

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, January 25, 2007
Metro Council Chamber

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

Councilors Absent:

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

1. INTRODUCTIONS

There were none.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

Kate Warren, Metro Committee on Citizen Involvement (MCCI) Chair, shared her remarks on citizen involvement matters (a copy of which is included in the meeting record). Councilor Newman said last night at Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) they had circulated a roadmap of the New Look. He suggested this be shared with MCCI and engage them to make suggestions about how they communicate with the citizens of the region.

3. NATURE IN NEIGHBORHOODS GRANT SHOWCASE FIRST ROUND

Janelle Geddes, Nature in Neighborhoods Program, said today was the first spotlight of Nature in Neighborhoods grants. She said they would be spotlighting three groups today who were awarded grants last year. She introduced the presenters.

Cheryl McGinnins introduced Michael Carlson. They were both part of the Clackamas River Basin Watershed Council. She said they were recipients of several grants. She provided a PowerPoint presentation of their project. They focused on water quality and quantity, which also protected fish and wildlife. Mr. Carlson talked about the urban habitat improvement project. He noted the goals of the project. They had located and removed Japanese Knotweed inside the urban growth boundary (UGB). He noted the creeks and rivers that were being restored in the watershed. Councilor Burkholder asked about the concentration of knotweed. Mr. Carlson responded to his question. He also talked about garbage removal from the river. He provided an overview of who participated in the project as well as their partners in the project. Ms. McGinnins said they appreciated their partnership with Metro. Councilor Newman thanked them for the presentation. He complimented the Watershed Council on how visible they had become. He asked about the Japanese Knotweed and wondered where it came from. Mr. Carlson said it was imported as an ornamental to the west coast. It grew rapidly and was very prolific. They thought it might have been transferred through road fill. Their strategy was to suppress the weed. Councilor Liberty talked about his experience with Japanese Knotweed on a river in Washington. Mr. Carlson said Metro's Curt Zonick was one of the first to alert the Watershed Council about this invasive plant. Councilor Park talked about how invasive species got started. He appreciated the work of the Watershed Council. Mr. Carlson said these grants built good relationships and partnerships for the future.

Susan Gerritz, Ventura Park School Principal, talked about their project, which focused on recycle, reuse, reduce and restore. She provided further detail about restoration at Ventura Park School. She said the second grade classes was able to go on a field trip and explained what they learned. She talked about their partnerships. She provided a PowerPoint presentation on their project. They wanted to educate as well as reach out to the community. They were planning a big community event in April. She provided some details of the event.

Betsy Piluso, Ventura School teacher, said her students were learning about watersheds. She shared some visuals about their field trip. She talked about their outdoor classroom. She spoke to their recycling efforts at the school and that the students were starting to learn about their environment. Gosh Dyke, a fifth grade student at the school, shared his experience about his field trip today and what he learned. Councilor Liberty asked about the multi-lingual nature of the school. Ms. Gerritz said they worked hard at their outreach to different communities. Ms. Piluso shared her experience working with the diverse community. Councilor Park asked what kind of worms they used. Ms. Piluso responded to his question.

Ed Kerns said he was honored to talk to Council and provide a brief update on his project. He had been working on this Springwater Corridor project for about 12 years. This project helped restore the area that ran through the Lents neighborhood. He talked about the mission of the project. His goal was to have the neighborhood and children in the area participate in the project. He said they had removed a wide variety of garbage that had been accumulating in this corridor. They had done native species and tree plantings in the area as well. He said about 6,000 students had participated in the project over the course of the 12 years. He said the kids who had worked on the project had a chance to work in their own neighborhood and own something together. The funds that Metro provided were about \$17,000. This money was going towards the clean up and restoration of the 102nd Street lumber mill site. So far they had removed about 300 cubic yards of heavy debris and brought in about 100 yards of clean soil to plant native plants. He talked about their future efforts this year. He thanked Council for their support. The Lents Neighborhood also thanked Metro for the support they were receiving. The enthusiasm and pride that these kids showed when they walked through this area and owned the corridor together was wonderful.

Councilor Liberty said Mr. Kerns had a good reputation in the Lents community. He asked about the specific property they were working on. Mr. Kerns responded to his question. Councilor Park thanked Mr. Kerns for his work. Mr. Kerns said people asked why he devoted so much time to this project. This corridor was adjacent to Johnson Creek. He was devoted to the kids and to Johnson Creek. He spoke to the efforts that had been spent to benefit Johnson Creek.

Ms. Geddes said they just closed the pre-application grants for the second round of grants. She noted that there was still a lot of need out there.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- 4.1 Consideration of Minutes for the January 18, 2007 Metro Council Regular Meeting.
- 4.2 **Resolution No. 07-3769**, Authorizing the Chief Operating Officer to Issue a Final Order Imposing a Civil Penalty on Dan Obrist Excavation, Inc. for Violation of Metro Code Sections 5.01.030(a) and 5.01.045.

Motion:

Councilor Park moved to adopt the meeting minutes of the January 18, 2007 Regular Metro Council and Resolution No. 07-3769.

Vote:

Councilors Burkholder, Harrington, Liberty, Park, Newman, Hosticka and Council President Bragdon voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 aye, the motion passed.

5. ORDINANCES - SECOND READING

5.1 **Ordinance No. 06-1129A**, For the Purpose of Amending the Regional Framework Plan to Revise Metro Policies on Housing Choices and Affordable Housing and Amend Metro Code Sections 3.07.710 through 3.07.760 to Implement the New Policies.

Motion:	Councilor Liberty moved to adopt Ordinance No. 06-1129A.
Seconded:	Councilor Burkholder seconded the motion

Councilor Liberty introduced the ordinance, which would amend the Regional Framework Plan and the Metro Code on housing choices and affordable housing. He explained why Metro was engaged in housing choice. He provided a background to the ordinance. This ordinance had been reviewed by Metro Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC), which had made some recommendations for change. Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) had also reviewed the ordinance several times. MPAC considered it last night and voted 12 to 1 to endorse the ordinance. He explained the nature of the ordinance. He spoke to key elements of the ordinance. He thanked Gerry Uba, Planning Department, and Dick Benner, Senior Attorney, for their work. He noted that Mr. Uba had carried the torch.

Council President Bragdon opened a public hearing on Ordinance No. 06-1129A.

Al Burns, Portland Bureau of Planning, 1900 SW 4th Suite 4100 Portland OR 97201 endorsed the overall concept. He thanked Councilors Burkholder and Liberty for their leadership. He pointed out a note from Commissioner Sten's staff, Margaret Bax (a copy of which is included in the meeting record). He suggested delaying adopting the ordinance so there was content to the new section as a whole. He shared several other recommended changes. He also provided some suggested improvements. Council President Bragdon said the ordinance had been before MTAC and MPAC on several occasions where the City of Portland had opportunity to participate. Councilor Liberty asked for clarification of recommended amendments.

Ramsey Weit, Community Housing Foundation, 3700 SW Murray Blvd Beaverton OR 97005 also thanked Mr. Uba for his work on the Task Force. He supported the ordinance. He shared his concerns. He encouraged Metro Council to stay in the fray. He was supportive of Metro seeking additional funding as well as Metro's offering of technical support. Metro could play a key role in sharing successes. He said his concerns were definitional: choices versus affordable. He encouraged Metro to stay engaged in the affordable housing issue.

Council President Bragdon closed the public hearing.

Councilor Burkholder asked Mr. Uba about the issue that Mr. Burns had raised about updating the table. Gerry Uba, Planning Department, said the Housing Choice Task Force recommended that the goals of affordable housing should be kept in the Regional Framework Plan (RFP). They would work with the advisory committee to determine targets. Once these were determined, the RFP should then be amended. He was working with some local jurisdictions to develop a new database on affordable housing. The information they had currently in the RFP was accurate until

they finished their work in conducting the inventory and analysis. Councilor Liberty talked about the nature of the table and why he was comfortable with leaving the table as it is currently.

Councilor Harrington said MPAC voted to recommend this ordinance to the Metro Council. She asked about Exhibit B. Mr. Uba said the one that was looked at MPAC last night had an April 15 date. Mr. Uba told MPAC last night that they recommended changing the date to July 15, 2007. MPAC accepted that recommendation. Council President Bragdon suggested a friendly amendment to change the date. Councilor Liberty and Councilor Burkholder accepted this recommendation as a friendly amendment. Mr. Uba also suggested one other technical amendment, on the Regional Framework Plan, Exhibit A. Policy 1.3.7 technical should be included. Councilors Liberty and Burkholder accepted this as a friendly amendment.

Councilor Park pointed out one point that Mr. Weit brought up about the affordable housing piece. The problem was not just the lowest tier of the economic ability but choices across the region, which increased the pool. Councilor Burkholder said this was a milestone that had been done by the Housing Choice Task Force. He thanked the Task Force for their work. They had looked at two components, affordable housing and increasing available housing. What they were doing today might not seem like a large step but the one title in the RFP, Housing was the one that most jurisdictions were not in compliance with. They were trying to respond to the local partners with less regulation. He reminded the Council that the impetus for this work came from a variety of concerns.

Councilor Liberty also acknowledged the work of the Task Force and staff. He was pleased that this ordinance allowed Metro to engage in a different way having to do with housing choice. He urged adoption.

Vote:

Councilors Park, Hosticka, Burkholder, Harrington, Newman, Liberty and Council President Bragdon voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 aye, the motion passed.

6. RESOLUTIONS

6.1 **Resolution No. 07-3765**, For the Purpose of Appointing Members to the Brownfields Task Force.

Motion:	Councilor Liberty moved to adopt Resolution No. 07-3765A
Seconded:	Councilor Newman seconded the motion

Councilor Liberty explained what brownfields were. He explained why Metro was involved in the issue of brownfields, which was to find better uses of property, reduce, reuse, recycling and restore. He acknowledged other partners working on this issue. This resolution would create a Brownfields Task Force to maintain an inventory of sites, analysis of brownfields, and redevelopment. He felt it was great that they were looking at contaminated sites. He was moving the "A" version. Councilor Burkholder asked about the difference between the two versions. Councilor Liberty explained that a few members had changed. Councilor Burkholder said a key issue was property owners didn't want their properties to be identified as brownfields. He asked if there had been any change in thinking. Miranda Bateschell, Planning Department, spoke to this issue. Council President Bragdon appreciated the staff work that had been done on this issue. Councilor Park said this was a great move. He felt that w recycling and reusing worked not only for garbage but also for land supply. Councilor Liberty made closing remarks and urged support.

Vote:

Councilors Park, Hosticka, Burkholder, Newman, Harrington, Liberty, and Council President Bragdon voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 aye, the motion passed.

7. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

Michael Jordan, COO, was not present. Bill Stringer, CFO, had nothing to say.

8. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION

Councilor Hosticka reported following a successful regional forum last week, he would be presenting the same information to the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC).

Councilor Burkholder said he and Council President Bragdon briefed the Oregon Transportation Commission on the Regional Transportation Plan update. He explained highlights of the discussion. Council President Bragdon said he felt it was significant that this agency was invited by the Oregon Transportation Commission, there was general agreement that old ways weren't working and finally, that the RTP update was financially realistic. He noted that the Oregonian had two articles on transportation this morning.

Councilor Park said the Regional Freight Task Force had the same presentation. They were appreciative that we were looking at this as a system approach. Council President Bragdon added his comments about the presentation to the Freight Task Force.

Councilor Harrington shared MPAC's conversation last night about Title 4. They approved Council President's version of the ordinance. She talked about the RTP update. Councilor Liberty said he felt that there was a good level of interest and engagement on the issue. He added his comments about the Title 4 ordinance and the conversation that occurred at the meeting.

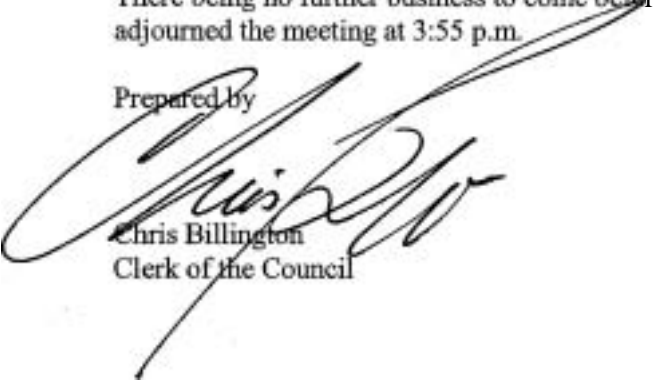
Councilor Park said he and Michael Jordan had presented to the Molalla Community Planning Organization. They were interested in transportation impacts on their community. Two weeks from now the resolution on the headquarters hotel would be considered.

Council President Bragdon talked about the Council Retreat and the New Look Work Sessions.

9. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

Prepared by


Chris Billington
Clerk of the Council

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF
 JANUARY 25, 2007**

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
4.1	Minutes	1/18/07	Metro Council Meeting Minutes of January 18, 2007	012507c-01
6.1	“A” version of Resolution No. 07-3765A	1/25/07	Resolution No. 07-3765A , For the Purpose of Appointing Members to the Brownfields Task Force	012507c-02
3	Project Spotlights	1/25/07	To: Metro Council From: Janelle Geddes, NIN Program Re: Spotlight on Metro’s Nature in Neighborhoods Grant Recipients	012507c-03
5.1	Email	1/24/07	To Councilors Liberty and Burkholder From: Margaret Bax, City of Portland Housing Policy Manager Re: Comments on Ordinance No. 06-1129A	012507c-04
2.1	Talking points	1/15/07	To: Metro Council From: Kate Warren, MCCI Chair Re: Comments about MCCI public involvement activities	012507c-05