

Measure 7 - City, County Consolidation

The Charter would consolidate into a single new government 49 of the 76 present governmental units in the county, including Multnomah County, the City of Portland, special service districts and other cities in the county whose citizens vote to join. The other 27 governmental units, such as the Port of Portland and all education districts, will not be part of the consolidation. Under the proposed charter the government would have general powers except where specifically restricted. The new unit will be called the City-County of Portland-Multnomah; it will constitute an incorporated city which will also have the powers of the county.

Mayor

The mayor is elected county-wide in a partisan election for a four-year term and may not serve more than three consecutive terms. He is in charge of the administration of the new government and will be responsible for the organization of the Office of Management and Budget, and the initial organization of all governmental functions under four specific departments. Although the Office of Management and Budget is independent of any department, and the council will have the power to approve its budget and director.

The mayor may approve an ordinance, veto it entirely, veto any part deemed not essential to its main purpose, or veto any item contained in a budget or appropriation ordinance. An ordinance will be law fifteen days after the mayor receives it if it is neither approved or vetoed by him. If the mayor vetoes an ordinance, the council has fifteen days to override the veto by a concurring vote of seven of the eleven councillors. Ordinances, except those dealing with taxation, take effect on their specified dates. An ordinance affecting taxation which is adopted by the people or by a two-thirds vote of the council takes effect on the date specified. But if less than two-thirds of the council approves, the tax ordinance does not take effect for 60 days.

The mayor's salary will be the same as that of the Mayor of the City of Portland on May 28, 1974. Councillors' salaries will be equal to salaries of Portland City Commissioners on May 28, 1974. Presently the mayor earns \$32,344.00 and the council members, \$25,393.00.

Council

Councillors are elected for four-year terms, except that councillors in odd-numbered districts serve a two-year term in the first election. Councillors are elected in a partisan election and may not serve for more than four consecutive terms.

Candidates for at-large positions must reside in the city-county; if from a district, they must live in the district represented. Candidates must disclose all sources of income of their own, their spouses, and of all dependents living in the same household. They must also disclose indebtedness in any amount exceeding 10 percent of the annual salary of the office for themselves, their spouses and dependents living in the same household. Elective officers must devote full time to their office and may not hold any other lucrative public office or position or pursue any other vocation.

Employment

Section 9.1 of the Charter states: "There shall be preserved and continued, to at least the same extent as they exist immediately prior to the effective date, the employment status and pensions and other benefit rights of employees of the consolidating governments..." The charter contains civil rights protection and requires an affirmative action program to prevent discrimination in city-county employment. The city-county will have a classified merit system based on ability to do assigned work. A Civil Service Board will oversee the system.

The city-county will be divided into property taxing districts. The tax base for the consolidated area will be \$77,000,000. For a period of four fiscal years following city-county consolidation, all City of Portland and special district taxes will be frozen, subject to Oregon's Constitutional 6 percent limitation. A uniform city-county tax will be levied in the consolidated area.

Schedule

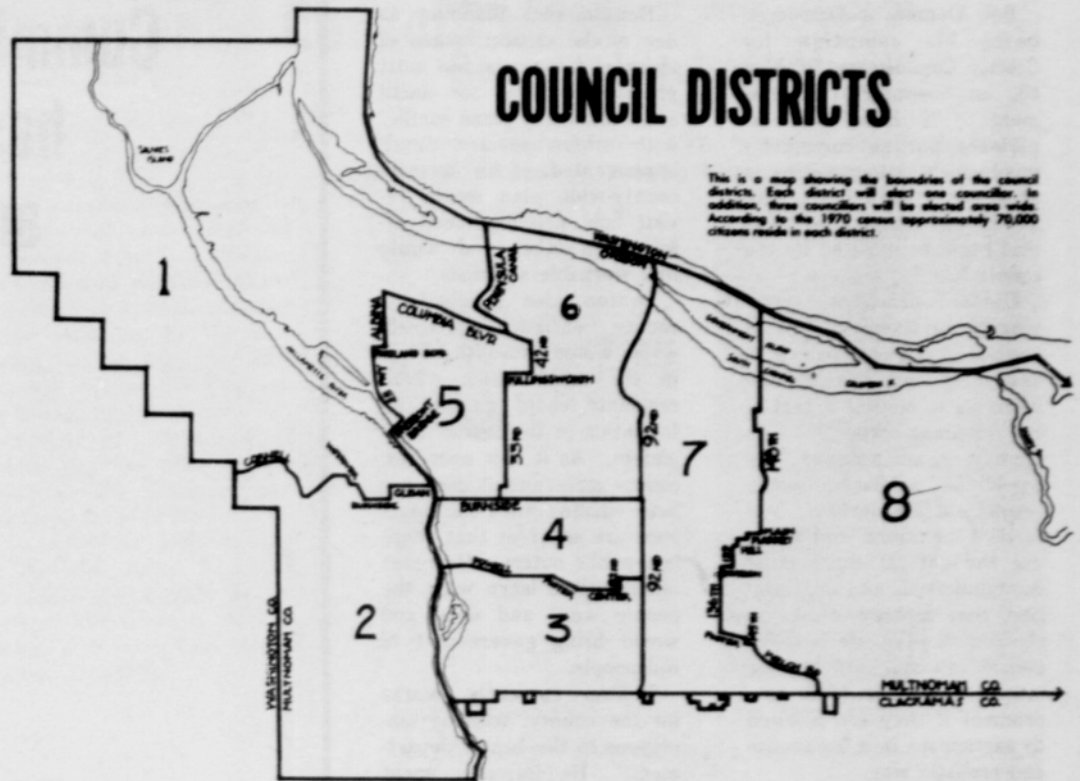
May 28, 1974 - Primary election, at which time consolidation will be on the ballot. If consolidation is approved by voters:

September 10, 1974 - Primary election for mayor and councillors.

November 5, 1974 - General election for mayor and councillors.

November 12, 1974 - Mayor may call and convene a meeting of the council at which time the council may organize itself and prepare and adopt rules.

December 16, 1974 - Effective date of charter.



FOR

Those who support this charter say:

1. A consolidated government could effectively combine the resources, talents and manpower of city, county, and special service districts which are now for the most part uncoordinated.
2. A consolidated government can provide fiscal equity throughout the county.
3. A consolidated government would be more flexible to changing needs.
4. Accountability can be pinpointed more easily in a single elected executive.
5. Citizens would have greater access to their government through their district councillors.

AGAINST

Those who opposed this charter say:

1. Consolidation cannot automatically solve multi-county metropolitan problems.
2. The charter provides that the mayor and council can make ordinances effective immediately which denies the right of referendum.
3. Eleven full-time, fully paid council members with staff and no administrative duties will be an unnecessary expense.
4. Too much power will be concentrated in the office of the mayor.
5. If small cities opt out, their boundaries are frozen, preventing their growth.

COUNTY

REFERRED TO THE PEOPLE BY THE CITY-COUNTY CHARTER COMMISSION

ADOPTION OF PORTLAND-MULTNOMAH CONSOLIDATION CHARTER—Consolidates Portland, Multnomah County and certain special districts; places city-county government under 11 member council and mayor, elected on partisan basis; creates council districts; regulates general and tax ordinance enactment and provides effective dates; defines mayor's powers; provides for initiative, referendum, recall; establishes employee's rights; requires personnel merit system; establishes \$77,000,000 tax base and differential levy; limits bonded debt and specifies when election not required for bond issue; provides for charter amendment and review.

QUESTION: SHALL THE CHARTER BE ADOPTED AS THE CHARTER OF THE CITY-COUNTY?

YES, the Charter shall be adopted as the Charter of the City-County.

NO, the Charter shall not be adopted as the Charter of the City-County.

Residents of the City of Gresham. In addition to Ballot No. 7 you will also vote on Ballot No. 51.

Residents of City of Wood Village. In addition to Ballot No. 7 you will also vote on Ballot No. 52.

Residents of City of Troutdale. In addition to Ballot No. 7 you will also vote on Ballot No. 53.

Residents of the City of Maywood Park. In addition to Ballot No. 7 you will also vote on Ballot No. 54.

Residents of the City of Fairview. In addition to Ballot No. 7 you will also vote on Ballot No. 55.

All residents of the City of Portland and Multnomah County will vote on Ballot No. 7.

STEVENSON

Labor Commissioner - Democrat

BILL STEVENSON ENDORSED

"The Oregonian recommends Stevenson to the Democrats. Stevenson has impressed legislators of both parties with his hard work and dedication... (He)... has the confidence of the Legislature..."

The Oregon Journal said "Stevenson is well qualified to hold the office. For a young man he has a wealth of experience that would serve him well as labor commissioner. Stevenson... combines the political and professional experience along with the personal commitment to merit the Democratic nomination..."

The Portland Observer said "The Bureau of Labor is responsible for the enforcement of Civil Rights laws and as such is one of the most important public offices in the state. Stevenson's experience and his liberal voting record indicate he is the best candidate for the position."

Stevenson for Labor Commissioner Committee, 811 SW 6th Ave., Rm. 612, Portland, Oregon 97205. 5/22/74.



BILL STEVENSON

Republican for
County Commissioner 3
Plummer

Take action to
cut county costs



People for Plummer Committee
Thomas Sweeney, Treasurer
522 SW Fifth, Portland, Oregon 97204