

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, January 18, 2007
Metro Council Chamber

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

Councilors Absent: Brian Newman (excused)

Council President Bragdon convened the Regular Council Meeting at 2:01 p.m.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

There were none.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

3. COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT (CAFR)

Suzanne Flynn, Metro Auditor, said she was here to set the stage. The State of Oregon required an external audit of the agency. Pauly Rogers and Company conducted the audit. Perry Anderson and Dan Haggerty, Senior Auditor team members from Pauly Rogers said they took a look at what Metro did and the underlying processes. Mr. Anderson talked about the principles behind the report. He said they issued an unqualified report. Don Cox, Accounting Services Manager, Bill Stringer, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Karla Lenox, Financial Report and Control Manager, spoke to the CAFR. Mr. Stringer said the CAFR looked backward. He thanked the Audit Committee, which provided a great deal of insight and critique of the audit document. He thanked Karla Lenox and Don Cox for their incredible efforts. Mr. Cox provided a summary of some of the highlights of the CAFR. He also thanked staff for their efforts. He talked about the challenges of the report. He noted that in 2006 the general fund was consolidated. Ms. Lenox pointed out that the CAFR contained a revised financial report. The intent was to improve the comparability among governments and to encompass the recommended changes. She highlighted some of the useful information in the CAFR. Mr. Stringer pointed out key documents, the management report and response.

Councilor Liberty asked about recommendations #2 and #3. Mr. Stringer said they had established a Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Committee to review the program. It required a different set of account apparatus from other parts of the agency. Mr. Cox explained the accounting process of the TOD program and the differences from capital assets. Councilor Hosticka asked about the property tax increase. Ms. Lenox responded to his question, which had to do with fund consolidation. The revenue itself hadn't changed that much; the information was being presented differently. Councilor Hosticka asked other clarifying questions which Mr. Cox responded to. He said there were no significant changes. Councilor Burkholder asked them to do some forecasting about debt service. He asked if there was a way of knowing how much those numbers would go up from the passage of the bond measure. Mr. Stringer responded to his question. Councilor Liberty asked further clarifying questions. Ms. Lenox explained fund types. Michael Jordan, Chief Operating Officer, talked about the general fund and the choices the agency had made as to how the funds were structured. He said they were trying to optimize the

management side and the policy side. Mr. Cox talked about the statement of activities and provided an example of the Oregon Zoo. Council President Bragdon said there would be discussion at an upcoming work session relating to the budget and taking a holistic approach.

4. METRO CENTRAL ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE SLATE OF GRANT AWARDS

Councilor Burkholder introduced the program. He said they had a committee that represented the neighborhoods. They committee met twice a year to decide on potential projects that would be funded. Karen Blauer, Solid Waste and Recycling Department, Metro Community Grants Coordinator, came before Council on behalf of the Metro Central Enhancement Committee with its recommended slate of grant projects for the 2007 cycle. Due to unforeseen complications, committee members who planned to present the slate today were unable to make it. She provided background on the program The Metro Central enhancement grant program was established in 1991. It compensated the community affected by Metro Central garbage station located at 6161 NW 61st Avenue in Portland. Projects must benefit the area targeted for improvements and/or the residents living there. The boundary generally encompassed the neighborhoods of Linnton, Forest Park, Cathedral Park, Northwest District Association and the Northwest Industrial Area. Rex Burkholder, Councilor of Metro District 5, chaired the 7-member committee made up of local residents who solicited, reviewed and selected projects to fund. Funds were generated from a 50-cent surcharge collected on each ton of garbage taken to Metro Central station. Nearly \$2.5 million had been awarded to 230 projects since the program began in 1991. The money was used to create real changes in the community. The funding guidelines called for improvements that upgraded property owned by nonprofits that helped meet the needs of local residents, keep nature in neighborhoods and encourage folks to help take care of it, increase recreational programs and the properties where they play, make neighborhoods safer, cleaner and nicer places to live; create or expand recycling opportunities and offer opportunities that benefit youth and seniors.

While the criteria for awarding grant funds was established more than 15 years ago, they were a great fit with this Council's goals and objectives. In short, Council goals called for GREAT PLACES where residents can enjoy nice places to live, work and play; ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH where wildlife and people thrive, ECONOMIC VITALITY where businesses benefit from a strong economy and SMART GOVERNMENT where regional needs are supported by appropriate regional funding mechanisms.

Ms. Blauer said the community enhancement grant program was delivering on their Council goals. She shared some snapshots of critical successes being delivered. She highlighted grants from the 2006 grant cycle and noted that Council had been given a status report that included up-to-date information about the performance of 17 projects funded in the 2006 grant cycle.

One of the recipients, Friends of Forest Park, was awarded \$15,000 to develop six entrance signs and maps to be installed at key trailheads in Forest Park. Ms. Blauer introduced Gail Snyder, executive director of Friends of Forest Park, who would talk about the impact of Metro's grant funds in Forest Park.

Ms. Snyder thanked the Council for their grant award for Forest Park. The grant helped them produce map sets, which were a great success. They had also received funding for trailhead signage. She shared a sample of what one of the trailheads would look like. She said Forest Park was about community. They were working at strengthening the Friends of Forest Park. Ms.

Blauer thanked Ms. Snyder and Friends of Forest Park on behalf of the Metro Central committee, for giving Metro an opportunity to help them realize their goal.

Ms. Blauer said this year, the Committee reviewed 24 applications with more than \$405,000 in requests. After long deliberations, 20 neighborhood improvement projects were selected for awards that total \$138,300. She noted the list of selected projects and provided an overview of the slate:

Six projects enhanced or restored nature in neighborhoods by helping to control the threat posed by garlic mustard and ivy in and around Forest Park, offering a symposium for artists and activists about North Portland's unique environmental issues and construction of a new fence at Johns community garden.

Seven projects would train or benefit youth – including a parenting class aimed at reducing abuse and neglect, an after-school theater arts program for kids who could not otherwise afford it, and a mobile computer lab to get more hands-on technology training for students at a rapidly growing school.

Eight projects would help make capital upgrades and improvements to property owned by local non-profits, including a security system at Linnton Community Center, automatic door openers and a preschool play area fence at the Friendly House. She concluded by saying that there were many more wonderful projects in this package.

She said on behalf of the Metro Central committee, she was proud to present the 2007 slate of projects for your consideration.

Council President Bragdon asked about Art on the Peninsula. Ms. Blauer said they requested funds for the "Other Portland Symposium." The symposium would occur February 9th. Councilor Harrington asked about program goals and funding criteria and if they had used similar goals. Ms. Blauer responded to her question.

5. STREETCAR/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRESENTATION

Richard Brandman, Planning Department, said they would be coming back to Council to brief them on all of the transit projects in the near future. He said they had been having a conversation with the Federal Transit Administration about transit projects and funding. Today for a project to be rated for funding from the federal government, it had to have a comparison of travel time. There was a new administrator in town appointed by President Bush, Administrator Simpson. He had a different attitude with respect to communities. He was receptive to evolving communities. Mr. Brandman then provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Portland Streetcar (a copy of which is included in the meeting packet). He closed by talking about cost effective benefits of the Streetcar. Councilor Liberty asked if there was discussion about interactive transportation and land use. Mr. Brandman talked about a conversation with the new administrator on development and the relationship with transportation. He felt with the new administrator there were good prospects to change their thinking. Councilor Burkholder said the new administrator was interested in finding new performance measures. He also talked about the possibility of seeing streetcar being built in Oregon.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

6.1 Consideration of minutes of the January 11, 2007 Regular Council Meeting.

Motion:

Councilor Burkholder moved to adopt the meeting minutes of the January 11, 2007 Regular Metro Council.
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Vote:

Councilors Burkholder, Harrington, Liberty, Park, Hosticka voted in support of the motion. The vote was 5 aye, the motion passed with Council President Bragdon abstaining from the vote.

7. ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

7.1 **Ordinance No. 06-1099A**, Amending Metro Code Section 5.02.075 Regarding Waivers of Fees for Disposal of Solid Waste from the Metro Region.

Motion:	Councilor Liberty moved to adopt Ordinance No. 06-1099A.
Seconded:	Councilor Harrington seconded the motion

Councilor Liberty talked about the voucher program, which had been used for neighborhood clean-ups, removal of vegetation and deconstructing building materials. Council had had a conversation about regional equity of the program. The ordinance today was to tidy up the Metro Code and put some of the program details in an executive order, which laid out program criteria. He thanked staff, Jan O’Dell and Jenny Stein from the Regional Solid Waste and Recycling Department.

Council President Bragdon opened a public hearing on Ordinance No. 06-1099A. No one came forward. Council President Bragdon closed the public hearing.

Councilor Park talked about use of these clean ups as community fundraisers. He wasn’t sure how this would be addressed in the language of the ordinance. Councilor Liberty said this was a draft executive order, which had not been finalized. Ms. O’Dell talked about the fund raising efforts and said that these fees were paying for some of the costs of the events. Metro would be recognized as providing the disposal portion of the events. Councilor Park talked about a Gresham group who was using these funds for other purposes. Councilor Hosticka asked about the change of authority. Dan Cooper, Metro Attorney, said he could get back to Council. Councilor Liberty said they were delegating this authority to the Chief Operating Officer (COO). Councilor Hosticka raised concerns about oversight of the COO. Councilor Burkholder suggested the COO be required to report on the program during budget times. Mr. Jordan appreciated Councilor Hosticka’s comments. This was a complete delegation of authority. He thought it might be appropriate to amend the ordinance to include a reporting provision. He also suggested the report include changes to the criteria. Councilor Liberty felt the suggestion was a useful amendment. Ms. O’Dell said they would be providing an annual report to Council. Her understanding about the ordinance was this allowed the COO to waive fees for other events such as weather related events. Mr. Jordan suggested amendment language.

Council President Bragdon announced that this ordinance would be continued until February 8th. Councilor Hosticka suggested referencing ORS language. Councilor Park made further suggestions about the program. He also asked about geographical balance. Councilor Liberty responded to his concerns.

- 7.2 **Ordinance No. 07-1137**, For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Sections 3.07.120, 3.07.130 and 3.07.1120 and Adding Metro Code Section 3.07.450 to Establish a Process and Criteria for Changes to the Employment and Industrial Areas Map, and Declaring an Emergency (*Public hearing only, no final action*).

Council President Bragdon opened a public hearing on Ordinance No. 07-1137.

Beverly Bookin, Commercial Real Estate Economic Coalition (CREEC), 1020 SW Taylor St #760 Portland Oregon 97205 said she was in the process of presenting a letter on this issue. She said they supported President Bragdon's initiative to move forward with a map process. Their organization was supportive of maintaining an industrial land supply. They recognized and supported zone changes being in the purview of local jurisdictions. She said Metro needed to look at zone changes region-wide. She expressed concern about regulation C. Metro Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC) had difficulty moving forward because they couldn't decide what the criteria should be. C-4 was of concern because it would be difficult to operationalize. She suggested an option for an applicant to mitigate. She also raised issues about #5. She then talked about E and the industrial land surplus. They had none. She made some suggestions for changes in this area. She spoke to F and her concerns in this section. She understood that the City of Beaverton had come forward with suggested language changes. Council President Bragdon said the letter had been circulated. Councilor Liberty talked about criteria E. He asked Ms. Bookin why they should consider changes. Ms. Bookin talked about the criteria and the need for wiggle room. She was concerned that if it were easy to change, they would lose land supply. Councilor Park asked Ms. Bookin clarifying questions. Ms. Bookin said she would be happy to get back to Councilor Park. She also talked about the MTAC conversation about the diminution of local prerogative with the proposed language. Metro could be a party of standing at the local level. They could weigh in and appeal the process.

Council President Bragdon closed the public hearing.

Councilor Harrington reported on Metro Policy Advisory Committee's (MPACs) discussion on the Metro proposal and the proposed language from the City of Beaverton. They would be getting further advisement on January 24th. Councilor Burkholder addressed the issue of transportation under C4 and F2. He recommended use of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) as the standard. Dick Benner, Metro Senior Attorney, responded to his suggestion. You could not make reference to something that was not set. You had to specify the particular plan so everyone knew what those standards were. Councilor Burkholder noted that in a very short time this would be changed because of the updated RTP. Councilor Hosticka said he received an email from the Service Employees International Union. Council President Bragdon said the email was in the record. Councilor Liberty suggested keeping the criteria narrow. Mr. Benner updated the Council on recent occurrences. Members of MTAC were supposed to get together to discuss language. They would meet this coming Monday. He would provide Council with an update on Tuesday at the work session. Councilor Liberty talked about the two cities that had been put on hold. He was willing to have an ordinance drafted to respond to these entities. Mr. Benner said he had spoken to both cities and provided several scenarios dependent upon whether a final decision was made on February 8th. Council President Bragdon said this ordinance would be continued until February 8th Council meeting.

8. RESOLUTIONS

8.1 Resolution No. 07-3768, For the purpose of Providing Direction to Metro Concerning Bills before the 2007 Oregon Legislature.

Motion:	Councilor Hosticka moved to adopt Resolution No. 07-3768.
Seconded:	Councilor Burkholder seconded the motion

Councilor Hosticka provided an overview of the resolution. It would give direction to staff as well as stating guiding principles. Council did this every two years. He noted Metro's priorities. He also said a few of these priorities had been adopted as regional priorities. He reviewed Exhibits A through C. He urged adoption. Council President Bragdon said one additional priority would be considered on February 8th having to do with the headquarters hotel. Councilor Burkholder noted that the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) endorsed the transportation finance priorities. Councilor Liberty urged the Council to move support for affordable housing funding into the "top priorities" items category. He stated that he felt investments in housing choices were of equal importance to investments in transportation. He noted that this topic might be taken up by MPAC. Councilors added other comments about priorities. Councilor Harrington asked about transportation funding priorities and the Regional Travel Options program. Councilor Burkholder responded to her question.

Vote:

Councilors Park, Hosticka, Burkholder, Harrington, Liberty, and Council President Bragdon voted in support of the motion. The vote was 6 aye, the motion passed.
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9. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

Michael Jordan, COO, had nothing to report.

10. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION

Councilor Hosticka talked about the January 19th Symposium in Hillsboro and explained the focus of the symposium.

Councilor Burkholder reported on JPACT actions. He noted a joint meeting of JPACT and Metro Council on Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) on February 13th at 5:30 pm. He also talked about the package to take back to Washington DC. They would be discussing the RTP at the JPACT retreat. He encouraged Council to attend.

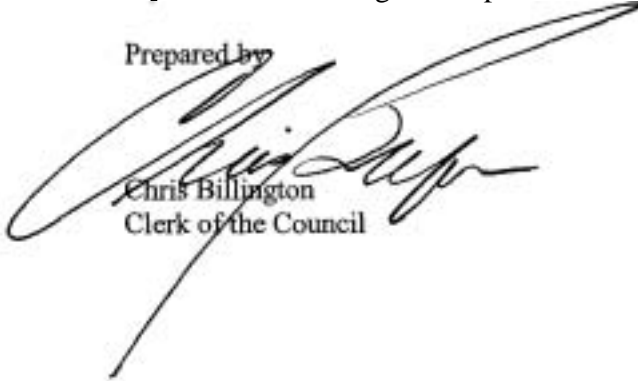
Councilor Park announced that citizens had until Monday, January 22nd to submit Nature In Neighborhoods grant applications to Janelle Geddes. The deadline was extended because of inclement weather.

Councilor Liberty talked about the Columbia River Crossing options. He was having a resolution drafted to leave options open.

11. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 4:14 p.m.

Prepared by



Chris Billington
Clerk of the Council

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF
JANUARY 18, 2007**

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
3	Report to Management	6/30/06	To: Metro Council From: Pauly Rogers and Co. Re: Metro Report to Management for the Year Ended June 30, 2006	011807c-01
3	Responses to Report from Management	6/30/06	To: Metro Council From: Bill Stringer, CFO Re: Metro Responses to Report to Management for the Year Ended June 30, 2006	011807c-02
3	Reports in Conformity	6/30/06	To: Metro Council From: Pauly Rogers and Co. Re: Metro Reports in Conformity with OMB Circular A-133	011807c-03
3	CAFR	6/30/06	Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Year Ended June 30, 2006	011807c-04
4	List of Projects	1/18/07	To: Metro Council From: Karen Blauer, Solid Waste and Recycling Department Re: Metro Central Enhancement Grant program Status Report 2006 Projects	011807c-05
4	Proposed Slate	1/18/07	To: Metro Council From: Karen Blauer, Solid Waste and Recycling Department Re: Metro Central Enhancement Grant Program Proposed Slate 2007 funding cycle	011807c-06
6.1	Minutes	1/11/07	Metro Council Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2007	011807c-07
7.2	Staff report	1/12/07	Revised staff report for Ordinance No. 07-1137	011807c-08