

HB 2291 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade

Action Date: 04/09/25

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 6-2-1-0

Yeas: 6 - Diehl, Dobson, Isadore, Lively, Nguyen D, Osborne

Nays: 2 - Skarlatos, Yunker

Exc: 1 - Watanabe

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 3/31, 4/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs Oregon Business Development Department (OBDD) to appropriate \$8,500,000 to the Portland Business Alliance Charitable Institute for a revolving festivals and events grant program and \$1,500,000 to the Institute of Portland Metropolitan Studies at Portland State University (PSU) for a study on Tom McCall Waterfront Park. It takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

Detailed Summary:

Appropriates \$8,500,000 to the Portland Business Alliance Charitable Institute for a program to award grants for public festivals or cultural events at Tom McCall Waterfront Park in Portland. Outlines requirements for grant agreements. Allows money in the fund to be used for infrastructure projects in Tom McCall Waterfront Park.

Appropriates \$1,500,000 to the Institute of Portland Metropolitan Studies at Portland State University (the institute) to collaborate with stakeholders on a study of the long-term, cost-effective operation, maintenance, and activation of Tom McCall Waterfront Park. Establishes requirements for the study. Requires the institute to submit a final study and recommendations to the Legislative Assembly, the City of Portland, and stakeholders that collaborated on the study by September 1, 2026. Sunsets these requirements by January 2, 2028.

Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Benefits for other parts of the state
- Administration costs
- Challenges in downtown Portland
- Alternative funding sources
- Long-term infrastructure for festivals
- Use of different portions of the park
- How the revolving fund works

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

The Tom McCall Waterfront Park is owned by the City of Portland, located in downtown Portland along the Willamette River. The Portland Business Alliance serves the business community of metropolitan Portland. It is

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composed of three corporate entities, including the Portland Metro Chamber, Downtown Portland Clean & Safe, and the Charitable Institute. The Institute of Portland Metropolitan Studies at Portland State University (PSU) builds partnerships between PSU's urban studies programs and the surrounding metropolitan Portland community and sponsors public service research.