

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL/EXECUTIVE OFFICER INFORMAL MEETING

October 9, 2001

Metro Council Annex

Councilors Present: David Bragdon (Presiding Officer), Susan McLain, Rod Park, Bill Atherton, Rex Burkholder, Rod Monroe

Councilors Absent: Carl Hosticka

Presiding Officer Bragdon convened the Council/Executive Officer Informal Meeting at 2:07 p.m.

1. UPCOMING LEGISLATION

There was no council meeting this week.

2. CORRIDOR PLANNING

Andy Cotugno, Planning Director, briefed the Council on the Corridor Initiative process. He talked about two corridors: Highway 217 and Foster/Powell. He gave recommendations for each corridor study (a copy of Richard Brandman's memo is found in the meeting record explaining each) and talked about the budget commitments. He explained why Hwy 217 was ripe for the study and why Foster/Powell should be a phased study. He highlighted the problems with each study. They had just applied for a value pricing pilot program grant, if they got this grant they would have funding for both studies. He spoke to other funding possibilities. **Councilor Atherton** asked why ODOT was more interested in Foster/Powell. **Mr. Cotugno** explained why. **Bridget Wieghart, Planning Program Supervisor**, said the state were not opposed to using some of the money for Hwy 217 but they had emphasized funding for Foster/Powell. **Mr. Cotugno** explained further options. **Councilor Burkholder** asked about timing for the phases. **Ms. Wieghart** talked about when Phase 1 and 2 would start and explained their choices. **Mr. Cotugno** explained that they did not have any funding for either project yet. **Councilor Burkholder** asked about additional funding from the state and local partners. **Mr. Cotugno** said, to date, the state had no additional funding. **Ms. Wieghart** said some of the cities had expressed willingness to help. **Councilor Atherton** asked what issues would be studied, HOV? **Councilor Park** said Gresham would like to move ahead with some of their projects so they encouraged moving on the Foster/Powell study. **Ms. Wieghart** said if they wanted to go forward now they would have to proceed with some uncertainty. **Councilor Atherton** suggested providing guidance to the local jurisdictions. **Mr. Cotugno** concurred and made some suggestions on how to split the matching costs. **Presiding Officer Bragdon** asked about MTIP allocations to corridor planning. **Mr. Cotugno** explained the advantages and disadvantages in the future. **Mike Burton**, Executive Officer, suggested that when decisions were made about funding, the council should be informed. **Ms. Wieghart** spoke to controversial issues such as demand pricing. **Councilor Park** asked about Damascus development and impact on Powell/Foster study. **Mr. Cotugno** gave his opinion on impact.

3. DISCUSSION ON BLUE LAKE MASTER PLAN AND OTHER ISSUES

Charlie Ciecko, Regional Parks and Greenspaces Planning Director, said he understood they would be discussing what Blue Lake ought to be and the role it played within the regional system. He noted policy guidance from previous Operations Committee (a copy of this is found in the meeting record). He gave some history about the master planning process, the scoping study, summaries, policy options and

recommendations of the Regional Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Committee. He noted the recent processes they had gone through with the current Regional Facilities Committee.

Mike Burton, Executive Director, added what his guidance had been to the department, regional issues, on all facilities and, historically, what had occurred as they took over facilities. Could they get facilities to pay for themselves and possibly make some money for the agency? **Councilor Park** wanted to examine the revenue bond issue, marketing plan, was it a facility or a park or both, the regional versus local perspective. **Presiding Officer Bragdon** asked how solid were the formulas for funding issues. **Mr. Ciecko** responded. **Mr. Burton** said the council would have to take up the issue of a bond before they could go forward. He felt they had good agency resources to look at this issue. **Councilor McLain** asked do we want to keep subsidizing this Park, what were the risks for new projects and was this a direction the council wanted to go forward with? **Mr. Burton** noted that all facilities that Metro operated were subsidized.

Councilor Monroe said he felt Blue Lake Park was an enterprise activity park. We needed to look at all possible options that did not degrade the natural environment. He thought that MERC might be able to provide guidance on business options. **Heather Kent** said they had brought in a consultant to examine these issues including a lodge, an amphitheater, golf learning center, neighborhood issues, etc. **Mr. Ciecko** said that Jeff Stone had asked the Mark Williams of MERC take a look at the recommendations. He noted budgetary constraints. **Councilor McLain** suggested that we needed to pursue issues to generate revenue and look for partnerships to do this. There would be reviews before anything happened. **Councilor Park** suggested we do a marketing analysis before we decide upon a preferred concept. **Mr. Ciecko** indicated they had utilized a consultant, Eric Hovey, to conduct an analysis prior to recommending a preferred concept. **Councilor Monroe** said whatever was done, good transit had to be included.

Councilor Burkholder suggested that they make a decision as to whether Blue Lake Park becomes a regional facility or a regional park. The approach for one would be quite different than the other. **Mr. Burton** said they needed to make sure that there wasn't a covenant against making it something else other than a park. **Mr. Ciecko** said he didn't think expanding the park would be breaking the covenant. **Councilor Atherton** asked if they had a stable funding source for parks, would it remain a park? **Ms. Kent** said the need to upgrade existing facilities was driving the need for new revenue.

Mr. Ciecko said many of the facilities that Metro took over such as Expo and Oxbow Park needed to be maintained and upgraded. **Councilor McLain** said this was still a park but it didn't preclude having facilities that generate revenue. **Mr. Burton** said there was a need to finance and subsidize all of the facilities. Blue Lake and Expo were in far better shape than they were seven years ago. There was a policy decision that had to be made which was how to fund the park. He said they were working with the City of Fairview to purchase police services in the summer. Mr. Sandroock should be reporting back to the Council. **Councilor Atherton** said Mr. Ron Buell had brought some concept suggestions to the committee that should be looked at. **Councilor Burkholder** suggested that for large events we charged for individuals rather by car. **Mr. Ciecko** said under Title 10 they currently charge by the car not by the person. He noted that the entry would need to be revamped to accommodate walk-in charges. He asked council for a summary of what the Parks Department was being asked to do. **Mr. Burton** summarized that Council needed more information from the consultant about the economic possibilities. He suggested that Mr. Hovey come back with an economic feasibility discussion and suggested Mark Williams also look at the feasibility. Mr. Burton asked the council if they were comfortable with proceeding with more enterprise activities in a park setting like Blue Lake Park? He suggested that the Park Department come back with some ideas on how to implement some of these enterprises. **Mr. Ciecko** said he would have Mr. Hovey come to an Informal and present his economic feasibility findings. **Councilor Park** suggested that Mr. Williams also look at the site and present at the same time. **Presiding Officer Bragdon** said he would plan for a presentation to council.

Councilor McLain brought up the issue of ground water. Councilors discussed this issue.

4. EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMMUNICATION

There were none.

4. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Presiding Officer Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Prepared by

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Clerk of the Council

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 9, 2001

TOPIC	DOCUMENT DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT NUMBER
Corridor Initiative process and council endorsement of findings	10/3/01	Memo to Council from Richard Brandman concerning Corridor Initiative	100901c-01
Highway 217 Corridor	10/8/01	To Metro Council from Richard Brandman concerning corridor study	100901c-02
Foster/Powell Corridor	10/8/01	To Metro Council from Richard Brandman concerning corridor study	100901c-03
Corridor Study Progression Options	no date	To Metro Council from Richard Brandman concerning recommended options for studies	100901c-04
Corridor Planning study discussion at 10/9/01 Informal	10/9/01	Memo to Metro Councilors from John Houser concerning transportation corridor study	100901c-05
Chronology leading to Release of RFP for the Blue Lake Park Economic Feasibility Study and Facility Design Concept	10/3/01	Chronology to Metro Council from Parks Dept.	100901c-06
Staff Report on Blue Lake Park Master Plan	no date	Staff report to Metro Council from Park Dept.	100901c-07
Blue Lake Park Master Plan Discussion Report	3/30/98	Report to Metro Council	100901c-08
Blue Lake Park Master Plan Advisory Committee meeting	4/7/98	Minutes of meeting	100901c-09
Metro Council Regional Facilities meeting minutes	6/3/98	Discussion of Blue Lake Master Plan	100901c-10