

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Creating)
a City/County Peace Dividend Task Force) RESOLUTION #90-14

RESOLUTION #90-14

WHEREAS the Portland City Council and the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners unanimously passed a resolution in March, 1988, supporting the Citizen's Train as it traveled from Portland to Washington, D.C., carrying a citizen's budget resolution; and

WHEREAS the Citizens Budget Resolution emphasized the need to reprioritize federal spending toward revitalization of our cities, education of our children, provision of needed health and human services, adequate funding for police and fire protection, and protection of our natural resources, all as the basis for true domestic security; and

WHEREAS recent changes around the world have created a climate in which major reductions in defense-related federal expenditures can be made by the President and the Congress; and

WHEREAS Portland and Multnomah County have recognized the critical need to target additional resources to specific programs in neighborhood revitalization, crime prevention, youth services, and provide for necessary human needs; and

WHEREAS local governments have been forced to carry the burdens of federal deficit reductions and the loss of general revenue sharing programs while at the same time the federal government has accumulated an unprecedented level of debt over the last decade, and

WHEREAS the federal government has decreased its investment in key urban programs by almost 82% over the past decade, from \$55.5 billion

1 in 1979 to a proposed \$15.8 billion in 1990, including elimination of
2 general revenue sharing and urban development action grants, a 54%
3 reduction in community development block grants, a 67% reduction in
4 employment and training assistance, and an 83% reduction in clean water
5 programs, but increased defense spending by 37%, and interest on the
6 deficit by 224% during the same period; and

7 WHEREAS the results of a decade of federal neglect of the
8 critical needs of urban America, through budgetary priorities which have
9 been systematically biased against the productive investment of resources
10 in domestic, human and capital needs, have been alarming increases in
11 poverty, homelessness, crime, substance abuse, and the critical plight of
12 the nation's infrastructure; and

13 WHEREAS the United States Conference of Mayors, the National
14 League of Cities and the National Association of Counties have issued
15 reports detailing the effect on local governments of these changing
16 federal spending priorities; and

17 WHEREAS Portland and Multnomah County have demonstrated a long
18 history of citizen involvement in assisting government in solving complex
19 problems; and

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Portland City Council
21 and the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners create a City/County task
22 force comprised of not more than twenty-five (25) community
23 representatives jointly appointed by the Mayor and the County Chair.
24 If the Mayor and County Chair do not jointly agree on all appointments,
25 the Mayor shall appoint not more than thirteen (13) representatives and
26 the County Chair shall appoint not more than twelve (12)

1 representatives. Members of the Task Force shall represent the following
2 areas:

3 Academic, Neighborhoods, Trade Civic Organizations, Business,
4 Youth, Crime Prevention, Environmental Preservation, Human
5 Services, Labor Education, Public Health, Peace, Community
6 Development, Children's Concerns, Minorities, Religion and the
7 Arts;

8 The Peace Dividend Task Force shall conduct a study and report back to
9 the City Council and the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners in
10 October, 1990.

11 The Task Force study shall research the following areas:

- 12 1. The decrease of domestic spending as a result of federal budget
13 priorities on the resources available to the City of Portland
14 and Multnomah County to provide necessary services.
- 15 2. The amount of dollars currently collected by the federal
16 government from residents of Portland and Multnomah County, the
17 percent of these dollars being spent on the military and other
18 federal spending priorities, and the amount of federal dollars
19 returning to Portland and Multnomah County for the benefit of
20 its citizens.
- 21 3. The efforts being made by other local jurisdictions to document
22 the lack of federal assistance available to address local
23 service needs.

24 The various Bureaus and Departments of the City of Portland and
25 Multnomah County shall within reasonable limits assist the Task Force to
26 insure that the duties assigned to them may be carried out.

1 In addition, the Task Force is directed to:

- 2 1. Carry out the presentations to community groups and hold a major
3 public hearing or forum to share the above information and seek
4 citizen input as to the priorities for local spending. The
5 purpose of the forums would be to educate citizens, hear their
6 concerns, and generate a public dialogue.
- 7 2. Explore citizen-generated options for spending the dollars
8 identified as collected by the federal government in taxes,
9 utilizing the community needs identified through active citizen
10 involvement.
- 11 3. Develop recommendations to submit to City Council, the Board of
12 County Commissioners and the Oregon Congressional delegation
13 based on the above research and community process. These
14 recommendations should include:
 - 15 a) Specific strategies to influence federal budget priorities
16 for the benefit of local citizens.
 - 17 b) Recommendations for ongoing citizen participation.
 - 18 c) Recommendations for further study.

1 4. The Task Force will terminate immediately following its
2 presentation to the City Council and Multnomah County Board of
3 Commissioners.

4
5
6 Adopted this 30th day of January, 1990.

7
8 CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON

MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

9
10 By
11 J. E. "Bud" Clark, Mayor

By Gladys McCoy, Multnomah County Chair

12 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

REVIEWED:
Laurence Kressel, County Counsel
for Multnomah County, Oregon

13
14 By
15 Jeffrey L. Rogers, City Attorney

By

(SEAL)

