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**Partnership Agreement of
Portland Parks & Recreation and The Forest Park Conservancy
July 1, 2010**

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I. Introduction

Forest Park is a critical part of the City of Portland and the entire region. Portland Parks & Recreation (PPR) has been entrusted with the stewardship of the park on behalf of the citizens of Portland. Forest Park Conservancy (FPC), a non-profit organization, was created to work cooperatively with PPR to care for this 5,000+ acre park with over 70 miles of trails. Together, they will preserve and enhance the park to ensure that this legacy is passed on to future generations to protect and enjoy.

This partnership agreement outlines some key assumptions to a successful partnership. It will be a living document that will be revisited and modified as needed by mutual consent of PPR and FPC.

II. Affirmation

- a. We affirm that our mutual goal is a healthy sustainable Forest Park.
- b. We affirm that the health of Forest Park, a regional resource, is at risk. We agree that substantial multi-year investment is required to achieve our mutual goal.
- c. We affirm that we must work cooperatively, with many partners, to restore the park and balance the ecological needs with the recreational demands.
- d. We affirm that we are committed to moving forward with daily maintenance and long term management of the park and will seek resources to achieve the desired outcomes initiated in the 1995 Forest Park Natural Resources Management Plan ("FPNRMP").
- e. We affirm that we need to create strategies and dedicate resources to address the research, capital projects, and restoration backlog to move us toward a healthy sustainable Forest Park.

III. Communication

- a. Effective communication and common language in describing Forest Park will strengthen our relationship, and the effectiveness of the information received by the public about Forest Park. As such, we will strive to coordinate our communications with compatible messaging. We will strive to keep each other informed.
- b. We agree that many parts of Forest Park are "at risk" or "threatened", and as such, we will ensure that this is a dominant message and that we are working toward improving the Park.

c. We will develop, seek input from each other and communicate complementary work plans to ensure progress toward the FPNRMP, its updates, and action plans developed to realize the long-term vision of Forest Park. Any plan to seek funding for a specific project in the park will be discussed before the 'ask' is made.

d. We will strengthen our communication channels and are committed to meet regularly and engage one another at various levels of our organizations as needed to continually improve relations and our effectiveness.

e. We will share scientific information and aspire to have a mutually accepted interpretation and communication of scientific data.

f. The primary contact for the FPC will be the Executive Director. The primary contact for PPR will be the City Nature West Zone Manager. If either of the two primary contacts is unavailable for one week or more, they shall appoint another person to fill in as liaison. Also, in respect of each other's work load, regular meetings may be set to ensure weekly dialog. Note: Primary contact does not mean only contact. By way of example, FPC and PPR expect to further develop management relationships between the organizations, including the City Nature Manager, the PPR Director and Assistant Director, the Commissioner's office and the FPC Board.

IV. Leveraging each other's strengths

a. FPC is a separate, sovereign organization. We recognize that it is in our mutual interest for the Forest Park Conservancy to grow stronger and to assume increasingly responsible roles in serving Forest Park and sharing information about Forest Park.

b. We agree to leverage each other's strengths and on-the-ground experience in Forest Park to the maximum extent possible. We determined that the strengths of each organization, in regard to Forest Park, are as follows:

√ PPR's strengths are overall park management including recreational use, maintenance, and ecology, forestry, restoration, policy development, day-to-day and capital project management.

√ FPC's strengths are fundraising, marketing, outreach, conservation education, advocacy, volunteer coordination, and trail work.

c. The Forest Park Conservancy will produce and distribute an annual report that will measure and report our progress to improve the conditions in the park. PPR will support – with information and limited resources – this effort.

V. Working for the betterment of Forest Park

- a. We believe that the 1995 FPNRMP continues to be an important blueprint for much of the work that needs to be done in Forest Park. We also acknowledge that portions of the FPNRMP need to be updated and that PP&R's current efforts to complete Forest Park's "Desired Future Condition" document with support from FPC is considered part of the FPNRMP.
- b. PP&R fully supports FPC's efforts to develop and publish a Forest Park action plan. PPR will collaborate with FPC on the action plan which is designed to express a call to action by focusing on the threats to Forest Park, and how to improve its ecological health and creating a strong and measurable case for donors, partners and volunteers.
- c. FPC fully supports PPR efforts to a future update the 1995 FPNRMP. FPC will collaborate with PPR to incorporate the many studies and scientific reports regarding Forest Park's ecological, recreational, and capital needs into a Strategic Direction document that will guide the future update to the 1995 FPNRMP.
- d. We will work together to secure more funding for Forest Park.
- e. We will strive to identify, fund and execute a set of priority projects for the betterment of Forest Park. We will strive to undertake some of these projects collaboratively (including other partners), where we work closely as partners from project inception to project completion, each sharing some responsibility and "ownership" of the project and each contributing according to ability and resources. We acknowledge that funding for the development of management tools called for in the FPNRMP is among the top priorities.

This agreement is not a binding legal document. Rather, this agreement provides a framework for how both parties will work together to achieve mutually agreed upon goals and objectives.

In witness whereof, the parties have executed this agreement to be effective on July 1, 2010.

Portland Parks & Recreation

By: [Signature]

Title: Director

Date: 7/30/10

Forest Park Conservancy

By: [Signature]

Title: Executive Director

Date: 8/5/10

APPROVED AS TO FORM

[Signature]
CITY ATTORNEY