

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Wednesday, January 4, 2006
Metro Council Chamber

Councilors Present: David Bragdon (Council President),
Carl Hosticka, Rod Park, Robert Liberty, Rex Burkholder, Brian
Newman

Councilors Absent: Susan McLain

Council President Bragdon convened the Metro Council Work Session Meeting at 2:01 p.m.

Councilor Liberty introduced an intern to the council members.

1. SCHEDULE

Council President David Bragdon reviewed the schedule of the budget up to this point and explained the next steps.

Mike Jordan, Chief Operating Officer, said that there was a sense of urgency regarding the budget and the Councilors would need to make decisions about where they want to go. He said that the staff was ready to go but needed some direction and decisions from the Council.

Robin McArthur, Regional Planning Director, also stressed the timeline regarding the ordinance.

Council President Bragdon said that they would need something for the ordinance for tomorrow's Council meeting. He stressed that the more direction the Council provided to the staff today the better, but they would have an ordinance for tomorrow's meeting even if it didn't outline details at that point.

2. WORK PROGRAM/BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

Ms. McArthur said that the Metro Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC) had provided some good comments regarding the New Look and she reviewed some of those comments. She distributed several handouts and reviewed the "flowchart" first for the members. That flowchart is titled "A New Look at Regional Choices, Updating the Metro region's long-range plan," and it is attached and forms part of the record.

Council President Bragdon said that the flow chart still strictly targeted the urban growth boundary (UGB) while the Council was aiming at other targets within the "New Look." There was discussion about the spreadsheet and Metro's goals for the region and how they could be related.

There was discussion about the budget implications regarding outreach and public involvement. Ms. McArthur reviewed the funds set aside for that and then asked the Councilors to define how they would like to classify "pubic involvement." She described the focused engagement push that staff had planned for the New Look. There was discussion regarding the budget and public involvement, which consisted of both focused and broad approaches. Some Councilors expressed a desire for varied types of interaction and outreach, not just focused forums. The main concern for the Councilors was good communication within the community. Council President Bragdon

said that he would like to continue focusing the outreach in those areas where it would have the most impact, as the consultants at Davis and Hibbits had recommended. Councilor Carl Hosticka said that if Metro was going to be involved in the 2006 election then he wanted to know where it fit into the budget, and if money had been set-aside for it. The Councilors expressed concern over the disconnect between where people stand on the process and where their city governments stand. There was discussion about how to bridge that disconnect or even it was possible to reach everyone. Council President Bragdon said that there was a distinction between the members of general public and those who might be affected by a particular decision. He said that Metro should target outreach relative to geographic areas under decision. There was also discussion about focusing on what local jurisdictions were trying to attain for their communities such as growth in centers rather than UGB expansion. Councilor Rex Burkholder said that the discussion seemed to be leading the Councilors to a broader discussion instead of narrowing it in order to help the staff prepare the budget. The Councilors agreed that there was some anxiety about reaching people, but they did not necessarily want a huge budget for this. They agreed that they would try to find inexpensive ways to improve public notification. Council President Bragdon summarized what he thought the group was agreeing on: the Council wanted to have a largely targeted, opinion leader oriented type of outreach effort, with access points and leverage of local, pre-existing visionaries. Metro would use evidence-based polling and research to help facilitate this effort. Michael Jordan said that the time frame for most of that was before the regional agreements segment was completed. He also said that they would need to be careful not to let the momentum slide in the interim between the regional agreements and the adoption of the policy.

Ms. McArthur decided not to review the Draft "New Look" Work Program white sheet as they were pressed for time. It is still attached and forms part of the record.

3. DECISION PACKAGES

Ms. McArthur distributed a green sheet titled "New Look Team," which the Councilors had seen previously so she only reviewed what would be added to that sheet at a later date based on their comments. Councilors and staff then reviewed another handout titled "New Look Work Program/Budget Assumptions." Both of those handouts are attached and form part of the record.

There was discussion about the base budget, decision packets, and how funds would be allocated between years and departments. Discussion mainly centered on the tradeoffs and outcomes of supporting some decisions over others. There was more discussion on the decision packages and what years those should fall into. Councilors weighed in on those decision packages that they supported often giving an explanation as to why they felt they were of priority. Staff recorded those preferences.

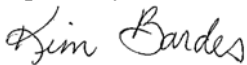
Council President Bragdon summarized what he thought the Councilors had said that they wanted: with regard to the amendment that was needed for the current fiscal year – the Councilors would like to have staff write this up. He said that Councilor Liberty wanted to explore supplementing the value capture project by trimming some other project (planning commission or some other thing). He said he might be open to that. He asked staff to work with Councilor Liberty to have something on the table pertaining to this for the formal discussion. The decision package relative to next fiscal year: should the planning department live within the excise tax assumptions given to them in October or look for excise tax in other departments? He asked Councilors which of those two options they were more interested in.

Councilor Rod Park said he didn't know if other excise tax money was available or if taking from another department would mean other projects get dropped. He said he would need the full breadth of options before him before he could make a decision on that. There was discussion about resources throughout the agency and how to determine what would be prudent fiscally. There seemed to be agreement among the Councilors that they supported one-time draws for special circumstances over arbitrarily adding FTE.

Andy Cotugno reviewed the proposal for the Get Centered program. Council President Bragdon asked councilors how they felt about that item – there was discussion about it. It was agreed that they would debate the issue formally at a regular Council meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 3:37 p.m.

Prepared by,



Kim Bardes

Executive Assistant to the COO

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF
JANUARY 4, 2006**

Item	Topic	Doc Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1	New Look	January 2006	A New Look at Regional Choices, Updating the Metro region's long-range plan	010406cw-01
2	New Look	January 2006	Draft, "New Look" Work Program, January 2006	010406cw-02
3	New Look	January 2006	New Look Team green sheet	010406cw-03
4	New Look	12/30/05	New Look Work Program/Budget Assumptions, Revised 12/30/05	010406cw-04