

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

In the matter of supporting the efforts)	
of local charitable recycling agencies)	
and encouraging the Metropolitan Service)	
District to reduce the solid waste)	RESOLUTION
disposal costs for these agencies while)	90-91
encouraging their recycling contributions.)	

WHEREAS, there exist charitable recycling agencies that are committed to collecting, reusing, and recycling donated household goods and to training and employing special needs populations in the collection, recycling, and resale of these goods; and

WHEREAS, proceeds from the sale of these goods are dedicated to the provision of services such as food, shelter, and daily living support for low income individuals; and

WHEREAS, these agencies annually collect an average of 33 million pounds of materials and reuse or recycle 20 million pounds of these goods; and

WHEREAS, these agencies are performing an important service not only by training and employing special needs individuals and by providing second hand goods to low income individuals for a minimal cost, but also by recycling a considerable amount of material that would otherwise be landfilled; and

WHEREAS, an increasing amount of household garbage and other non-recyclable material is being dumped at the agencies' drop box sites; and

WHEREAS, these agencies are charged almost half a million dollars in fees to dispose of non-recyclable materials and these fees are consuming a substantial portion of agency budgets, negatively impacting the ability of agencies to provide human services; and

WHEREAS, an additional rate hike of 14% effective July 1, 1990 will force these agencies to cut back such critical services as emergency overnight shelter and food for individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Multnomah County is principally responsible for ensuring the provision of human services for citizens of Multnomah County; and

WHEREAS, the reduction of services by the charitable recycling agencies will place an additional burden upon the County's human service caseload; and

WHEREAS, municipalities throughout the state and the nation have developed creative ways of balancing concerns for waste reduction with the need for the support services provided by charitable recycling agencies;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners urges the Council of the Metropolitan Service District to:

- 1) Institute interim rate relief on the upcoming rate increase for charitable recycling agencies;
- 2) Examine the options described in Metro's Policy Issue Draft of January 1990 pertaining to discounts for special collection efforts;
- 3) Act to adopt a policy of long-term relief for these charitable recycling agencies; and
- 4) Support the charitable recycling agencies in developing a public education plan and enforcement strategy that will reduce the quantity of undesirable dumping at public drop sites.

Adopted this 14th day of June, 1990



By Gladys McCoy
Gladys McCoy, Chair
MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Reviewed:

Larry Kressel
Larry Kressel, County Counsel
MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON