

METRO POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING RECORD

February 14, 2007 – 5:00 p.m.

Metro Regional Center, Council Chambers

Committee Members Present: Jeff Cogen, Nathalie Darcy, Rob Drake, Andy Duyck, Bernie Giusto, John Hartsock, Richard Kidd, Charlotte Lehan, Alice Norris, Wilda Parks, Martha Schrader, Chris Smith, Erik Sten

Committee Members Absent: Ken Allen, Richard Burke, Larry Cooper, Dave Fuller, Margaret Kirkpatrick, Tom Potter, Larry Smith, Steve Stuart, (Governing Body of School District –vacant)

Alternates Present: Aron Carleson, Shirley Craddick, Frank Groznik

Also Present: Robert Austin, City of Estacada; Bill Bash, City of Cornelius; Hal Bergsma, City of Beaverton; Carol Chesarek, Citizen; Jim Clark, Portland Tribune; Bob Clay, City of Portland; Brent Curtis, Washington County; Jillian Detweiler, TriMet; Kay Durtschi, MTAC; Meg Fernekees, DLCD; Ed Gallagher, City of Gresham; Gil Kelley, City of Portland; Todd Murphy, Portland Tribune; Pat Ribellia, City of Hillsboro; Karen Schilling, Multnomah County

Metro Elected Officials Present: Liaisons – Kathryn Harrington, Council District 4; Robert Liberty, Council District 6; Brian Newman, Council District 2

Metro Staff Present: Dan Cooper, Andy Cotugno, Kim Ellis, Tom Kloster, Robin McArthur

1. SELF-INTRODUCTIONS & COMMUNICATIONS

Interim Chair Mayor Alice Norris, called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m. Interim Chair Norris asked those present to introduce themselves.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was none.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Meeting Summary for January 24, 2007:

Motion:	Mayor Richard Kidd, City of Forest Grove, with a second from Mayor Rob Drake, City of Beaverton, moved to adopt the consent agenda with a small revision of removing Mayor Alice Norris from attendance and voting as she was not present at that particular meeting.
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Vote:	The motion passed unanimously.
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6. COUNCIL UPDATE

Councilor Kathryn Harrington gave an update on Council activities since the last MPAC meeting and for the next two weeks. Her notes will be included in the permanent record.

Councilor Brian Newman gave an update on the legislative agenda for Metro/MPAC. He distributed a draft copy of the "Pending Legislative Counsel Bill" for the members. A copy of that draft is attached and forms part of the record.

7. JPACT UPDATE

Andy Cotugno, Planning Director, reviewed the highlights of JPACT efforts, such as the recent public hearings on MTIP, and then he reviewed the agenda for the next JPACT meeting.

4. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS & MPAC AGENDA TOPICS

Mayor Alice Norris, City of Oregon City, interim MPAC Chair, and subcommittee chair, reviewed the task given over to the subcommittee and then she reviewed the proposed outcome of their work as outlined in the material included in the meeting packet.

Dan Cooper, Metro Attorney, informed the members that bylaw changes could only be voted on after a 30-day notice.

Interim Chair Norris reviewed the subcommittee recommendations.

Mr. Cooper clarified some of the changes to the bylaws for the members.

Councilor Robert Liberty asked if there was discussion at the sub committee about including Marion County and Yamhill County in ex officio representation.

Interim Chair Norris said that there had been discussion.

Mayor Richard Kidd said that they had discussed this but that they wanted to try it first with Washington and Clackamas Counties for a year. Mayor Kidd also said that Mr. Cooper had drafted the bylaws exactly as the subcommittee intended.

Mr. Cooper said that the City of Portland would still have a vote at the table even through a staff person.

Mayor Rob Drake, City of Beaverton, said he had concern seeing a City of Portland director always there in lieu of the Mayor or Commissioners. He said that the Mayor and Commissioners often had good input to contribute.

Commissioner Eric Sten, City of Portland, said that he and Mayor Potter were trying to alternate attendance due to their busy schedules. He said he supported the recommendation, but not so as to get the director to come in their place, but so that there would always be representation by the City of Portland at the MPAC table.

Councilor Shirley Craddick, City of Gresham, said that Gresham did not support the City of Portland ex officio recommendation but she said that they did support including neighboring cities at the table.

Bernie Giusto, TriMet, said that TriMet was a major player in transportation and that what happened at MPAC and Metro did matter for the interests that TriMet represented. He said it was a good idea to fix the quorum problem, but he requested that the members reconsider making TriMet an ex officio member.

Chris Smith, Multnomah County Citizen Representative, said he liked including neighboring cities at the MPAC table and that he agreed with Mr. Giusto that TriMet was a driver of land use planning and should retain their voting status at MPAC.

Mayor Bob Austin, City of Estacada, said that he appreciated consideration of the ex officio recommendation by MPAC. He said that issues that MPAC/Metro made decisions on tended to have a great impact on the surrounding cities. He said he would even like to suggest voting rights for the neighboring cities.

Interim Chair Norris moved to the agenda topics portion of the material. She reviewed the material included in the packet. She also reviewed some of the discussion by the subcommittee and MPAC Coordinating Committee regarding the yearlong agenda and process.

Nathalie Darcy, Washington County Citizen Representative, said that they had talked about doing more than just listening and more about having a dialogue at the MPAC meetings.

Councilor Harrington said that they had spent a lot of time on this at the MPAC Coordinating committee. She said that they would take the members' feedback and integrate it into the year long proposed agenda topics.

Mayor Drake said that the ability to have a dialogue with those folks that made the decisions out in the region would be beneficial to MPAC. He said he would be willing to stay longer for a particular meeting if the presentation was meaningful.

Mr. Smith said that he was pleased to see the health care issue listed as a possible topic for MPAC and that he felt the discussion of this topic was very important to the community.

Mr. Giusto suggested perhaps there should be one meeting a month that was designated a "voting meeting" and the second meeting of each month should be designated a "discussion/information" meeting.

Mayor Charlotte Lehan, City of Wilsonville, said that when there was to be a presentation at MPAC, whether by Metro staff or outside presenters, those presentations should not be too long because most of the topics presented to MPAC were issues that MPAC members had been wrestling with for years, except for maybe the Health Care issue.

Commissioner Sten said he would also want to have MPAC talk about health care in the region. He said that looking at the proposed list there were too many topics to talk about in just one year. He said that they would need to spend a couple meetings on several of the proposed topics, so he did not imagine that there would be enough meetings in the year to cover everything proposed.

Interim Chair Norris said that some topics may run over into the next year. She asked the members to jot down any other topics that they could think of, or to put stars by those things they thought were particularly meaningful. She asked them to turn those in to her before leaving for the evening and she would work on prioritizing those into an actual schedule.

5. NEW LOOK

Mr. Cotugno said that he said that he would review a few of the major details/comments from the cover memorandum. He said that this conversation was also taking place with MTAC and he hoped to have some of their observations and recommendations for MPAC at the next meeting. He reviewed the issues outlined in the transmittal memorandum.

Mr. Smith said he was struck by the contrast between corridors and main streets. He said that he felt that main streets were desirable whereas corridors were not so friendly. He wondered if we were creating the type of places that were a good representation of our region.

Mayor Drake said that there were a lot of corridors outside the core. He said that for Washington the concern overall about the regional transportation plan (RTP) was that it would forget about corridors and moving big traffic and freight. He said he would like to see the RTP do both: take care of main streets and corridors.

Councilor Craddick said that Gresham would like to see the RTP not be so place centric but rather network centric. She said that strong networks were needed to make jurisdictions work.

Interim Chair Norris asked if suburbia and outlying areas would be forgotten in the RTP process\hierarchy? Was it tipped the way it should be?

Mr. Cotugno said that he did not think that there was a suburban/central city bias in this issue. He said that there were town centers in the central city and town centers in the suburbs. There were regional centers and industrial areas in both urban and suburban locations as well. He said the next issue raised the question – what should we be emphasizing for transportation improvements for “mature” areas? Which would be central city areas that don’t have much opportunity to build more, so the emphasis would be on managing the system that we have. Much more so than the developing communities where you have parts of the system, but you need to build other parts of the system. It was not just about managing and living with what you have, but rather flushing out the rest of the network. He said that for completely new areas there should be a lot of attention to preserving right-of-way, because it would be a long time before you were building all the facilities that you would need. Developed areas vs. developing areas vs. undeveloped areas needed different emphases.

There was discussion about the freight element of the RTP.

Mr. Cotugno asked the members which kinds of transportation improvements were the most important? There was no immediate answer.

Councilor Harrington said that the Metro Council was looking for direction on this topic.

Mr. Smith urged giving priority to freight over commuter for this region.

Mayor Kidd said that they needed to do a better job of balancing jobs and housing with land use and transportation.

Robin McArthur, Long Range Planning Director, reviewed the final attachments to the meeting packet for Resolution 07-3781 Approving a Timeline for the New Look Project. She emphasized that the spreadsheet attached at the end was currently on draft #7 and that it would undergo many, many iterations in the future. She distributed a larger version of that spreadsheet for those who wanted it.

There being no further business, Interim Chair Norris adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Bardes
MPAC Coordinator

ATTACHMENTS TO THE RECORD FOR FEBRUARY 14, 2007

The following have been included as part of the official public record:

AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT		DOCUMENT No.
	DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	
#6 Council Update	2/12/07	MPAC Council Update – Wed Feb 14, 2007 notes for Kathryn Harrington to give the Council Update	021407-MPAC-01
#6 Council Update	February 2007	Draft Pending Legislative Counsel Bill: Expands discretionary design review authority for higher density housing in Portland Metropolitan Service District in certain locations specified by regional framework plan	021407-MPAC-02