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CITY PRESERVES OPEN SPACE WITH PURCHASE OF PROPERTY NEAR IRON MOUNTAIN PARK

LAKE OSWEGO – At Tuesday’s City Council meeting, Council authorized the purchase of property at 2311 Iron Mountain Boulevard, ensuring a continuous open space natural area along Iron Mountain Boulevard. The City will use funds from Metro’s Natural Areas Local Share Program for the purchase.

As a Local Share Partner in Metro’s Natural Areas Local Share Program, the City of Lake Oswego has qualified for \$1,222,510 in local share funds. The Natural Areas Local Share Program, approved by Metro Ballot Measure 26-80 in November 2006, authorized Metro to issue \$227.4 million in bonds to preserve natural area and clean water and to protect fish and wildlife. The ballot measure also authorized \$44 million from bond proceeds to be expended by local parks providers for specified projects.

The City will purchase the 1.66 acre parcel for \$1.15 million. The property is the only developed parcel within an extensive open space area on the north side of Iron Mountain Boulevard from a point near the entry to the Oswego Lake Country Club on the east the Hunt Club property on the west. The City will remove the house currently at the location and maintain the site as part of the existing expanse of open space property in the heart of the City.

“Lake Oswego is so fortunate to receive our share of the Metro Natural Areas bond measure to purchase this important addition to Iron Mountain Park,” Mayor Judie Hammerstad said. “We extend great appreciation to our voters for making this wonderful investment in our community’s future.”

Iron Mountain Park, 49 acres of natural area and wetlands with a system of trails and wildlife viewing, is just one of Lake Oswego’s many parks. The City has over 600 acres of developed park property, undeveloped and passive park lands, natural parks and open spaces. These often overlooked natural areas provide important habitat for plants and animals, as well as a place for people to enjoy nature. To find out more about these areas, go to www.ci.oswego.or.us/parksrec/sites.htm.

For question about the purchase of this property, or about any of the City’s parks and open spaces, please contact Kim Gilmer, Director - Parks and Recreation Department, at 503-675-2545.

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