

# MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL MEETING

March 7, 1996

## Council Chamber

**Councilors Present:** Presiding Officer Jon Kvistad, Deputy Presiding Officer Susan McLain, Councilor Patricia McCaig, Councilor Rod Monroe, Councilor Ed Washington, Councilor Don Morissette, Councilor Ruth McFarland

**Councilors Absent:** None

Presiding Officer Jon Kvistad called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m.

### 1. INTRODUCTIONS

None

### 2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

Peggy Lynch of Metro Future Vision Communication spoke: "My affiliation for today is as a private citizen. I will have a letter that I will present to you but I wanted to share it with you in person so that you would have an opportunity to ask me questions if you had any as a result of this information. The topic is the Urban Growth Boundary expansion and the issue of density. I want to share with you what is actually happening today in my neighborhoods. The reason I share this is because the Chair of my neighborhood association is on vacation and I was the lucky one who got to do the newsletter. As I was doing the newsletter and listing all these development applications, I am going, 'wait a minute, this is important information that perhaps people like yourselves ought to have.' The following is a sample of a land use application in my small corner of the Metro region. I live in a developed area of the West Slope-Raleigh Hills-Garden Home in unincorporated East Washington County between Portland and Beaverton, an area one would assume pretty much is already finished in its development phase. SW 76th: A land partition to create two parcels and reduce the required paved width of roadway. SW 66th: Allow a single-family residence in an area of special concern. 69th: Land partition to create two parcels. 110th: Divide property into three sites including an existing house. 91st: A flag lot. Ritchie Lane: A 12-lot single family subdivision. Canyon Road: A three-lot subdivision. 96th: A six-lot subdivision. These applications will all appear in the March newsletter of my CPO. By my count, that is the addition of 29 homes, single-family homes, not some Singapore-like density increase and we see new applications monthly. The value of land and the changing life styles of our residents has seen large lots in our area divided to serve more homes. We see the value in reduced roadway widths and other variances that allow efficient use of land. In addition, many of our large, older homes serve two families as Mom and Dad play host to a son or daughter with their family or siblings with families share a large home. This is occurring without a change in the community development code allowing granny flats or new duplexes and is legal because of familial relationships. Shrinking or stagnant wages with increased price of home ownership or rental are also factors causing this change — market-driven change — but the point is that no matter the dynamics causing the changes are, they are happening today in local neighborhoods. Reality, not supposition, is causing those of us in the trenches to say, 'Give us a chance to implement the proposed functional plan before you expand the UGB.' The rules under which the above applications are being processed are on the books today. Imagine the opportunities posed by your functional plan which would cause changes in local comprehensive plans and community development codes, providing more easily the changes such as those cited above. Because we are already experiencing these changes, opposition to the functional plan elements may be less than expected by some cynics. And even if you don't approve the functional plan, the current rules are allowing these changes today. We will become denser. The questions become more targeted: Will we do so orderly? And with a plan in mind? Will we carefully consider the issues of the costs of public services? Will Tri-Met move quickly to respond to these changes or will we allow sprawl to dominate the public discussion, drain our finite resources and destroy out current neighborhoods?"

Deputy Presiding Officer Susan McLain stated that the Growth Management Committee meetings presently are discussing buildable lands inventories as well as issues dealing with densities and the forecasts of population increases.

**3. EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA**

- 4.1 Consideration of minutes. The minutes of February 22, 1996 and February 29, 1996 were not available for review at this meeting. They will be available at the March 14, 1996 meeting

**5. ORDINANCES — SECOND READINGS**

**Ordinance No. 96-632**, Amending the FY 1995-96 Budget and Appropriations Schedule for the Purpose of Adopting the FY 1995-96 Supplemental Budget and Declaring an Emergency.

**Motion:** Councilor Rod Monroe moved approval of Ordinance No. 96-632.

**Second:** Councilor Ed Washington seconded the motion.

**Discussion:** Councilor Monroe asserted that this ordinance has been duly passed by the appropriate committees and passed by the TSCC. It is a part of the Expo Expansion plan to bring the Smithsonian exhibit to this region in a year. It sets \$355,000 into contingency and also recognizes a \$2.5 million revenue bond which will be privately backed.

**Vote:** The vote was 6/1 aye with Councilor Morissette voting nay. Presiding Officer Kvistad declared the item passed on a 6/1 vote.

**6. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS**

Councilor Monroe reported on the Neighborhood Association meeting last evening in Milwaukie that he attended as Chair of the Steering Group. The topic was Light Rail Siting in Milwaukie. Councilor Monroe complimented the staff, particularly Ms. Shepherd and Mr. Skiles, for conducting themselves admirably and in a profession manner in a very tense and potentially hostile situation. Councilor Monroe commented that Former Metro Councilor Van Bergen was in attendance and was quite helpful in handling the situation. A number of constituents in attendance had attended a meeting a couple of evenings earlier conducted by Mr. Sizemore and Representative Tiernan who characterized Light Rail as a major boondoggle and as a waste of money. Councilor Monroe pointed out that the voters had indeed spoken, including those in Clackamas County, overwhelmingly in favor of Light Rail. The Oregon Legislature has also approved the project. The second group that was in attendance were people who had concerns because their homes were either right on the proposed route or very close to the proposed route. The third group represented constituents who were supportive of the decisions that have already been made. This group included members of the business community and Mayor Craig Lomnicki. A community office in Milwaukie is planned with a community design specialist assigned to that part of the light rail project to coordinate with the community in identifying options that work best for the particular area.

**7. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned by Presiding Officer Jon Kvistad at 2:20 PM

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David Aeschliman  
Council Recorder