

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:

Action:

Vote:

Ayes, 58; Excused, 2

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Beth Reiley, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Removes State Parks and Recreation Department’s authority to exercise power of eminent domain over certain lands situated within boundaries of Willamette River Greenway.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: The Willamette River Greenway Program, established by the 1967 Oregon Legislature, is a cooperative state and local government effort to maintain and enhance the scenic, recreational, historic, natural and agricultural qualities of the Willamette River and its adjacent lands. Lands were acquired by exchange, gift, purchase and lease between 1972 and 1985. Approximately 83 parcels totaling more than 3,800 acres are designated Willamette River Greenway properties. Several state parks along the Willamette River have incorporated greenway acreage into park boundaries.

ORS 390.338 authorizes the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department to exercise the power of eminent domain in the acquisition of lands or interests therein that are situated within the boundaries of the Willamette River Greenway for state parks or recreation areas in the parcels of land described in section 8a, chapter 558, Oregon Laws 1973.

House Bill 2034 would remove the State Parks and Recreation Department’s authority to exercise power of eminent domain over certain lands within the boundaries of the Willamette River Greenway near Bowers Rock State Park.