

## NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 17, 2001  
Metro Council Chamber

Members present: Carl Hosticka, Chair, Councilor Susan McLain, Councilor Bill Atherton

Also present: Councilor David Bragdon, Michael Morrissey

**Chair Hosticka** called the first meeting of the newly formed Natural Resources Committee to order at 1:40 p.m. He stated the committee was formed to bring together in one place the major issues Metro is involved in regarding natural resources. The committee has been charged with reviewing and making recommendations on policies and programs relating to water resource planning and management, parks and greenspaces' acquisition and operation, planning for future parks, water and air quality measures, fish and wildlife habitat and other natural resource issues. Committee responsibility includes a number of initiatives and issues involved which need to be integrated. The purpose of today's meeting was to determine where the agency stands on: regional parks and greenspaces department overview, performance measures, water quality issues and national marine fisheries issues, and generate from committee members and staff a work plan which will be ratified at the February 7, 2001 meeting, and forwarded to full Council.

**Councilor Atherton** agreed with the plan as outlined and stated that his view of this committee was to search for the factors and parameters that set the limits to growth in the region. **Chair Hosticka** said that the performance measures would speak to that issue. **Councilor McLain** followed up to Councilor Atherton by adding that watershed planning would also provide a means of addressing growth issues. **Chair Hosticka** added carrying capacity and watershed issues to the committee list. He asked Mr. Ciecko for a department overview.

**Charlie Ciecko**, Parks and Open Spaces, provided a brief department overview. **Councilor Atherton** commented that there is a connectivity to the efforts of the department. **Mr. Ciecko** said the department plans envision utilizing stream and river corridors and creating the regional trail system. **Councilor McLain** added that this committee's focus should be not only the trail system, but land use, transportation and water issues, with the committee's focus on watershed planning. **Mr. Ciecko** briefly outlined potential areas of concern. Those are: department funding issues, planning and development of recently acquired sites, the operation and maintenance challenges of new sites open for public use, the need for new acquisitions as the region grows, private land owner incentives, and exploration of local government support. The MPAC Parks Subcommittee has recently completed a report which will come to this committee, possibly encouraging Metro to increase the importance of parks in the 2040 growth concept implementation, and providing additional technical and financial support to local parks providers. In the months ahead, Mr. Ciecko will be providing the committee with a map of the Metro regional system and certain policies related to its management and operation by Metro and its partners, as well as privately owned lands. The Blue Lake Feasibility Plan will be brought forward for update, as well as the installation of a water control structure at Smith and Bybee Lakes.

**Councilor Bragdon** said he had met with Commissioner Naito last week and the report Mr. Ciecko referred to would be addressed at the February 14, 2001, MPAC meeting. **Councilor Atherton** asked about the distinction between local parks and regional parks primarily with regard to local parks' responsibilities being handed off to Metro. **Mr. Ciecko** misunderstood Councilor Atherton and responded that currently there is regional park support by local park partners, i.e., Forest Park. **Councilor Atherton** said this would need follow up.

**Chair Hosticka** continued with the Growth Management Department's responsibilities to the Natural Resources Committee. **Mark Turpel**, Growth Management Department, began the overview of his department, as well as Transportation Department, with performance measures. The Growth Management Department and the Parks and Greenspaces Department work collaboratively.

**Gerry Uba**, Growth Management Department distributed printed information to the members, entitled: Performance Measures: Requirement, Regional Values and 1999 Recommendation, 2040 Fundamentals,

and Measuring the Region's Success in Achieving 2040 Growth Concept: Policy Standards and Performance Indicators. They are attached to and incorporated as a permanent part of the minutes of this record. Mr. Uba read from the documents and there was general discussion regarding them. **Chair Hosticka** asked what the role of the Council was and if it was formal or informal. **Councilor Bragdon** said to date Council was informally involved, but many of the Councilors wanted to see this adopted this year, as a measure of 2040. **Councilor McLain** said this is part of the functional plan elements reported annually to Council for Council support. This committee would review how well the connection of water and natural resources is to the whole. **Chair Hosticka** said the measurement standard directly relates to the result, and clarifies the standard to which Metro will be held responsible. **Mr. Turpel** said that major policy implications are involved and, as early as next month, may be brought before the Council. **Chair Hosticka** asked if the measures originated from the functional plan. **Mr. Turpel** said yes, they did, and the fundamentals drawn by Mr. Uba most likely would go before the Council for ratification. **Chair Hosticka** said it was up to this committee to take an active role in working on the performance measures as they relate to the natural environment and open spaces habitat and related issues.

**Councilor Atherton** asked if public opinion polling had ever been considered in performance measures. **Mr. Turpel** said there has been discussion about public polling, as there are some questions that are qualitative. **Chair Hosticka** suggested Metro joining other survey efforts to include a few pertinent questions. **Michael Morrissey**, Council Analyst, said Mr. Uba has taken the next step with some of these fundamentals by taking them to MTAC. They can be utilized in other forums as an explanation of 2040 progress.

**Brenda Bernards**, Growth Management Department, provided a brief overview to the committee about Title 3 compliance, which correlate with Goals 5, 6 and 7 of the Statewide Planning Goals. She explained the adopted portion deals with Goals 6 and 7, water quality and flood plain management, and erosion control. By January 2000, there were ten jurisdictions in complete compliance with the Title 3 requirements. There were six Washington County jurisdictions implementing the requirements of Title 3, although they have not completed amendments to their comprehensive plans, and ten jurisdictions working under a time extension, with Clackamas County in substantial compliance within the urban growth boundary, while continuing to work with those areas outside the boundary. Working with the many jurisdictions, Metro is succeeding in the implementing of Title 3, although it has occasionally been contentious and difficult. She said no formal Council action was needed, unless a jurisdiction disputed implementation.

**Paul Ketcham**, Growth Management Department, distributed a Final Draft Streamside CPR Program Outline, Purpose, Vision, Goal, Principles and Context, dated October 4, 2000 which is attached and incorporated as a permanent part of this record. About a year ago, there was no clear vision of streamside protection. A draft was prepared, a subcommittee was created, and a vision statement was drafted. He reviewed the outline with the committee. It was unanimously accepted by the Council in November, 2000, and forwarded to the Council with recommendation by MPAC. **Councilor Atherton** asked where in the vision statement the air and water quality standards were addressed. **Mr. Ketcham** responded that the standards were addressed in the sections entitled "Purpose," and "Flexible Regulatory Approaches." **Councilor Atherton** stated that Metro is the agency to make the connection between land use and water quality, and "restoration of the fish" or "meet the standards of the Clean Water Act" are never stated in the Streamside CPR document and he wanted to know why. **Mr. Ketcham** said the vision statement fulfills Title 3, Section 5, the portion directly pertaining to fish and wildlife, however, it does not stand alone but relies on the previous Title 3 work, that deals exclusively with water quality. Natural resource protection is covered by a total of Title 3, the Greenspaces Program and the Fish and Wildlife Program together. **Councilor Atherton** said that every stream in the region, with the exception of a short section of Balch Creek, is in violation of the Clean Water Act. Getting those streams off the 303(d) limited list should be one of our goals. **Councilor McLain** responded saying there were certain jurisdictional issues involved with agencies responsible for fulfillment of the Clean Water Act issues. She suggested Councilor Atherton find the statements he wanted in the original documents that address Goal 6, Goal 7 and Goal 5. Mr. Ketcham's efforts in timing, tracking and reasserting the vision and context of the original work included in

the RUGGOs, the Regional Framework Plan and Future Vision documents were instrumental in the success of the Streamside CPR Program Outline. An original goal was restoration of destroyed habitat, together with local choice, the local jurisdiction's ability to pursue alternative collaborative management approaches proved to be successful. **Chair Hosticka** said we now have the opportunity to move ahead, guided by this vision. Yet to be determined is how we will respond to the ESA listing, and moving through the Goal 5 process.

#### **Councilor Communications**

While listening to the dialogue, **Councilor Bragdon** identified the following as points for further consideration: Parks Department fiscal planning, and draw down of the original bond measure; integration of the 2040 Framework Plan by both departments, as well as the addition of incentives; Metro's role in the stormwater issue; and federal issues wherein Metro can be a provider of services. **Councilor McLain** suggested adding a Goal 5 inventory to the list.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Mannhalter  
Council Assistant

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