

MINUTES OF THE METRO OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, November 3, 1999

Council Chamber

Members Present: Ed Washington (Chair), Bill Atherton (Vice Chair)

Members Absent: Jon Kvistad

Also Present: Susan McLain

Chair Washington called the meeting to order at 3:37 P.M.

1. **Introductions**

There were none.

2. **Citizen Communications**

There were none.

3. **Consideration of the Minutes of the October 20, 1999, Metro Operations Committee Meeting**

Consideration of the minutes was held over to allow Councilor Kvistad the opportunity to vote.

4. **Ordinance No. 99-822, For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code 2.04 by Increasing Purchasing Thresholds and Making Other Required Changes**

Scott Moss, Assistant Director, Administrative Services, presented Ordinance No. 99-822. A staff report to the ordinance includes information presented by Mr. Moss and is included in the meeting record.

Councilor McLain noted that on page two of the staff report, Mr. Moss stated that had the Council made the proposed change for fiscal year (FY) 2000, the effect would have been 47 fewer contracts reviewed by Council. She asked Mr. Moss provide her with a list of those 47 contracts before the resolution came before Council, in a form so that she can see for what they were used, whether they were a proposal or bid, and from which departments they came.

Mr. Moss said he would be happy to provide her with a list.

Councilor McLain asked if the resolution before the committee represented a compromise.

Mr. Moss said that was correct.

Councilor McLain said she was concerned about the ordinance because review of contracts was one of the few ways for the Council could know what was happening in the agency and direct policy. She said the contract review process was put into place three or four years ago so that the Council could be more aware of the agency's activities, and she did not want the Council to lose what it had recently gained.

Chair Washington asked Mr. Moss to provide every Councilor with a copy of the list of 47 contracts that would have been affected by the proposed amendment, along with a cover letter of explanation.

Councilor Atherton asked what the state used as its threshold?

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Mr. Moss said the state used \$5,000/\$50,000; although there were indications that they were intending to move to \$7500/\$75,000. He said the increase was not passed by the last legislature, but they said they would try again.

Councilor Atherton asked if the committee was not adopting the auditor's recommendation of a higher threshold because Mr. Moss wanted to do this in a step-wise fashion, and felt her suggestion was too radical?

Mr. Moss said the Executive Office was comfortable with the higher limits of \$7500/\$75,000. The levels in the ordinance were a compromise with the Council.

Councilor Atherton noted that these were much higher levels than normally used in municipal service, but he assumed that the level of contracts Metro dealt with were much higher.

Motion:

Councilor Atherton moved to recommend Council adoption of Ordinance No. 99-822.

Councilor McLain said her main concern was to avoid building in any more problems between the Council and the Executive Office. Problems arose when approving contracts became a managerial responsibility, because the Council did not have the opportunity to address any concerns up front. She said in her opinion, the ordinance was unnecessary. The more the Council has reviewed contracts in the past, the fewer problems there have been between the Executive Officer and the Council. She said while the ordinance may make the process more streamlined, streamlined did not always mean best or most efficient.

Vote:

Councilors Atherton and Washington voted yes. Councilor Kvistad was absent. The vote was 2/0 in favor and the motion passed.

Councilor Atherton will carry Ordinance No. 99-822 to the full Metro Council.

5. Resolution No. 99-2803, For the Purpose of Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with Oregon Department of Transportation and the City of Portland to Allow Metro to Design and Build the North Portland Road Segment of the Peninsula Crossing Trail

Charlie Ciecko, Director, Regional Parks and Greenspaces, presented Resolution No. 99-2803. A staff report to the resolution includes information presented by Mr. Ciecko and is included in the meeting record.

Councilor Atherton asked in terms of design parameters, was Metro following Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) rules, or in this agreement, could Metro establish more protective measures, such as a raised barrier between the roadway and the pathway.

Mel Huie, Trails Planner, Regional Parks and Greenspaces, said Metro must meet the ODOT minimum standards for trails, and Metro was upgrading the trail to make it safer. He showed the committee a enlarged color map of the Segment 3 area, and noted that the trail would be exclusively on the east side of North Portland Road between the road and the railroad. He said the road would be separated from the trail by a 6 to 10 foot wide bio-swale, which would have native plants and grasses to collect the oils and other pollutants that ran off North Portland Road. He noted that North Portland Road was a very busy and pedestrian-unfriendly street, but it connected the Peninsula Crossing Trail to Smith and Bybee Lakes and to the 40-Mile Loop Trail on Marine Drive. He said the trail would be paved with asphalt, 10 feet with 2 foot shoulders, and would run north/south in order to not impact the wetlands of Smith and Bybee Lakes.

Mr. Ciecko noted that in the future, he will bring to committee a facility plan for Smith and Bybee Lakes that will propose some uses for the land in the northeast corner of the Smith and Bybee Lakes management area. He added that the land was owned by the Port of Portland, and any proposal from Metro for its use would be subject to negotiation with the Port.

Chair Washington asked if that area was now closed to vehicles.

Mr. Ciecko said yes it was, although utility service vehicles use it to access telephone and power lines along the right of way.

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Chair Washington noted that Three Corner Lake (Triangle Lake) had some of the best bass fishing in Portland before the City built its treatment facility and began using the lake as a settling pond. He added that when he was a child growing up in Vanport, the area along North Portland Road which is currently lined with trees, was lined with sandy beaches, with Smith and Bybee Lakes extending up to about 100 to 200 feet from the road. He said residents of North Portland used the area extensively for recreation during the war years.

Motion:

Councilor Atherton moved to recommend Council adoption of Resolution No. 99-2803.

Vote:

Councilors Atherton and Washington voted yes. Councilor Kvistad was absent. The vote was 2/0 in favor and the motion passed.
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Councilor Washington will carry Resolution No. 99-2803 to the full Metro Council.

6. Resolution No. 99-2849, For the Purpose of Authorizing the Establishment of the Oregon Convention Center Expansion Advisory Committee

Mr. Moss presented Resolution No. 99-2849. A staff report to the resolution includes information presented by Mr. Moss and is included in the meeting record.

Chair Washington asked if Resolution No. 99-2849 was strictly recognition of the committee, and essential a formality. Mr. Moss said yes.

Michael Morrissey, Senior Council Analyst, said it appeared that the resolution approved the committee but not the members. He asked if the list of members was included for illustration only.

Mr. Moss said Mr. Morrissey was correct, the committee members were not appointed by the Council.

Councilor Atherton asked why the advisory committee needed to be authorized through a resolution.

Chair Washington said the resolution was not necessary, but because the process had been started, he had decided to carry it through as a courtesy.

Motion:

Councilor Atherton moved to recommend Council adoption of Resolution No. 99-2849.

Vote:

Councilors Atherton and Washington voted yes. Councilor Kvistad was absent. The vote was 2/0 in favor and the motion passed.
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Councilor Kvistad will carry Resolution No. 99-2849 to the full Metro Council.

Berit Stevenson, Project Manager, Development Services Section, Property Services Division, Administrative Services, gave a brief update on the Expo Center expansion. She said next week they would begin interviewing for a project manager, and they expected to have someone hired by the end of November. She said they also had drafts of the two major Requests for Proposals (RFP): 1) the architectural services, and 2) the Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC). The architectural RFP was going to MERC Commission Thursday, November 4, 1999, for approval. Then they would issue the RFP and have proposals back by the second week in December. She said at that point, they would be into the holidays, so realistically, they would have a contract by the first of the year, and the architectural work would begin in January 2000. She said the RFP for the CMGC would go before the Council, which acts as the contract review board for MERC, sometime in December. She said the CMGC process would be very similar to the one used for the construction of Expo Center Hall D. They hoped to begin construction in October 2000, with completion scheduled in two years, which would be October 2002.

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6-A. Councilor Communications

Councilor Atherton said several meetings ago, the Councilors discussed changing the slogan of the agency, and he had said he would find out the necessary process. He noted that one option was to adopt an ordinance or resolution directing the Executive Officer to change the slogan.

Chair Washington asked to speak with Councilor Atherton privately about the process. He said the idea was brought up to him, but he did not have an answer yet.

There being no more business to come before the committee, Chair Washington adjourned the meeting at 4:10 P.M.

Prepared by,

Suzanne Myers
Council Assistant

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ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 3, 1999

The following have been included as part of the official public record.

TOPIC	DOCUMENT DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT NUMBER
Resolution No. 99-2803	10/15/99	Staff report to Resolution No. 99-2803. Staff report is identical to one in agenda packet, with the exception of the correction of a typographical error.	110399mop-01
	8/4/98	Resolution No. 99-2803 Exhibit A: Peninsula Crossing Trail (ledger-size color map)	110399mop-02