

# Metro seeks citizen ideas and opinions on urban growth boundary

This fall, the Metro Council will decide whether to expand the urban growth boundary and, if so, where. This decision will affect how the region's communities develop and thrive. It will have an impact on investments in good jobs and safe neighborhoods, protection of farms and forest land and getting more out of investments in existing schools, parks, sidewalks, streets and other public structures.

A proposal has been released for public comment. Metro held an open house on

July 28 in downtown Hillsboro. If you missed the open house there is still time to learn about the proposal and offer your opinions. More information about this proposal can be found online at [www.oregonmetro.gov/greatplaces](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/greatplaces).

In October, when a final urban growth boundary vote is scheduled, the council will face two main questions. First, it must decide if the boundary has the capacity to accommodate housing needs for the next 20 years. It must also determine whether the boundary

has enough industrial land to allow for expansion in the same time period.

The council could decide that there is adequate land for more housing, but if it does determine expansion is needed, it will choose from seven areas for expansion.

Metro planners have determined there is a need for industrial lots over 50 acres. There is only one area – a 310-acre parcel of land north of Hillsboro, south of U.S. 26 – that staff has recommended for industrial expansion.

You can send your com-

ments via email to [2040@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:2040@oregonmetro.gov), or letter to the Metro Council 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland, OR 97232.

The next formal step for the Metro Council is an October 6 public hearing. A final public hearing and council vote is scheduled to take place October 20.

## Fuel saving tips for towing your boat

With fuel prices high, trailering a boat has become more expensive. However, there are some easy ways to stretch that tank of gas with your tow vehicle. Here are ten tips from BoatUS:

- Basic maintenance: Keep your tow vehicle's engine tuned and replace the engine air filter

on a periodic basis.

- Drive ahead: Moderate your use of the accelerator pedal by "driving ahead" – by looking ahead and anticipating traffic, you will likely brake less aggressively and reaccelerate without having to be heavy on the fuel-hungry accelerator pedal. Take it easy when starting from a dead stop.

- Stop "cruising": With automatic transmissions, stay off the cruise control, especially when traveling in hills or mountains. Cruise control cannot anticipate going up or down a slope, and tends to use more fuel when the transmission kicks down to a lower gear to compensate for speed loss on a hill.

- Tire tip: Keep tires properly inflated to the recommended PSI on both the tow vehicle and trailer. Check PSI before every trip.

- Cover up: On long trips, use a tight-fitting boat cover when towing, which helps decrease wind drag and improves fuel economy.

- Lighten up: Lighten the load by carrying just what you need for the day or weekend in the tow vehicle and onboard your boat. Also, at about six pounds per gallon of gas, try to keep the boat's fuel tank near empty when trailering long distances.

- Drain it: Never leave water in a live well or bait tank. At a little over eight pounds per gallon, carrying an extra 25 gallons of water in these built-in tanks can represent 10% of the boat's total weight. Filled wakeboard boat ballast tanks or bags can also add significantly more weight – from several

See Boat on page 19

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-Questions: [info@burnituprun.org](mailto:info@burnituprun.org)  
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*The Banks Firefighters Association is made up of volunteer firefighters that serve the communities of the Northwest corner of Washington County, Oregon. Our fundraisers, including this run, contribute directly back to the community in the form of scholarships, equipment purchases, and families in need. During the winter holidays we sponsor families in need by providing food, gifts, and other necessities like firewood.*

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