

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, September 25, 2007
Metro Council Chamber

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

Councilors Absent: Brian Newman (excused)

Council President Bragdon convened the Metro Council Work Session Meeting at 2:04 p.m.

1. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, SEPTEMBER 27, 2007/ADMINISTRATIVE/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Bragdon reviewed the September 27, 2007 Metro Council agenda.

Councilor Liberty expressed his need for further information on the headquarters hotel, he also wanted a timeline of this proposed project.

It was decided that there will not be a Metro Council meeting on October 11th.

Councilor Hosticka proposed an amendment to Resolution No. 07-3839, dealing with matching funds provided by Metro. He explained that the proposal would be discussed in greater depth at Thursday's meeting. Councilor Park suggested holding an executive session to discuss the proposal. Senior Attorney Paul Garrahan informed the Councilors that at the request of Councilor Hosticka, his department had drafted an amendment, which included a tier map.

2. EXPLORATION AND FRAMING OF CONSERVATION EDUCATION AND NATURAL AREAS MAINTENANCE BALLOT MEASURE PROJECT UPDATE

Councilor Burkholder provided an update on the proposed ballot measure. Prior to the work session, he had spoken with each Councilor individually and used the Council Work Session to address their concerns. He introduced an advisor on this ballot measure, MERC Commissioner Gary Conkling of Conkling Fiskum and McCormick.

The participation of stakeholders, area businesses and the local government was critical in this ballot measure. Conklin Fiskum and McCormick will perform an individual and collective outreach effort, and will return to Metro with an initial set of findings. This will include recommendations relating to refining the proposal. Following this, the refined idea will receive additional feedback from various stakeholders. The final ideas and refined idea will then be presented to the Metro Councilors. Commissioner Conkling noted the importance of speaking to a balanced group of stakeholders, and suggested allowing outreach through the internet which would allow more communities to participate. When conducting stakeholder interviews he noted that his firm will take an interactive approach and will work to engage the views of the various individuals. He asked the Councilors input as to who they would identify as stakeholders, and stressed that importance will be placed on information, as opposed to specific who said what. His firm was currently working on a process for keeping the information as relevant as possible.

Councilor Park inquired about the scope of the interview questions.

Councilor Harrington expressed concerns related to funding, and how this proposed ballot measure might affect existing projects, specifically Enhanced Dry Waste Recovery Program (EDWRP).

Council President Bragdon stressed the importance of leadership on political projects, specifically from Metro Councilors. He mentioned general political capitol issues, and potential funding conflicts with the Zoo. He stated that the funding allocations will need to be decided by the Council members. Councilor Bragdon referred to upcoming interviews and stated that the interview process should provide interviewees with a chance to shape the project. This will allow them to become partners in the project and the interview becomes an opportunity for stakeholders to become involved. He noted that people may feel more support if they aren't passive participants.

Councilor Liberty had questions relating to who would be identified as a stakeholder.

3. METRO HOTLINE IMPLEMENTATION

Suzanne Flynn, Metro Auditor, provided an update on the implementation of a Metro hotline. A planning session, held in May, provided design input that was being used in the development of the internal/external hotline. The new line, which will handle internal and external calls, will allow Metro's Human Resources department to route certain issues out of Metro, directing them instead to the hotline. Suzanne reported that implementation of the hotline will start in an estimated eight weeks. Until that time, additional questions need to be answered and the intent of the hotline needs further clarification.

Users of the hotline will be able to connect with Ethics Point, the vendor selected for the project, by telephone or through the internet. These individuals will be given a case number that they can reference in future interactions. Auditor Flynn noted that this hotline will allow problems to be handled more systematically, and will give Metro employees another way to report problems or concerns they may have, especially if they feel uncomfortable reporting such issues to their superiors.

The hotline was being designed as an avenue for individuals to report fraud, misuse of resources and abuse. Michael Jordan, Chief Operating Officer, reported that from a management perspective, this will be a case management system, and will provide a process for handling calls. However, there was the option to expand the issues handled by the hotline. Prior to implementation, procedures will be designed to insure that all calls were handled in an organized manner and that the files created could be easily referenced.

Auditor Flynn opened the discussion up to suggestions from Metro Councilors. Several Councilors voiced concern over how calls got into the system, and what the process was for these reports once in the system. Concern was expressed over the naming of the hotline, and Councilor Harrington stressed the importance of finding an appropriate name for the line. She noted that the marketing of the hotline will affect the responses received, and spoke of the importance of keeping the initial hotline small and manageable.

The question was raised as to what the procedure would be for calls received, whose subject weren't within Metro's jurisdiction. Council President Bragdon questioned how we can ensure that calls received were being followed up by the appropriate agency; he stressed the importance of our follow-up mechanisms. He also spoke about the absence of a general information hotline, which a citizen could reference in order to locate the correct department to handle their issue or need.

Auditor Flynn concluded the presentation by asking the Councilors if they wanted a regular overview of the reports being handled by the hotline. Reports would be presented on either a quarterly or bi-annual basis, Councilor Liberty supported the idea of a bi-annual reporting process. Councilor Hosticka voiced some reservations about adopting a new reporting system.

Mr. Jordan expressed the importance of effective marketing, and stated that this hotline will be a case management system, allowing calls to be handled in a consistent and organized manner. He spoke of the possibility of restructuring the compliance reporting regime to handle the most relevant issues, the idea of engaging local governments in the process of identifying what issues were important and relevant and explained the benefits of breaking down some of the jurisdictional aspect of this work. He wanted various stakeholders engaged in reaching the 2040 targets.

Councilor Burkholder expressed the needs for compliance between the various stakeholders, the ability to assure that costs were being distributed properly, and suggested implementing repercussions if they don't meet certain performance requirements.

4. BREAK

5. EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR 1-5/HWY 99 CONNECTOR

Councilor Hosticka began the discussion by informing the Council of an upcoming meeting with the Project Steering Committee, which was being held to review evaluation criteria. He shared that from the Work Session discussion he hoped to gain a sense of the Councils feeling on the project, which he would effectively communicate with the project management team.

Councilor Hosticka voiced his land use concerns, specifically relating to induced growth effects. He pointed out that the report discussed economic growth, but failed to refer to increased economic activity this project might bring. Councilor Hosticka noted the difficulties involved with building a connector between I-5 and Hwy. 99 and said the challenges could be so immense the option of an expressway would be eliminated.

The Council discussed the variety of costs that needed consideration when evaluating project options and alternatives. Councilor Liberty suggested a comparative analysis between benefits and cost. Andy Cotugno, Planning Director, clarified urban growth boundary requirements and limitations and discussed the selection of appropriate comparative data between various alternatives. He informed the Council that Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) required an Interchange Area Management Plan. Appropriate interchange development will need to be demonstrated to receive permission to build. The Modernization (MOD) program and related funding were referred to. An upcoming meeting, on October 10, was being held to discuss that topic.

Issues associated with traffic flow and congestion were discussed, along with the impact that length of commute would have on residents. The effect that traffic routing had on town centers was mentioned, along with the impact this will have on surrounding towns. Councilor Liberty reviewed the graph criteria and spoke about land use measures. He voiced concerns over this project potentially harming local communities. He and Councilor Hosticka addressed land use issues.

Councilor Burkholder addressed the financial aspect of the project, and that available funding may be insufficient for the broad scope of this project. He questioned Metro's ability to provide infrastructure to the area brought into the Urban Growth Boundary. Councilor Burkholder felt that the evaluation criteria and ultimate objectives needed to be reexamined and expressed interest in the impact this proposed road could have on commute distances traveled by area residents.

Council President Bragdon wanted an elaboration on the inducement of growth; he expressed concerns about wording and felt that some of the writing needed further clarification. Councilor Park mentioned the return-on-investment of the various transportation options. He also referred to induced demand, and expressed the importance of traffic placement within communities.

Councilor Harrington reviewed the objectives and suggested that more separation between farm and natural areas might be beneficial. She questioned the grading criteria for improvements and suggested making improvements to the evaluation criteria. She also raised questions about the load of east-west traffic.

Councilor Hosticka expressed interest in traffic patterns, addressed the impact that commuters have on transportation models and mentioned the importance of having a job/housing balance within communities. He concluded the discussion by clarifying the thoughts and ideas discussed in the Council work session.

6. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Liberty reported on an Oregon Zoo Foundation meeting. He discussed the recommendations generated by the meeting, and noted that recent consultant work has made the data more accessible.

Councilor Burkholder reported on the Columbia River Crossing, a task force will present data on the various options at a meeting scheduled in November. A work session will be held after this presentation. The task force will tentatively present their findings and staff recommendations in May.

Dan Cooper, Metro Attorney, explained changes to the resolution and reasons behind the resolution amendment. The Council agreed that the changes to the resolution were an improvement, but that additional information was needed before making further decisions.

Councilor Liberty wanted to reevaluate basic agreements before making further financial commitments and expressed concerns regarding a lack of exploration into headquarters hotel alternatives. Councilor Burkholder presented a handout containing his economic research, and raised questions about the economic development potential for the region.

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 4:53 p.m.

Prepared by,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erika Storie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Erika Storie
Council Operations Assistant

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

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1	Agenda	9/27/07	Agenda: Metro Council regular meeting, September 27, 2007	092507cw-01
1	Amended Version	9/25/07	Resolution 07-3868-A, Negotiations for Funding of and Creating Financing Plan	092507cw-02
1	HQ Hotel	9/25/07	To: Metro Council From: Dave Kovaleski Re: The Ripple Effect	092507cw-03
5	Article	8/23/07	To: Metro Council From: Mark Turpel Re: Where Would You Put an Expressway	092507cw-04
5	Memo	9/25/07	To: Metro Council From: Andy Cotugno, Mark Turpel Re: Connector: Draft Evaluation Criteria	092507cw-05
5	Draft	9/24/07	To: Metro Council From: Mark Turpel Re: I-5 to 99W Adopted Goals and Objectives	092507cw-06
5	Summary	9/25/07	To: Metro Council From: Mark Turpel Re: Quick Summary of Proposed Evaluation Criteria	092507cw-07
5	RTP Goals	2007	To: Metro Council From: Mark Turpel Re: 2035 Regional Transportation Plan	092507cw-08
5	Letter	8/14/07	To: Metro Council From: Councilor Liberty Re: Expressway	092507cw-09