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Board of Governors Responds to Membership Resolution (Ballot Initiative Measure 7)

City Club of Portland (Portland, Or.)

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NEXT FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26: *Mike Lindberg*, Portland City Commissioner, discusses "ParksFuture: The Development of a Dream." (Westin Benson, Mayfair Room, Noon.)

OTHER COMING EVENTS

Thursday, September 18: "Not in My Backyard" is what metro area residents have been saying to siting a new landfill to replace St. Johns. In the second of three open meetings of the Government & Taxation and Land Use Standing Committees examining why local governments have difficulty siting regional facilities, panelists will focus on landfills. They will examine why the siting process can break down and how the situation can be improved. Participating will be *Linda Peters*, Chair, Washington County Citizen Participation Organization #8 (North Plains/Helvetia area); *W. Richard Cooley*, former Chair, Multnomah County Planning Commission; and *Kent Mathiot*, Facility Siting Coordinator, Solid Waste Department, DEQ. (Room 402, City Hall, Noon - 1:30 pm)

Friday, October 3: Debate between *Bob Koch* and *Margaret Strachan*, candidates for Portland City Council. Discussion, debate and vote on the Convention Center ballot measure report. (Westin Benson, Mayfair Room, Noon)

BOARD OF GOVERNORS RESPONDS TO

MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTION

At the Friday, September 5, 1986 meeting, City Club President-Elect *Charles Hinkle* presented the following resolution under Article IX. of the Club's bylaws:

"To the Board of Governors:

WHEREAS, the November 1978 general election ballot carried an initiative measure (Measure 7) that would have enacted a statute reading as follows:

"Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no agency of this state shall expend State monies for abortions or provide programs or services that promote abortions;" and

WHEREAS, this Club's committee that was appointed to study that ballot measure issued a report dated October 30, 1978, concluding as follows:

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Phone 228-7231

NINA JOHNSON *Editor
and Executive Director*

"Your Committee finds:

"1. No solid evidence that passage of Measure 7 will provide any decrease in state expenditures or relief to taxpayers;

"2. It may be reasonably anticipated that direct costs to taxpayer could increase by at least a factor of two in Fiscal Year 1979;

"3. Passage of the Measure would create a disproportionate financial hardship and deny a legal medical procedure to that class of citizens least able to afford such an impact;

"4. Passage of Measure 7 would unnecessarily increase the health risks to welfare-eligible women;

"5. The broad sweeping nature of the language used in the ballot measure allows no exceptions and will create uncertainty in a number of areas, which will ultimately be resolved either by administrative rule or litigation"; and

WHEREAS, on November 3, 1978, this Club adopted the study committee's report, which recommended unanimously (with one abstention) a "NO" vote on that measure; and

WHEREAS, the voters defeated Measure 7 in the 1978 general election, by a vote of 461,542 to 431,577; and

WHEREAS, an initiative measure on the 1986 general election ballot (Measure 6) will propose an amendment to the Oregon Constitution that would read as follows:

"State monies must not be used to fund abortions, except to prevent the death of the mother"; and

WHEREAS, the analysis and conclusions of the 1978 City Club report with respect to the expenditure of state monies for abortions apply with just as much force to the proposed 1986 constitutional amendment as to the proposed 1978 statutory amendment; and

WHEREAS, the Club membership believes that it is consistent with the Club's role in the community to reaffirm from time to time its positions on recurring ballot measure issues;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Club membership directs the Board of Governors to reaffirm publicly the Club's opposition to restrictions on the use of state monies to pay for abortions, and to express the Club's opposition to Ballot Measure 6 on the November 1986 election ballot, essentially for the reasons stated in the Club's report dated October 30, 1978, and adopted by the membership on November 3, 1978.

Article IX. of the Club's Bylaws provides as follows:

"Section 1.

a. Any proposal for Club action, a procedure for which is not otherwise specified in the Constitution or in these Bylaws, may be initiated at any meeting of the Club by resolution duly seconded and adopted by a majority of the members present.

b. A resolution so adopted shall be automatically referred to the Board of Governors for study by the Board and such response as the Board shall deem appropriate.

c. The Board shall announce its response to the resolution at the regular Friday meeting next following referral of the resolution, which response shall constitute final Club action on the matter for that Club year, except as provided in Section 2 of this Article.

Section 2.

a. To override the Board's response to a resolution adopted under Section 1, a written petition proposing a specific alternate response and signed by at least 100 members must be submitted to the President within 30 days after the aforesaid announcement.

b. Within 30 days thereafter, (i) the Board shall cause the petition to be printed in the official City Club publication mailed to members and (ii) schedule a vote of the membership at a regular Friday meeting on the question of whether the alternate response should be substituted for the Board's response.

c. The proposed alternate response may be amended by a majority of those voting, but final passage shall require a two-thirds vote of those present."

After discussion, the members at the September 5 meeting overwhelmingly approved the resolution which automatically referred it to the Board of Governors for response. On Monday, September 8, 1986, the Board of Governors met and discussed the resolution. The following motion was unanimously approved and constitutes the Board's response:

"The Board of Governors approves the resolution and, thus, reaffirms publicly the Club's opposition to restrictions on the use of state monies to pay for abortions and expresses the Club's opposition to Ballot Measure 6 on the November 1986 election ballot, essentially for the reasons stated in the Club's report dated October 30, 1978, and adopted by the membership on November 3, 1978; and, further, that the Board's response be submitted to the membership for ratification by the membership at the earliest practical date which would allow notice to the membership."

The ratification vote by the membership, called for in the Board's response to the resolution, will take place at the Friday, September 19 meeting. Copies of the 1978 ballot measure report on State Measure 7 are available to any interested City Club member. Call the Club office at 228-7231 or come by to pick one up at 730 S.W. First Avenue.

Randall B. Kester, President
For the Board of Governors

NEW STAFF MEMBER TO SUPPORT REGIONAL GOVERNMENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORK

The City Club's Regional Government Report Taskforce received a much-needed boost in August when *Mark Fritzier* was hired to support the Taskforce's follow-up effort on the report on *Regional Government in the Portland Metropolitan Area*, approved by the membership last March. Funds for this hiring were made possible through a \$10,000 grant from the Eva Chiles Meyer Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation. Additional funds are being sought to assure continuation of this special project coordinator position for one year.

Fritzier brings to the job a great deal of experience in working with government, civic organizations and citizens' groups from his years as a public information officer with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. While with the DEQ, he conducted state-wide citizen involvement programs in water quality, was heavily involved in media relations, and produced many printed and audio-visual information products related to pollution control and environmental protection.

Fritzier returned early this year after spending nearly four years working as a consultant in development communications in Nepal. While there, he worked as a communications specialist for a number of U.S. and internationally sponsored development projects directed at upgrading Nepal's rural economies, arresting deforestation and improving water supply.

In addition to supporting the work of the Club's Regional Government Report Taskforce, chaired by *Cliff Carlsen*, *Fritzier* also will provide staff support to the Club's study of "A Competitive Economic Development Strategy for Oregon." His joining the City Club staff greatly enhances work on two of the Club's premier issues — local governance and economic development.

NEW MEMBERS

The City Club welcomes the following new members:

Kenneth Elliott, Attorney/Partner, O'Donnell, Ramis, Elliott & Crew, sponsored by Mark Whitlow.

Steven Harrison, Executive Director, OHSU Foundation, Oregon Health Sciences University, sponsored by Jean Coughlin.

Caroline Locher, Director of Alumni Relations, Reed College, sponsored by Judy Rice.

James Mullins, Lawyer, Wolfe, Mullins, et al, sponsored by Grethe Larson.

Nancy Mullmann, Account Executive, AT&T Communications, sponsored by Judy Henderson.

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