

**HB 3623 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans**

---

**Prepared By:** Patrick Brennan, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 5/30

---

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Specifies certain land removed by Metro ordinance, adopted February 2, 2023, is to be included within the Metro urban growth boundary. Prohibits Metro from removing land from the urban growth boundary without consent of the county and any city in which the land is located. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Metro is the regional government that is responsible for land use planning within the Oregon portion of the Portland metropolitan area, including decisions regarding the urban growth boundary. The regional government coordinates with cities and counties to ensure a 20-year supply of land is available for development. Urban growth boundaries (UGBs) are intended to control urban sprawl by requiring that higher-density development take place primarily within a specified area. Metro forecasts expected population and employment growth out to 20 years into the future, and adjusts the UGB accordingly to meet the expected need.

The Metro Council adopted Ordinance 23-1488 on February 2, 2023, adding and removing specified parcels to and from the UGB. The two removed areas are from the eastern edge of the UGB, one near Happy Valley and one near Oregon City. House Bill 3623 stipulates that these two parcels are returned to Metro's urban growth boundary, and further specifies that Metro may not remove land from the UGB without approval from both the county and city where the land is located.