. Considering all these factors, a value of \$25,000.00 per acre is estimated as that is the value of the last appraisal of the unbuildable portion of the Charge property. Some of the land is worth more, and some is obviously worth less, but the overall estimate is conservative as it is based entirely on a dated estimate of unbuildable land. \$25,000.00 per acre for 85 acres totals an additional value of \$2,125,000.00. When added to the \$2,621,982 of money awards and allocations, the total received by Keizer for the Park project will be \$4,746,982. After Keizer adds a match of \$300,000.00 the total for the park project will be \$5,046,982.00. When the 7 other formal “soft match” grants and awards are considered, the value given to Keizer for this project is considerably higher.

In addition to the more formal grants, awards, soft matches and projects noted above there were also countless other “in kind” contributions from many volunteers who helped with trail clearing, amphitheater work, tree clearing, and Eagle Scout picnic area projects. There were also numerous other services provided by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department including technical assistance, dump cleanup, installation of second gate, tables, portable bathroom, and a new fire pit and signs for the canoe camp. The task force members, our partners, members of the Keizer Parks Board and the City Council also put in countless hours into the creation of the park that counted as “soft matches” for many grants.

To put the amount of grants into perspective, all the money budgeted for all Keizer Parks from the Keizer General Fund since the beginning of the City in 1982 until the newly passed 2007-8 budget year equals a grand cumulative total of \$2,123,587.00. By comparison, the monetary awards alone for the Keizer Park project, listed above(\$2,621,982.00) exceed this total by half a million dollars. The amount of these awards is especially significant since this money came from outside Keizer.

Keizer invested \$300,000.00 in SDC's to provide match for some of the grants. This seed money amounted to under 6% match for the \$5,046,982.00 total value of the money and property obtained for this project. A 6% match for any government project is extremely fortunate. With combining the grant and award money with the SDC match, Keizer was able to purchase an additional 35 acres of park land and was able to connect the park to the Keizer city limits to the

south and to connect the park to Chemawa road to the North. The transportation money awarded will be used to improve Chemawa to safely connect the Park to all the residents of Keizer.

Before the Keizer Rapids Park project, Keizer had 96 acres of parkland. After the grant and land acquisition phase was completed, Keizer Rapids park added over 120 acres of parkland to the Keizer Parks inventory, more than doubling the parkland for Keizer residents to enjoy.

GOAL 2: OUTREACH AND SURVEY

Before the Task Force could begin discussing the park project with the community, they first needed to agree on a name for the project and for the proposed park itself. Although the name Keizer Rapids was already the name of a feature on the Willamette River adjacent to the park and was being informally used by some to refer to the park, there were many other names also being used to identify the park such as Beardsley Bar, King George, and others. The Task Force recommended to the City Council to officially name the park Keizer Rapids Park because of the historical significance of the name (see history outreach sheet) and because it geographically designated the park at Keizer and because it emphasized the connection to the River. It was also important that the name already appeared in the Rand McNally maps as a recognizable feature of the Willamette River.

The Task Force with the help of a professional designer and with grants provided by the River Navigator then created the following logo for the park.



The lines represent the Willamette River which makes a bend at Keizer Rapids. The three distinct lines represent Keizer's motto of Pride, Spirit and Volunteerism. The blue was chosen for McNary blue and the slant for the words "rapids" was intended to show the movement of the river.

After the name of the Park and the logo were established, the task force began to work on creating five public information pieces on the following topics:

1. Overview
2. Funding
3. Connections and Partnerships
4. History
5. How to Get Involved

Each information piece was written by task force members and was professionally printed with

grant resources. The task force also developed an initial brochure introducing the project and followed up with a final brochure showing the approved master plan.

The Riverr task force itself was comprised of a wide range of members from the community including representatives from the Keizer City Council, Salem City Council, Keizer Bikeways committee, Marion County Commissioners and park department, Keizer Chamber of Commerce, the River Navigator, Keizer Parks Board, Oregon State Parks, and others.

Neighbors of the park organized into the West Keizer neighborhood association with a stated purpose to have a greater voice in the park design. After the neighborhood association was formed a place on the task force was established to allow the association unrestricted dialog on the project. The chair of the task force also attended most of the neighborhood meetings from the beginning of the association through the master planning phase of the park to hear and address questions of concerned neighbors.

To help encourage public participation the task force also made a point to meet at the same time and place every month, 5:30 on the third Wednesday of every month from September 2003 until April 2007. The meetings were publicized in the paper and on the web page and a report of every task force meetings was made by the task force chair on channel 23 at the city council meeting that followed the task force meeting. Newspaper reporters, neighbors, and citizens were all invited to the meetings and public testimony was regularly taken at each meeting. Neighbors, dog park advocates, river activity and water trail advocates, “Jean” supporters, bike users, sports enthusiast, and other supporters and opponents of the park all had a place to come, be heard, and become part of process.

The park project was featured in many regional and local newspaper articles and often appeared on the front page of the Keizer Times and the front page of the Local Section of the Statesman Journal. The park was also featured on the Keizer web page and was the subject of the Keizer Quarterly mailings. The park even received mention in various national publications.

Numerous power point and other formal presentations were made in the community including at least two major presentation to the chamber of commerce at their luncheons. RIVERR Task Force members also made presentations at other community meetings, water shed council meetings, and neighborhood associations. Public outreach materials were printed and available at many community locations including city hall, various businesses and on the city internet page.

Many tours of the park were given of the park from 2004 through 2007 including a community “sneak preview” of the park part of the 2005 Iris Festival. A bus, donated courtesy of Blanchet School, drove residents to and from the park. At the park they were greeted with an information booth and refreshments and were given walking tours and hay rides by volunteers.

Visitor passes were designed and given to citizens who presented identification and wanted to see the park before it was open to the general public. Formal booths manned by volunteers and displaying park pictures and information took place at the Iris Festivals, Marion County Fairs, Keizer’s 25th birthday party, water trail events, and many other community celebrations from 2004 through 2007.

A major outreach undertaking was the creation and distribution of a community survey regarding Keizer Rapids Park. The survey was sent to every water bill in Keizer and was also distributed at the Fairs and other community events during the fall of 2005. Input was also received from the city online “survey monkey.” Keizer residents responded very strong both in interest and participation. Over 280 questionnaires were returned from the Iris Festival booth, and 91 at the Marion County fair. There was 1560 residents who completed the mail in survey which is more than any other Keizer survey in recent memory. By comparison the latest 2007 city annual survey had 841 respondents.

The survey returns were from a wide cross section of Keizer residents based upon age of persons in households. The results of the survey reflected that the park was viewed very favorably by Keizer residents returning the survey. Over 90% of the respondents indicated that it was important or very important for the community to have day use picnicking areas, cycling trails, nature trails, a local access community park, hiking trails, playgrounds and multi-purpose lawns at Keizer Rapids Park. All of the amenities eventually added in the master plan were viewed favorably in the survey although not all of the amenities Keizer residents wanted could be accommodate in the park. An example of the survey and a detail of the [survey results](#) are attached.

Outreach continued throughout the master planning of the park, and even after the park was master planned. At the completion of the master plan the group sought and received a final artistic drawing of the master plan from the Landscape Architects at no cost to Keizer. As a final outreach project the task force then completed a [final brochure](#) showing the new drawing of the master plan and requesting volunteer assistance. (Attached).

GOAL 3: ASSESS PARK RESOURCES AND PUBLIC NEEDS FOR PARK AMENITIES

In addition to public “wants” as obtained from the outreach effort, the task force also considered the assets of the park and the local and regional “needs” as established by objective criteria.

To identify the assets of the park, the task force requested and received assistance from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) to do an environmental inventory of the park. The results of the inventory revealed natural assets but also identified a potential threatened species habitat (Pond Turtle) that could have significantly affected the design of the park. According (again with the assistance of the Oregon State Parks) a second study was conducted which determined that there were no Pond Turtles living in the park. The task force also identified and considered flood planes, flood ways, and other natural factors that could have an impact in creating a master plan. OPRD also provided a vegetation map to assist in planning efforts.

To assess public needs for park amenities Keizer Senior Planner Sam Litke assisted the task force by researching and presenting a parks and recreation inventory showing the parks and amenities currently available to Keizer residents and where the need was most in need based upon established objective standards. In addition to reviewing park inventories in Keizer and the region, he also was assisted by the recently completed comprehensive study performed by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department for this region. (S.C.O.R.P.)

The results of this recreation inventory analysis, together with the input from the outreach effort and the recognized and identified limitations and assets of the park property helped identify the potential amenities for the park and helped shape the parameters of the master plan.

GOAL 4: CREATE MASTER PLAN FOR KEIZER RAPIDS PARK

After the first four goals were reached, the task force started on the task of the final master planning of the park, including creation of a design for the park itself. Technical assistance for the master plan process and design was provided from grants from both the National Park Service Rivers and Trails program (Dan Miller) and an “in kind” grant from the American Society of Landscape Architects. This was in addition to the in house technical assistance from Nate Brown, community development director, Sam Litke, senior planner, and Rob Kissler, public works director.

During the many months of master planning the park, the R.I.V.E.R.R. task force and the Keizer Parks Board held joint sessions every month. The master plan was created during those joint sessions. The task force and Parks Board reviewed all the information gathered by the task force and together formulated the parameters of the master plan. The joint sessions then determined the “givens” that should be in any final master plan. The joint sessions also decided on a list of amenities that should be considered for inclusion into the park in the design phase depending on the space available, the final design chosen, and the intensity of development desired by the public and, ultimately, by the city council.

After the parameters were determined, the task force held an intensive workshop called a “design Charette” on June 16-17, 2007. There were six Charette “teams” consisting of not just task force and Parks Board members, but which also included the mayor, other city councilors, and many other representatives residents of Keizer. These six groups toured the park on Friday and received a “crash course” of the information learned by the task force. Then beginning at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday morning the 6 teams started working with architects provided by the American Society of Landscape Architects, and created 6 different visions of the park, ranging from fairly undeveloped, to highly developed.

After the six visions of the park were finished, the task force held a public open house. All Keizer residents were invited to come and see the various plans and listen to the explanation of the plans by representatives of the various teams. Then the public was asked to “vote” on their favorite plan and make comments on their favorite features. The open house was very well attended with over 100 Keizer residents participating.

The 6 versions were then widely circulated in the community to obtain even further input for the task force. A presentation of the six versions was presented at a Chamber luncheon for even more input.

After all the Charette input was received, tabulated, and reviewed, the task force continued its master planning efforts in joint sessions with the Parks Board until a final master plan was created and recommended to the Keizer City Council. Additional public input was received and the Council approved the master plan in October of 2006 and the master plan was approved with conditions (regarding Chemawa Road improvements) in January of 2007.

A full copy of the [Keizer Rapids Master Plan](#) is included and attached to this report.

GOAL 5: LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE PARKS BOARD TO DEVELOP KEIZER RAPIDS PARK AFTER THE RIVERR TASK FORCE ENDS.

After the master plan was completed and approved, work began to prepare the park for public access, to plan and hold a celebration at the opening of the park, and most importantly, to create a process for turning over responsibility for pursuing grants and making recommendation regarding Keizer Rapids Park from the RIVERR Task Force to the Keizer Parks Board.

The task force and Parks Board formulated a strategy to open the park by making minimal/affordable improvements to Chemawa to meet the Marion County requirements. The joint sessions also recommended some minimal road and parking lot improvements so that the public could access the park. Local volunteers also helped clear the land and build trails. Literally hundreds of boy scouts and school children also helped in these efforts. Buffers and fences were also planned, authorized and construction started to address the concerns of neighbors of the park. Since the funding for the improvement required waiting for the fiscal year to begin on July 1, 2007 the joint task force/Parks Board sessions recommended opening the park on July 21 and then recommended interim park rules and a permit system for park use before the park was “officially” open to the public.

A celebration at the soft opening was also planned to properly and publicly thank all the organizations that assisted in the park. T-Shirts, mugs, plaques, and other gifts were given to various supporter and granting organizations. The ceremony also celebrated the official opening of the park to the general public. The ceremony was well attended by the public.

After the last official meeting in April of 2007, a RIVERR/Parks Board work group, called the governance work group began meeting to work on the transition of all Keizer Rapids responsibilities once the task force was ended. The work group recommended that the Parks Board set up a permanent Keizer Rapids work group to replace the RIVERR task force. Its membership would consist of some Park Board members and representatives of all the active project groups that were working on individual park projects or tasks. That Keizer Rapids work group would then report directly to the Parks Board. The Parks Board then recommended that its membership be increased by two members to handle the additional workload. The recommendation was passed by resolution by the City Council on May 7, 2007 and the two new positions were filled in September 2007 along with a vacancy caused by the death of a Parks Board member. When the three positions were filled, RIVERR Task Force members Dave Louden and Christine Deiker were added to the Parks Board in addition to Keizer resident Marlene Quinn.

The Keizer Rapids Work Group was established under the Parks Board and leaders were identified for ten (10) project groups.

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS BY THE CHAIR OF RIVERR TASK FORCE:

The RIVERR Task Force was the first regional task force that was convened, organized, and run by the city of Keizer for the benefit of Keizer residents and residents throughout the region. If there is one lesson to be learned from the successes of the RIVERR task force project it is that Keizer can do far more for its own residents and for the region by dreaming big and then working cooperatively with regional partners to make the dream come true.

Alone, Keizer had \$300,000.00 in resources to purchase a West Keizer Community Park. Alone, and looking only to land inside the Keizer city limits, this would have been only enough resources to purchase between 2 to 4 acres of ordinary (not river front) park land. However, by working with regional partners to create another regionally significant water front park that would be part of the Willamette Water Trail and by being willing to “look outside the box” to land adjacent to the city instead of only looking inside the city, Keizer was able to convert that \$300,000.00 into over 5 million dollars in resources and was able to obtain a 120 acre river front park, which more than doubled all the park land inventory in Keizer for the enjoyment of Keizer residents and future Keizer generations.

It is important to keep the big picture in mind. True, Keizer invested \$300,000.00 of its scarce SDC revenues on this project, but it received over \$5 million in park resources, or a net gain of over \$4.7 million, which is more than double all the general funds Keizer has spent on Parks since the beginning of the city and is 6 times all the SDC’s Keizer has available for the creation of parks in Keizer. Instead of being a money expense, the park project turned out to be a much needed money magnet for Keizer.

The creation of the park is now completed. However, it is still just a blank slate awaiting development. The task to find a way to develop the park will be passed to imagination, vision, and leadership of the Parks Board and the Keizer City Council.

In making decisions on development we should not lose sight of the power of this project to attract regional resources. To do so, however, Keizer must remain strongly in the heart of the regional Willamette River efforts. Keizer is blessed with this natural resource and with the geographic position near the halfway point in the Willamette River and half way between Salem and Willamette Mission Park. We have benefited greatly by being in the forefront of those strongly supporting Governor Kulongowski’s Willamette River agenda, the Water Trail, the Willamette River Concord, and Darlene Hooley’s Willamette River United legislation. By continuing to show strong support for these regional efforts, we not only help promote, improve and enhance the Willamette as a vital community asset, we also become part of a bigger picture and position ourselves in a place extremely favorable to future grant requests.

Keizer also needs to always remember the partners who helped us achieve the success we have enjoyed. The people, agencies, and organizations are too much to list here, but they are noted on the many grant applications, minutes of the meetings, and on many volunteer sheets kept by the city. They include the Willamette River Navigator Mark Brown, The BLM, The OPRD and its director Mike Carrier, the Governor, our state and national representatives, all the Marion County Commissioners and especially Janet Carlson, the National Park Service and its

representative Dan Miller and many others. By showing support for these regional partners we not only give thanks as is appropriate, but we also preserve the foundation for future partnerships to further develop all of Keizer's Willamette River parks.

The Keizer Rapids Park project really started in 2001 when the Keizer City Council established a long term goal to simply "explore ways to better connect Keizer to the Willamette River." At that time, Keizer did not know of the existence of a possible 85 acres at Beardsley Bar, only had \$300,000.00 and did not have any idea what that connection would ultimately look like. What the council had, however, was a dream to better connect to the Willamette and a desire to do the best they could with what they had with this tremendous public asset. By keeping an open mind as opportunities developed, by thinking outside the box, by having a little faith, by thinking big, and by joining with regional partners and ongoing regional efforts we were able to make it happen.

Future opportunities for Keizer Rapids and for Keizer's other Willamette River parks are boundless. For example, the potential to realize the master plan's vision of an educational facility at this park is unprecedented. This is in part because of the unique location of the park where the northern edge of the second largest urbanized region of the state meets forest, wetlands, riparian areas, bird and wildlife habitat and the river. A river education and restoration group has already expressed an interest in being a partner in creating a river educational facility at the park. The historical significance of the park also can not be overemphasized as a regional educational asset. The park also boasts tremendous other recreational possibilities with sports fields, sports courts, outdoor amphitheater, a dog park and other amenities. This park truly can become a local source of pride and a major regional asset, but only if we continue to work together to bring the park to its full potential. The challenge is to continue to have the courage to dream big, to keep the vision, and to work in partnerships with those who can help us make that dream come true.

RIVERR TASK FORCE TIMELINE & SUMMARY OF MINUTES

1970's Marion County Parks Master Plan identifies a need for a new park in the Beardsley Bar area (this is the same location as Keizer Rapids Park).

1992: Keizer's Park Master Plan, first adopted in 1992 identifies a need for a West Keizer Community Park.

2001: The City Council of the City of Keizer established a long term goal 2001 to explore ways to better connect Keizer to the Willamette River.

2001: The City of Keizer became one of the founding members of the Mid Willamette River Connections (MWRC) group to explore regional solutions for river access questions; This group became the Willamette River Water Trail group.

December 18, 2002, Keizer formally expressed an interest to the Oregon State Parks to explore the possibility of developing the 85 acre owned by the Oregon State Parks at Beardsley Bar/Keizer Rapids into a park usable by the public.

July 7, 2003, Keizer City Council adopted a short term goal to establish a Willamette River Task Force. The purpose of this Task Force is to explore ways to reconnect Keizer to the Willamette River and make recommendations to the City Council on plans and strategies that will maximize the potential for grant and funding opportunities and which utilize and enhance recreation, alternative transportation, green space, history, education, health and fitness, aesthetic attributes, natural vegetation and wildlife habitats, river water quality, and to reduce erosion and pollution.

April 14, 2003: Keizer City Council agrees to join with Marion County to pursue granting opportunities to assist with potentially developing the 85 acre State owned parcel at Beardsley Bar/Keizer Rapids.

July 3, 2003, Oregon State Parks indicated in writing, their interest to grant Keizer a no cost lease for at least 20 years in duration for the Beardsley Bar/Keizer Rapids parcel so that the property could be used as a park.

July 7, 2003 Keizer City Council, by motion, establishes the Regional Intergovernmental Visions Enhancing River Resources (RIVERR) Task Force.

July - August 2003: Potential task force members contacted and invited, calendars coordinated for meeting schedule.

September 17, 2003: First meeting of RIVERR Task Force. Task Force starts to explore grant options and Marion County Timber Sale prospect. Review Marion County comprehensive parks plan. Identified potential grants. Discussion of issues concerning owning land outside of the city limits. First minutes reflect discussions of nature trails, river access, boat landing/launches, restroom facilities, game fields, parking, open and enclosed picnic shelters, beach areas, dog water park and a field for dog training, and a trails for walkers, bikers, roller bladers, skate boarders, and ADA accessibility.

October 6, 2003 Keizer City Council issued the “Willamette Concord Proclamation” recognizing that further potential connections to the Willamette and obtaining resources to obtain those connections are enhanced when Keizer works in a coordinated manner with its neighboring Willamette River communities and governments. Task Force commenced working with TPL, begins review of inventory from Natural Heritage Information Center, and begin review for protected species or plants. Flood way vs. flood plain issued explored. Surveyor David Loudon explained some easement problems and need for further study.

November 2003: Task Force recommends that Keizer Rapids be designated as the West Keizer Community Park already identified in the Keizer Parks Master plan. Task Force recommends expenditure of money for appraisals and options for Buckles and Charge parcels. Work also begins on creating public information pieces on the park and the project.

December 2003: Council passed a resolution recognizing Keizer Rapids as a Keizer community park which opens up opportunities for the identified parks system development charges (SDCs) allocated to a west Keizer community park to be used for grant matching. Council also directs staff “to move forward with the Trust for Public Lands and Oregon State Parks regarding the proposed West Keizer Community Park.” Task force continues work with natural inventory and public information pieces. Task force starts visioning for large public outreach program. Access easement issues explored with Marion County public works. Partnerships with Water Trail effort pursued.

January 2004: Nate Brown hired as Keizer’s Community Development Director and provided technical support to the task force. Tanya Beard was substituted for Matt Thornburn. More grant options explored. Work plan, goals and action items, budget and time lines were being formulated. Task force worked on environmental inventory issues and public outreach materials. Conceptual drawings started to be discussed.

February 2004: Received first grant to finish environmental inventory from the Water Trail group, MWRC. Task force also developed rough draft of six fundamental goals for future grant efforts. Explored historical significance of the park parcel and connections to Thomas Dove Keizer and his family. Recognizing long term nature of effort, bi-laws subgroup and community outreach subgroups were formed. As workgroups started to form to handle the increasing workload, several task force members started having multiple meetings every month on the project.

March 2004: Task Force worked on Bylaws, funding, grants, work plan budget and outreach.

April 2004: City Council formalized a new resolution re-establishing the Riverr Task Force (this was a technicality as the Task force was done by motion, but not by resolution in July of 2003). The Task Force then re-elects chair Richard Walsh, and vice chair Mike Kirby. Christine Dieker added as chamber rep. and David Loudon as a citizen at Large.

April 2004: Governor Kulongoski visits Keizer Rapids and also makes the Willamette River a high priority of his office with a agenda to “Rebuild, Restore, and Recreate “ on the Willamette. Task Force recommends a letter thanking the Governor for his support of Willamette river communities. Task Force work on work plan and budget continues.

May 2004: Grant prioritization and work continues. Also Task Force recommend to formally name the project Keizer Rapids Park. Pursuing \$2,500 grant for graphic design from BLM and RTCA Grant for technical assistance and plan to follow up with a grant from ASLA. Also start to look into Multi-use path transportation enhancement grant proposal). Outreach formulates questionnaire draft and proposed draft budget is reviewed.

June 2004: Interviewed publicity and graphic design firm for park logo design (paid by BLM grant). RTC grant work including gathering letters of support and supporting documents worked on by task force including background papers, work plan, time keeper, and budget. Regional summit is held on June 23, 2004 and Keizer Rapids Park is featured. Agreement is reached with Charge property owner.

August 2004: Bylaws amended, graphic design modified, outreach products worked on and budget developed. Debbie Lockhart receives a “gold fish” award from group in appreciation of all her support beyond the call of duty. Task Force Chair makes appearance at Marion County public hearing for the Forrest Service Grant regarding the sale of Detroit area property. Decision to change all map references to indicate parcels as “parcels 1 and 2” rather than as the names of the property owners to protect privacy of landowners involved. Keizer Rapids receives a favorable recommendation by the Oregon Park Commission. Task force did field trip to park.

September 2004: \$500,000.00 grant from OPRD is given to Keizer and the Governor himself presented Keizer with the check in a ceremony along the river banks during the Willamette Water Trail kick off ceremony. He emphasized the relationship of Keizer Rapids to the Willamette River and his agenda to reconnect people to the river in the Willamette Valley. Four grants had previously been received and with this large grant the project was becoming viable in the eyes of many grant organizations. More work was being done and more letters of support were being generated for a Title 3 grant and a possible Marine Board grant and Land and Water Grant. Discussion regarding how to deal with title issues and costs on land purchases.

October 2004: Dog park advocates begin attending meetings of the RIVERR task force. Work continues on many grant applications. Keizer Rapids internet information made available on line. Chair makes presentation to watershed council that showed support.

November 2004: Neighbors of the park testify at meeting. Dave Hilgemann agrees to act as the

first liaison for the neighborhood. Task Force chair makes power point presentation to chamber of commerce. Keizer is awarded the NPS grant from the US Department of the Interior for the Technical Assistance Grant for the outreach and master planning of the park from the NPS rivers and trails program. Options are secured from both properties. Oregon State Parks agrees to clean up a local dump on the park property. Work on brochure and more grants is continuing and exploration of involvement of Oregon Solutions is discussed. .

December 15, 2004: Increasing public participation at task force meetings. Final version of letterhead and logo developed. Kickoff for broad outreach planned for Iris Festival. The city of Salem passed a resolution offering continued support for the Keizer Rapids Project and designated Dan Clem as the new Salem representative to the task force. Chair and Nate Brown give tour of the park to grant organization. Other grant opportunities are pursued.

January 2005: More public testimony including Cyndi Ashley of POWER asking for consideration of youth activities and programs in the park and the possibility of youth groups helping to develop the park. Power point presentation given by chair as overview to Dan Miller, the new technical advisor from the National Park Service. Dan Miller gives overview of his role in the process to task force and interested citizens. Committee members visit local dump at park, and OPRD cleaned up the dump at no cost to Keizer and installed a new gate to prevent recurrence. Outreach materials nearly completed and costs assessed but to meet \$2,000.00 in additional costs, Christine Dieker reported that the Chamber of Commerce would pitch in \$1,000.00 and Renee Meritt with the Trust for public lands pitched in the other \$1,000.00. With the prior grant from the BLM all publication and design work is paid in full. At request of task force Keizer sends a request to Marion County for \$150,000.00 in title III money. Task force has all members and associated members write letters of support for outstanding grant requests. Watershed council includes Keizer Rapids in its work plan.

February 2005: Final Brochure and fact sheets printed “at cost” and logo depicts three lines for pride, spirit and volunteerism, the bend for the bend in the river at Keizer Rapids, and the Blue is for McNary Blue. Start planning public outreach for Iris Festival. Begin working with Dan Miller with NPS. Continued working on questionnaire. Start planning for a neighborhood meeting of affected landowners and neighbors. Continued work on grants. Water trail coordination and chamber decides to make the Iris Festival theme “rolling on the river.” Chair made presentation to Keizer Rotary on February 24, 2005.

March 2005: Presentation from Governor’s Oregon Solutions team. Additional fact sheets worked on for Funding, History, How to Get involved. Discussion of future outreach, begin discussion for Charette Planning. Planning for May public “Sneak preview” of the park event with OPRD. Dialog opened with Washington D.C. visitors, Title III \$150,000.00 placed on agenda for Marion County.

April 2005: Watershed council presentation and formally supported project, April 25, 2005 Neighborhood meeting outreach. Planning for Governors Water Trail stop at Keizer Rapids on June 4, 2005. Iris Festival outreach, possible paddle parade, park preview tours, joint Parks Board meeting etc.

May 2005 : Joint session with Parks Board. Update Parks Board, presentation by Dan Miller. Circulated all outreach materials, time lines discussed, summary of proposed planning process. Extensive public testimony, plan formalized, and forwarded to parks Board, re: schedule toward Master Plan. Plan role of Park in Keizer Marion County Fair Booth. With OPRD review and correct vegetative map of Park. Iris Festival event resulted in 280 completed questionnaires, and Park Sneak Preview tours and hay rides were a success.

June 2005: Marion County agrees to use reserve officers as temporary hires for patrolling the parks, including Spongs Landing. Marion County Sheriff begins involvement with security issues of the park. With work with Boy scouts and other volunteers, cleaned up park and hosted June 4 Governor's Water Trail stop at Keizer Rapids, despite prior night major vandalism attack of facilities. Visit was a well attended success that was well publicized in the local papers. Marine Board Grant approved by Marine Board. OWEB grant deferred due to onerous restrictions it would place on the park usage. 10,000.00 questionnaires sent out in the mail. Reviewed results of questionnaire at Iris festival events. Code enforcement issues of vehicles abandoned in park postponed pending further discussions with neighbors. Task force members signed up for and attended the Marion County Fair and collected more questionnaires.

July 2005: Continued review and work on outstanding grant requests. Recommend to accept grants already awarded. Discussion about Title 3 grants, attempt to still allow some impervious surface with grant purchased property. Lease for 85 acres with OPRD drafted. Questionnaire results from 371 completed responses reviewed. Work on additional grants continuing.

August 2005: More public comments. Survey monkey on line. Continuing discussion of grant apps and more outreach work. Motion passed to recommend to council to purchase the forested areas of Alvarez property. Jerry Nuttbrock requested being given a "buffer" around his parcel in exchange for some labor on the parkland. Bikeways recommends a direct path from 15th into the park.

September 2005: Extensive public testimony including proposal by Richard Chesbrough to support dredging. Dr. George Sitkei, encouraged education programs and facilities be added to the park master plan. Many neighbors of the park testified as did youth group and bicycling group representatives.

October 2005: Neighborhood petitions received in opposition to any festivals or athletic events at the park and against bikeways recommendation to connect neighborhood at 15th street. Neighbors request fencing. To the mailed questionnaire there was 1,560 responses. Keizer Boy scouts troop finished a new overnight campsite on the island just past Keizer Rapids Park. Water trail efforts continue. Begin work on methodology to compile local needs inventory. Permanent Parks Board Liaison added to Task Force. Planning for open houses.

November 2005: Review of all surveys from Iris Festival, County Fair, direct mailings, neighborhood associations, meetings at city hall, etc. Needs assessment, grants. Prepare for recognition of completion of PHASE 1 which was the point where Keizer had obtained sufficient grants to complete "Phase 1": the acquisition of the 35 acres to add to the 85 acre OPRD land to

make Keizer Rapids Park. Parks Board begins a master plan review of all Keizer Parks and to also assess community needs to determine how to fill the gaps. Wetlands inventory started. Neighbors discuss plans to resurrect the West Keizer Neighborhood Association to give input into the Keizer Rapids Park Master Plan. Neighbors voice support for improving Chemawa Road.

December 2005: Christmas break

January 18, 2006: Dr. Sitkei and Emily Cassis with Marion County Extension Service make a presentation on possible educational facilities. American Society of Landscape Architects agree to work on Charette in the summer. Park inventory reviewed. Discussed how to prioritize park amenities list methodology. By January 2006, Keizer had been awarded \$1,630,000.00 in grants plus the \$300,000.00 for the sdc contribution, plus the 85 acre free 25 year lease plus the NPS technical assistance grant, and the chamber and TPL grants. Local needs assessment review. West Keizer Neighborhood association is invited to join task force. The Association takes a formal vote and is equally split on the 15 street access issue with 12 in favor and 12 against access to the park from 15th street. They were able, however, to strongly support an access off of Chemawa Road.

February 2006: Natural inventory reports possible pond turtle habitat in the park. Task Force recommends a request to the OPRD to carry out the necessary in depth investigations. Charette planning, thank-you preparations started for grants, Jerry Nuttbrock and Jim Hansen (alternative) join task force. Policies discussed for limited access during phase before park is opened and while Ms. Charge was still on land. Task force recommends signs marking park boundary and to respect private property be place at park ASAP. Discussion of caretaker or park host option after Ms. Charge leaves property recommended to City Council. Prioritization of amenities discussed and general “flavor of the park.”

March 2006: Discussion of possible incorporation of the “Jean” into the park. Receipt of West Keizer Neighborhood Association priorities of amenities. Jean tour planned. Jean concept was neither accepted nor rejected but due to its complexities it was determined that the Jean would be best pursued as a “separate project” if a group wanted to take it on, and that it not be added to the RIVERR task force work load at this time. “Givens” for prioritization planning were discussed.

April 2006: Captain Chesbrough and Jerry Nuttbrock toured the Jean and gave a report. It was hoped that a separate group, maybe even a non-profit group would take on this project. Priority amenities vote and charette planning. Recommended city wide invitation mailing to the charette. Good neighbor buffer added as a “given.” Marion County commissioner to work on intergovernmental security agreement.

May 2006: Charette planning continues, Task force recommends a request for transportation Enhancement Grant for bike route at SKATS. Dog park partners and grants discussed.

June 16-17 2006: Design Charette, with record number of attendees in city planning effort.

July 2006: Reviewed design Charette results, displayed diagrams at Chamber of Commerce luncheon meeting and additional input gathered. Salem Audubon expresses interest in building an Audubon facility. Various features from different designs voted upon to be incorporated into the Master plan. Buchanan agrees to give city an option on his property.

September 2006: Various fine tuning to the proposed master plan, including a recommendation for a second Park Host in the area of the BMX track when it is created. Master plan finalized with Parks Board and plan with joint recommendation sent to the City Council for Approval. Task Force recommends the city contact the tribes for partnership with the educational facility. Audubon Society tours park for possible involvement with educational facility at park. Other potential partner discussed is Willamette River keeper.

October 2006: Discussion of items for Chair to discuss at Congresswoman Darlene Hooley's gathering of Willamette Valley cities interested in connecting to the Willamette. Park interim policies adopted for use of the park before it becomes officially open to the public. More discussion on possible interrelationship with the Audubon Society. City Council adopted the recommended Master Plan and forwarded it to Marion County for their approval. The Boat Ramp Task Force was established.

November 2006: Grant wrap up and exploration of new grants. Begin process of formulating volunteers into work groups to help make certain amenities a reality. Begin with Dog Park, Amphitheater, trails, education (incl Audubon Society) and boat dock subgroups.

December 2006 : Holiday

January 2007: Keizer Rapids Parks Master plan approved by Marion County with some conditions, including roadway improvements. Continued implementation of workgroups for Amphitheater, Security/Police, Dog Park, Friends of the Park, Educational Facility, Hiking, Biking and BMX trails, Signs, and Rules, Main "Spine" road/parking/hard surfaces, and Fencing and Buffering, River Trail Amenities, and Ground Preparation(tree removal). Assignments made for task force members and others to the work groups. Decision made to begin preparation for the Soft opening with task force to be dissolved thereafter.

February 21, 2007: Task force and Parks Board in joint session recommends to council to use up to \$9,700.00 in SDC funds to pay Jerry Nuttbrock to remove the Filbert Orchard trees in the lower field to clear land and obtain chips. Mr. Nuttbrock reduced/donated a reduction from his normal billings by \$6,832.00. (Council approves and the Filberts are chipped).

March 2007: Park use increases before park is ready to be opened to the general public. To distinguish "approved" from "not approved" users, task force votes to implement a park "permit" system. In part in response to Neighborhood association concerns, the \$200,000.00 allocation for bike route from 15th avenue was folded into a larger \$1 million transportation improvement allocation request for improving Chemawa Road in 2010 for improved pedestrian and bike

access although original bike connection is still in the master plan for future connection. Task Force recommends minimal level of improvements with agreement to Marion County to deal with Chemawa Road issues in immediate future. Recommendation for the city to work to resolve border issues regarding the Alvarez and Nuttbrock properties. Task Force approves the Boat ramp sub group recommendation for 23 vehicle/trailer stalls with 12 single cars and 1 single handicap space and forwards recommendation to City Council for inclusion into the master plan. Work Group reports. Task force and Parks Board forms a joint transition or “governance” committee to make recommendation regarding the transition of Keizer Rapids Park to the Parks Board.

April 2007: Three year implementation and “Soft Opening” budget for the park reviewed. Task Force and Parks Board joint session votes to recommend spending \$40,000.00 for public works to improve Keizer Rapids Park to be suitable for the Soft opening. Due to fiscal restraints spending the money could not be spent before July 1, 2007. This also required the soft opening to be postponed to July 21, 2007. As no further policy level work was required and as all tasks assigned were completed other than the soft opening, no further meeting were scheduled until the soft opening. Further transition recommendations would be done by the governance work group. The project work groups would report directly to the Parks Board.

May - July: Joint meetings with Riverr and Parks Board representatives (governance work group) meet to further plan the transition and opening ceremony. Recommends moving all work groups from RIVERR task to a subcommittee which reports to the Parks Board and increasing Parks Board by two additional members to help with increased workload.

July 1, 2007: 2007-8 Keizer fiscal budget year begins: Funds are released to build improvement for bike lane and pedestrian access along Chemawa Road to the park, and for Keizer Rapids park soft opening minimal improvements. Parks annual operating budget is also increased from \$183,700.00 for fiscal year 2006 to \$266,100.00 effective July 1, 2007.

July 21, 2007: Soft opening: Keizer Rapids Park Opens to general public use.

August 2007 to November 7, 2007 Parks Board increased from 7 - 9 members. Work group created under the Parks Board consisting of Park Board members and representatives of 10 active project groups. Chair of R.I.V.E.R.R. task force assigned as Council Liaison to work group. New strategies for grants and plans for development inside Keizer Rapids Park progresses including fencing, the dog park and for hard surface trails. Recommendations made to Parks Board. Final report of R.I.V.E.R.R. task force is prepared for presentation to Keizer City Council.

November 7, 2007: R.I.V.E.R.R. Task Force retired by City Council Resolution.

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CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF KEIZER, STATE OF OREGON

Resolution R2004- 1473

ESTABLISHING RIVERR (REGIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL VISIONS ENHANCING RIVER RESOURCES) TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Keizer established a long term goal in 2001 to explore ways to better connect Keizer to the Willamette River; and

WHEREAS, to further this goal, the City of Keizer became one of the founding members of the Mid Willamette River Connections (MWRC) group to explore regional solutions for river access questions;

WHEREAS, in 2003 the City Council of the City of Keizer adopted a short term goal to establish a Willamette River Task Force. The purpose of this Task Force is to explore ways to reconnect Keizer to the Willamette River and to make recommendations to the City Council on plans and strategies that will maximize the potential for grant and funding opportunities and which utilize, enhance and preserve the corridor's multi-faceted potentials, including but not limited to, the potential for recreation, alternative transportation, green space, history, education, health and fitness, aesthetic attributes, natural vegetation and wildlife habitats, river water quality, and to reduce erosion and pollution;

WHEREAS, at the July 7, 2003 City Council meeting a motion was moved and approved to establish a Regional Intergovernmental Visions Enhancing River Resources (RIVERR) Task Force;

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NOW, THEREFORE

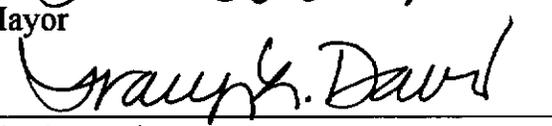
BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Keizer that a Regional Intergovernmental Visions Enhancing River Resources (RIVERR) Task Force, is hereby established as outlined in appendix "A", which is attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that phase one of the Task Force duties would be to make recommendations to the City Council to facilitate the creation of a West Keizer Community Park utilizing, but not limited to, the 85 acre Beardsley Bar/Keizer Rapids parcel owned by the Oregon State Parks, and to create a master plan for said proposed park to present to the Oregon State Parks and to propose all other action as is needed to acquire and maintain the use of the Beardsley Bar/Keizer Rapids parcel and any other potential Keizer Rapids parcels for the benefit of the public.

PASSED this 5th day of April, 2004.

SIGNED this 5th day of April, 2004.



Mayor


City Recorder

Appendix "A" ***City Council Task Force***

Name: RIVERR (Regional Intergovernmental Visions Enhancing River Resources) Task Force

Purpose: To explore ways to reconnect Keizer to the Willamette River and to make recommendations to the Council on plans and strategies that will maximize the potential for grant and funding opportunities and which utilize, enhance and preserve the corridor's multi-faceted potentials, including but not limited to, the potential for recreation, alternative transportation, green space, history, education, health and fitness, aesthetic attributes, natural vegetation and wildlife habitats, river water quality, and to reduce erosion and pollution.

Membership: The Task Force shall consist of 11 voting members. Members shall include:

1. Six members appointed by the Keizer City Council: one Keizer City Councilor, one Keizer Bikeways Committee member, one Keizer Parks Advisory Board member, and two Keizer citizens at large.
2. A Keizer Chamber of Commerce Representative appointed by the Chamber of Commerce Board.
3. One Marion County Commissioner.
4. One Salem City Councilor.
5. One representative from the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department.
6. One representative from Marion County Public Works.
7. One representative from the Willamette River Navigator.

The Keizer Public Works Director and the Keizer Community Development Director shall serve as technical advisors and shall not have any voting rights. Members of the Task Force appointed by the Keizer City Council may be removed by a two-thirds majority vote of the entire Keizer City Council.

Chair and Vice-Chair: The Task Force shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair at the first meeting of each calendar year.

Meetings: Members of the Task Force shall establish a regular meeting date. All meetings of the Task Force shall follow Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised and the Oregon Public Meeting Laws.

Attendance: It is the duty of each Task Force member to attend at least 75% of the meetings each calendar year. When a member is unable to attend a meeting, the member shall notify the Chair.