

## MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, May 24, 2007  
Metro Council Chamber

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

Councilors Absent: David Bragdon, Council President (excused)

Deputy Council President Park convened the Regular Council Meeting at 2:00 p.m.

### 1. INTRODUCTIONS

There were none.

### 2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

### 3. NATURE IN NEIGHBORHOODS GRANT SHOWCASE AND NEW AWARDS

Janelle Geddes, Associate Regional Planner, Nature in Neighborhoods Program, presented on the work achieved in Metro's Nature in Neighborhoods (NIN) Program. She announced that 21 awards would be granted during the second round of NIN grants. The projects will focus on restoring habitat in degraded areas and creating opportunities for learning. Ms. Geddes noted that the Council would be awarding just over \$420,000 worth of projects. These projects are valued at \$1.5 million on the ground, and have committed over 19,000 hours of volunteerism. She said that after today, Metro will have invested nearly \$1 million in these types of projects in the region, adding that this investment has leveraged over \$4.5 million worth of watershed restoration and education. She believed that this is what Councilor Hosticka would call, "creating a movement." Ms. Geddes introduced two recipients of NIN grants: Michelle Bussard and Alan Hipolito. She also thanked the recipients of the grants who do tremendous work community, and who presented Metro with great projects.

Michelle Bussard, Executive Director of the Johnson Creek Watershed Council, made a presentation on her organization's efforts to preserve the Johnson Creek Watershed. She emphasized that the organization's mission is to inspire and facilitate investment in the Johnson Creek Watershed for the protection and enhancement of its natural resources. She addressed the larger context within which her organization works, that is, within the Oregon plan for saving salmon and restoring watersheds. This is based upon a simple tenet that just as Oregonians share responsibility for the changes to the landscape and ecosystem, so do they share responsibility for restoration. An important component of this effort is fostering partnerships involving local governments, regional governments, conservation groups and other grassroots stakeholders. She noted that this year, the board of directors at the Johnson Creek Watershed Council adopted a new tagline that reflects the collective efforts to share responsibility and create the change that is needed – *Invest, Restore, Inspire*. Essentially, inspiring community investment and stewardship, which translates into outreach and education, is the backbone of the organization's efforts. Ms. Bussard shared examples of outreach and education events and restoration projects sponsored by the Johnson Creek Watershed Council, and expressed her appreciation for last year's grant from Metro and Nature in Neighborhoods for assisting with the organization's efforts. She added that this year's grant will help to expand the campaign to all 26 miles of the main stem of the watershed and its 96 miles of tributaries. She thanked the Metro Council for

believing and investing in Johnson Creek Watershed Council's mission, and assured that the investment would be a sound one.

Alan Hipolito, Executive Director of Verde, discussed his program. Verde increases the economic health of disadvantaged communities by creating environmental job training, employment and entrepreneurial opportunities, fostering the connection between economic vitality and environmental protection and restoration. He noted that the program was established in October 2005, adding that through good work with good partners and funders, the program has grown to six employees (four full-time and two part-time) who receive good benefits and wages. Employees are provided with field and classroom training that takes them from almost no landscaping skill set to the ability maintain a variety of restoration and stormwater management projects throughout the region. Eventually, they will have the skills to install the kind of materials needed for these projects, and to understand what it takes to run a business on their own. The program focuses on giving residents skills in landscaping and restoration – a strategy that promotes environmental protection and provides workers with economic opportunity. Participants in the program educate students and neighbors about the value of environmental protection of watersheds. Mr. Hipolito noted that a greenhouse would soon be built to produce native plants for restoration projects. He emphasized that Verde is not only an environmental and economic organization, but an equity and sustainable development organization, as well. He thanked the Metro Council for making an investment in the community and in sustainability.

Councilor Liberty recognized the difficulty of connecting up community and different constituencies with these issues of watershed health and nature in neighborhoods. He wondered if there were any larger lessons we should be learning about what it takes to accomplish the goals of creating a movement that promotes economic opportunity and educating a new generation of people about how a little stream connects up to global environmental health and the global economy, what have learned over the last twenty year about what we need to build on?

Mr. Hipolito said that what his organization has learned is that you have to meet people where they are. He said you cannot place an ideal or a policy goal that is outside of their experience and expect them to come to you. You have to find what connects your policy goal to their daily experience. Essentially, they need an investment in their lives that they can connect. Ms. Bussard concurred that meeting residents on their doorsteps to determine what matters to them with regard to their property and environs is the most effective strategy. She stated that a willingness to invite a variety of partnerships to do the work is invaluable, as is Metro's monetary investment.

#### 4. CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 Consideration of minutes of the May 10, 2007 Regular Council Meeting.

4.2 **Resolution No. 07-3809**, Authorizing the Chief Operating Officer to Issue a Renewed Non-System License Jointly to Willamette Resources, Inc. and Allied Waste of Clackamas Washington Counties for Delivery of Solid Waste, Including Putrescible Waste, to the Covanta Waste-To-Energy Facility.

Motion:

Councilor Newman moved to adopt the meeting minutes of the May 10, 2007 Regular Metro Council and Resolution No. 07-3809 **with revisions**.

Vote:

Councilors Burkholder, Harrington, Liberty, Newman, Hosticka and Deputy Council President Park voted in support of the motion. The vote was 6 aye, the motion passed.

**5. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING**

- 5.1 **Ordinance No. 07-1150**, Amending the FY 2006-07 Budget and Appropriations Schedule Removing the Interim Appropriation Authority for the Natural Areas Program and Declaring an Emergency.

Deputy Council President Park assigned Ordinance No. 07-1150 to Council.

- 5.2 **Ordinance No. 07-1151**, For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Section 2.19.080 to Change the Composition of the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) and to Amend the MPAC Bylaws and Declaring an Emergency.

Deputy Council President Park assigned Ordinance No. 07-1151 to Council.

- 5.3 **Ordinance No. 07-1152**, Amending the FY 2006-07 Budget and Appropriations Schedule Recognizing Donations to the Oregon Zoo and Declaring an Emergency.

Deputy Council President Park assigned Ordinance No. 07-1152 to Council.

- 5.4 **Ordinance No. 07-1153**, Amending the FY 2006-07 Budget and Appropriations Schedule Transferring Appropriations in the MERC Operating and Pooled Capital Funds and Declaring an Emergency.

Deputy Council President Park assigned Ordinance No. 07-1153 to Council.

- 5.5 **Ordinance No. 07-1155**, Amending Metro Code Chapter 2.19 to Establish the Natural Areas Program Performance Oversight Committee, and Declaring an Emergency.

Deputy Council President Park assigned Ordinance No. 07-1155 to Council.

**6. RESOLUTIONS**

- 6.1 **Resolution No 07-3816**, Approving Second Round Funding for Nature in Neighborhood Grants.

Motion:	Councilor Hosticka moved to adopt Resolution No. 07-3816.
Seconded:	Councilor Burkholder seconded the motion

Councilor Hosticka complimented Deputy Council President Park for having the idea to create the Nature in Neighborhoods Program. He said this program evolved out of a long discussion about how to preserve, restore and enhance the natural areas within the urban environment. Council members debated for almost five years about regulations and other ways to accomplish these goals. It became clear that the only way it was actually going to happen was if inspired a movement, meaning a lot of people wanting to have this as part of what they do in their lives, and working on their local areas. He noted that it was Councilor Park who came up with the idea to start the grant program and put the money in place. He added that with the turnout today, Metro has actually succeeded in starting a movement. Councilor Hosticka thanked Metro staff – Janelle Geddes and others – for doing this work.

Deputy Council President Park said that without have the first part of it (in having the idea of creating a movement), and the second part of it (in having funding available through the support of the solid waste

industry) the NIN Program would not have been possible. He gave a special note of thanks to Kate Marx, Director, Metro Public Affairs and Government Relations Department, who suggested the idea. He expressed his excitement in having the ability to sponsor a second round of grants. Deputy Council President Park emphasized that the new round of projects are much clearer and better defined, and were overall, much more difficult to judge between the best and the best. Out of 30 grant applications, 21 were recommended for full or partial funding.

Councilor Kathryn Harrington thanked her colleagues, as well as Councilors Susan McLain (who represented District 4 prior) for their efforts in creating the NIN Program, and for making it possible to have the opportunity to vote on the second round of grant recipients.

Councilor Liberty also thanked Councilor Park for the work that was underway prior to his tenure on the Metro Council. He said that the NIN Program has created a foundation for a much wider involvement for the work that is coming up under the Nature in Neighborhood capital grants and bond measure, in building up the ability of citizens to engage in these projects and in the organizations that help work with them. He said that what building a movement means is both a heritage of natural resources in our neighborhoods, and a heritage of stewardship – an investment in the far distant future that we can all be thankful for.

Deputy Council President Park closed by asking for support of Resolution 07-3816.

Vote:

Councilors, Hosticka, Liberty, Burkholder, Newman, Harrington, and Deputy Council President Park voted in support of the motion. The vote was 6 aye, the motion passed.
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Deputy Council President Park asked councilors present to announce the grants from their individual districts. After the announcement of the grants, recipients were asked to come forward for a group photograph with councilors and Metro staff.

Deputy Council President Park asked for closing comments. Councilor Harrington expressed her thanks to everyone in attendance, adding that it was helpful to put faces to the project names. She noted that the Metro Council is well aware of the impact that the grants have out in the community.

Deputy Council President Park closed by reiterating that in the second year of the Nature in Neighborhoods Grant Program, \$982,000 in total will have been awarded to projects that support communities in getting involved in restoring nature in our collective “backyard” across the region. These funds have a total project value on the ground of \$4.6 million dollars. Projects have been leveraged with both financial and in-kind match. Today, just over \$420,000 has been awarded to 21 projects in the region. These particular projects have a total project value of \$1.5 million dollars, and have committed over 19,000 hours of volunteer time as part of the in-kind match of the program. Again, he acknowledged the importance of the partnerships that have been fostered in support of the Nature in Neighborhoods Program.

**7. EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD PURSUANT TO ORS 192.660(1)(e), DELIBERATIONS WITH PERSONS DESIGNATED TO NEGOTIATE REAL PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS.**

- 7.1 **Resolution No. 07-3812**, Authorizing the Chief Operating Officer to Acquire Properties in the Johnson Creek and East Buttes Target Areas Under the 2006 Natural Areas Bond Measure and to Enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Gresham Regarding the City’s Financial Contribution Toward the Purchase Price of One of the Acquired Properties.

Time began: 3:05 p.m.

Members Present: Michael Jordan, Dan Cooper, Jim Desmond, William Eadie, Kathleen Brennan-Hunter, Paul Garrahan, Jeff Tucker, Heather Nelson Kent, Karen Kane, Matthew Hampton, Becky Shoemaker, Dove Hotz

Time ended: 3:15 p.m.

Motion:	Councilor Hosticka moved to adopt Resolution No. 07-3812.
Seconded:	Councilor Liberty seconded the motion

Jim Desmond, Director of the Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department, asked for the Council's approval of three future acquisitions in the Gresham area, adding that it is a highly significant package that gets the new bond measure off to a roaring start, building on the success of the 1995 measure. Mr. Desmond provided detailed information about the Hogan Butte, Darby Ridge, and Ambleside/Allesina properties.

Councilor Park opened the meeting to public testimony.

**Councilor Shirley Craddick**, City of Gresham, expressed her thanks to the Metro Council for its leadership in putting forth the bond measure, and to the citizens of the region who supported the bond measure, and to the landowners who have donated land (i.e., Persimmon Development Group).

**Eric Chambers**, representing Mayor Bemis of the City of Gresham, read the mayor's letter of support for Resolution 07-3812 into the record. [*a copy of the letter was submitted as an attachment to the public record*]

**Matt Wellner**, Darby Ridge developer, 1801 NW Upshur, Suite 210, Portland, Oregon 97209. Mr. Wellner thanked staff for its assistance in managing the process. He stated that 37 acres parcel is a great addition to the public lands in the area, and emphasized that the negotiation process was completely fair and equitable. He also thanked the City of Gresham its assistance in the process. Councilor Park asked Mr. Wellner for feedback on how to improve the process. Mr. Wellner said the process is going to be a great deal easier, as the target areas are more clearly defined.

**Mr. Hiroshi Morihara**, landowner and developer of Persimmon Ridge, said that he treasures the quality of life. He said that developers face a challenge maintaining the quality of life while business and population expansion takes place. He said the decision was made to properly preserve the property he owns. He noted that his company changed its direction in becoming a "green developers" – a new way of doing business. He expressed his happiness in working with Metro to carry out the sale of the property expediently. Mr. Morihara also thanked Michael Jordan for his assistance in the process.

**Mr. Brian Lesslor** echoed Mr. Morihara's sentiments for the assistance of Jim Desmond and his staff in making the transaction an easy one. He also addressed his company's move towards a sustainability model, and thanked Metro for its "Get Centered" initiative.

Councilor Harrington thanked Mr. Morihara and Mr. Lesslor for leaving a legacy for Gresham and the region.

**Craig Smith**, Gresham Butte Neighborhood Association, 393 SW 37<sup>th</sup> Circle, Gresham, Oregon 97080. Mr. Smith spoke about the Darby Ridge acquisition, expressing his support for the purchase of the property. He said that he was initially opposed to the area's development, and took the fight to the Gresham City Council. He thanked the developers and a host of others for setting the land aside for future generations, and urged the Council to move on purchasing additional lands.

Councilor Harrington noted there will be eight public open houses during the month of June, emphasizing the need to hear from the public. The open houses will provide an opportunity for citizens to learn more about each of the 27 refinement areas, and ensure that Metro has the information it needs to prioritize next steps for acquisition of property and conservation easements.

**Alice Nielsen**, Gresham Butte Neighborhood Association and Butte Conservancy, expressed her thanks for putting the bond measure effort together, and for all of the support materials used to get information out the voters. She also thanked the people at the Johnson Creek Watershed Council and others for the support her group has had in being active in this role. She gave her special thanks to the Persimmon landowners for their tremendous generosity.

Deputy Council President Park asked Mr. Desmond to come forward to present a PowerPoint presentation on the land purchases. The presentation provided an aerial tour of Darby and Persimmon Ridges.

Councilor Liberty emphasized the value of the purchase. Councilor Harrington also expressed her support of the purchases, and applauded the City of Gresham for its willingness to take over the management of the properties.

Councilor Park closed by thanking all of the elected officials, citizens and developers for their support of the bond measure effort.

Vote:

Councilors, Hosticka, Burkholder, Newman, Liberty, Harrington, and Deputy Council President Park voted in support of the motion. The vote was 6 aye, the motion passed.
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## **8. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION**

Michael Jordan, Chief Operating Office, acknowledged all of the accolades by everyone, adding thanks to Office of Metro Attorney for its assistance in making the real estate transaction process a smooth one (referencing Resolution 07-3812).

## **9. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION**

Councilor Hosticka noted that SB 2051 (the bill that provides a two-year extension on Metro's work on the urban growth boundary) passed the senate today, and is now on its way to the governor for signature.

Councilor Liberty reported on the Sellwood Bridge Advisory Committee meeting held on Monday, May 21st. He noted that it was a lively meeting, and said that the committee is keeping a rehab option for the bridge alive, along with other options. All of the options led to a discussion about the streetcar. As liaison to the committee, Councilor Liberty said he would deliver a written report to members of the Council.

Councilor Harrington noted that Metro staff has been working with the members of the Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee. The monthly meeting was held today, and the second of several steps was taken to form a recommendation to the Council for increasing the recovery rate in the region by increased recovery of materials through the business community. More briefings and work session discussions will follow.

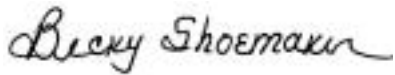
Councilor Burkholder reported on the joint MPAC/JPACT meeting held today, noting that the last joint meeting was held in 2000. He said members discussed financial issues, and some of the other issues involved with building a system. Councilor Burkholder also noted that on June 5, a discussion will take place regarding the chief operating officer performance review. The discussion will be informed by information collected from stakeholders inside and outside the building.

Councilor Park shared the schedule for upcoming open houses regarding the acquisition of property and conservation easements.

**10. ADJOURN**

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

Prepared by,



Becky Shoemaker  
Deputy Clerk of the Council

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 24, 2007**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Doc. Date</b>	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>Doc. Number</b>
7.1	Res. 07-3812	5/24/2007	TO: Metro Councilors FROM: Robert Butler RE: Resolution No. 07-3812, Darby Heights Acquisition	052407c.01
6.1	Res. 07-3812	5/24/2007	Resolution No. 07-3816, Exhibit A	052407c.02
7.1	Res. 07-3812	5/24/2007	TO: Metro Council FROM: Mayor Shane Bemis, City of Gresham RE: Support of the Purchase of the Darby Ridge site	052407c.03