

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, January 29, 2008
Metro Council Chamber

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

Councilors Absent:

Council President Bragdon convened the Metro Council Work Session Meeting at 2:03 p.m.

1. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, JANUARY 31, 2008/ADMINISTRATIVE/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Bragdon reviewed the January 31, 2008 Metro Council agenda. Councilor Burkholder asked about zoo storm-water piping and asked if that was as creative as Metro could be. Michael Jordan, COO, explained that there was too much water to retain at peak flows, and currently a bigger pipe was the primary solution. Mr. Jordan explained the reasons for the piping system. President Bragdon asked about significant budget matters. Councilor Harrington asked about zoo storm-water piping, and why the Council did not anticipate this. She asked if she had missed it in the staff report. Mr. Jordan said he thought the zoo simply did not anticipate permit triggers. Mr. Jordan said the chain of events was also not anticipated. Councilor Collette asked if someone would attend Thursday's Council meeting to discuss this. Councilor Harrington said she would simply like a follow-up. Councilor Liberty asked if any recommendations were surprises, and if handling cash was an issue at scalehouses.

2. TITLE 4 MAP AMENDMENTS ANNUAL REPORT

Ray Valone, Principal Regional Planner, talked about the background of Title 4, and changes to the Title 4 map. Mr. Valone talked about amendments and land inventories. President Bragdon asked if everything was going according to plan. Mr. Valone said for the most part. Councilor Liberty talked about the brickworks site. Councilor Park explained issues with the brickworks site and the Happy Valley site. He said situations should be avoided where there are loopholes. Councilor Hosticka asked about industrial zoning, and pre-planning related to industrial zoning. Mr. Valone explained issues associated with zoning, and items relevant to Title 4. Councilor Park said mistakes needed to be avoided. Councilor Liberty explained there were two different legal situations, but identical situations with zoning. Mr. Jordan said at some point the Council needed to engage with the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC). Councilor Liberty asked and identified what we needed for employment. Councilor Burkholder asked if burdens were getting shifted from one 'body' to the next; and how to more adequately shift burdens. Councilor Park said it seemed as though planning was sustainable, but in fact was not. Mr. Jordan said the underlying issue was relationships with local governments, and how best to collaborate. Councilor Harrington said the days of asking for forgiveness were over, and the Council should keep this in mind.

Mr. Valone asked for clarification. Councilor Liberty said employment distributions should be conducted and identified, and not waited upon. Councilor Park said the Council should be proactive. He explained prices in relation to land uses. President Bragdon said the Council should be equipped to have a thorough discussion of employment needs. Councilor Burkholder

said that Metro cannot keep providing industrial land. Councilor Park talked about capital cost issues. He asked if we should start being more proactive and collaborative in order to find results. Mr. Jordan said these issues would be flagged at MPAC. Councilor Liberty said schools and Title 4 issues were significantly different topics. Councilor Collette said MPAC was discussing the connection between urban centers and schools. She said schools really are urban centers. Councilor Harrington said churches are also becoming urban centers.

3. BUDGET WORK SESSION

Mr. Jordan introduced the budget discussion agenda. Topics included: 1) Auditor's budget 2) Sustainability and its inclusion in the budget 3) Public Affairs organizational structure 4) Other issues as needed. He provided budget discussion and presentation timelines, and stated March would be a time for final drafts. Suzanne Flynn, Metro Auditor, explained the budget context (see attachment). She explained different components of Metro and their connection with greater than realized Metro exposure (see attachment). She said when she first came to Metro, her view was of a little agency, but her view has since changed. She explained her audit process, and different auditing options, and which she preferred. She said she would need more resources to conduct an audit relevant to the scope she said Metro needed, and without those resources she would be required to conduct a more limited audit. Councilor Park asked about the general public's understanding of Metro. Ms. Flynn said that more reports and information going out could aid the public's understanding of Metro, and also a broader connectivity between different Metro entities. Councilor Liberty talked about internal versus external examinations. Ms. Flynn said they have been looking at different data collection methods, and other different process audits. She said they had also looked at planning and compliance methods. She said that this year process audits had been conducted. Councilors Liberty and Harrington asked for one additional staff person, and Ms. Flynn said this could expand audit capabilities. Councilor Harrington asked what had changed, and why the need for additional staff. Ms. Flynn said it was easier to contract out audit services in the past, but not so much anymore.

Councilor Burkholder asked if there were audit models available to learn about efficient auditing. He asked if there were strategies for collaborative audits. Ms. Flynn said it was difficult to collaborate audits. Councilor Burkholder gave an example of a collaborative audit, where the Metro auditor helped develop efficient audits. Ms. Flynn explained the difference between a manager doing an audit, and an auditor doing an audit. Councilor Collette said she believed Metro's role in the audit process was very different from other entities. President Bragdon said Ms. Flynn's auditing process adds value to both the agency as well as the public. He asked about diversity within the agency, and said Metro needs were essentially up to Ms. Flynn and the Auditors Office. President Bragdon asked if Ms. Flynn was surprised by the results of an external audit. President Bragdon asked if there were any red flags the Council should examine. Ms. Flynn said Metro's Finance Department was very thinly staffed. Councilor Harrington asked if one additional staff person was enough for the stated outcome Metro was looking for. She said she saw value in different types of audits, and would like to support a good solid practice. President Bragdon asked about next steps in the budget process. Mr. Jordan explained.

Mr. Jordan talked about current issues with budget development. He said a larger issue on the budget horizon was the discussion of incorporating sustainability. He distributed a sustainability resolution draft. Mr. Jordan further discussed what he believed were the primary components of Metro's discussion of sustainability. The three primary components included:

- Buildings and operations
- Communications and marketing

-Convening the Region

He acknowledged obvious subcategories, but talked and asked about balance and scale of the three primary sustainability components Mr. Jordan introduced. Councilor Park suggested adding sustainability as an overarching policy direction for everything Metro does as an additional component. President Bragdon said doing a little could have a big impact, regarding emissions, urban growth boundaries, and investigating transport. Councilor Liberty said growth plays a large role in sustainability. Councilor Collette said we should look at how we articulate goals and their connection to sustainability, and said it was a rigorous conversation. Councilor Harrington said the Council was not saying yes or no to sustainability, but to integrate sustainability into different frameworks, and invest into future opportunities. Mr. Jordan said at the very least there would be staff realignment for a sustainability position. Councilor Burkholder said there was currently a laundry list of ideas. He also said there was an opportunity for emission reduction requirements. Councilor Harrington said we should look at what we are already doing and how to provide leadership and regional planning in regards to sustainability. Councilor Park said the goals of Metro have a unifying theme related to sustainability. President Bragdon said sustainability was intended to be implemented into every new full-time employee (FTE) hired, and integrate this further into the budget without creating an entirely new program. He said there might be some costs.

Mr. Jordan said they were in the middle of trying to tie in performance measurements with sustainability and Council goals and objectives. Councilor Burkholder wished that Metro would focus less on compliance issues. He further said he wished to re-prioritize current priority lists. Councilor Collette said if we look at everybody's job as a component of sustainability, a sustainability position would be unneeded. She asked if the performance measurements currently developed created a sustainable region. She said sustainability is a component of performance.

Mr. Jordan summarized that the Council wanted to infuse sustainability into actions, goals, and operations. He said some components would involve the expenditure of extra energy and resources. Mr. Jordan transitioned and discussed the Public Affairs department and subsequent organizational structure. He said they currently do public involvement, social marketing, brand management and creative services, and government and management relations. Mr. Jordan said what he saw as not belonging was the legislative and government affairs side. He said, however, that if it were removed, the recruiting process would be entirely different. Mr. Jordan welcomed discussion.

Councilor Park asked about upsides and downsides. Councilor Hosticka asked about what other people do conceptually. He asked if Public Affairs was in the Council or COO office. He said throughout cities, Public Affairs reported to lead political figures. Councilor Harrington said in Washington County what is presented, and actual operations, are different. Councilor Hosticka talked about management operations and inclusion of a Public Affairs person. Councilor Liberty said he worried about branding becoming a product rather than an agency with policy development and objectives. Councilor Harrington said Metro should be strategic in operations, rather than just simply operational in nature. She did not believe the agency had hit on a consistent strategic operation or practice yet. She felt that Metro was heading down a different track than recently agreed upon, and she said she did not agree to sponsor. President Bragdon said the COO office is supposed to focus on internal management, and should not be the nexus of external relations. He said he would want an interacting director who could provide an overall direction, in collaboration with the Council. He said the director should be working externally instead of focusing on managing staff. Councilor Burkholder said the director should be able to

do government relations and also marketing and communications management. Councilor Burkholder said the role of the COO was to guarantee the agency was successful. He said the role is very expansive. He said his first question was if Public Affairs belonged where it did. Councilor Liberty noted there are many different opinions, and would at some point play a role in who was hired. Councilor Collette said it might be easier to fill a Government Affairs position and a Creative Services position, rather than a position that combines the two. President Bragdon clarified stating the role of the director would be to clarify policy and communication directions. Mr. Jordan said whoever was hired should understand the politics of the agency, government relations, as well as communications and marketing. Councilor Liberty said there was a smaller and distinct issue of who was being hired. He said the structural aspect was not of interest to him, but who was hired. Councilor Park asked about lobbying roles in the agency, and Mr. Jordan said it varies. He clarified the majority of the Council did not want to change structure, and wanted to get the recruitment out the door. Councilor Collette explained other similar and different models. Councilor Hosticka discussed another model.

President Bragdon asked about strategic budgeting for the next discussion.

4. 2009 OREGON LEGISLATIVE SPECIAL SESSION

Randy Tucker, Legislative Affairs Manager, talked about the urban and rural reserve rule. He said there had not been any significant changes or updates since the last update. He explained the time period for the service of urban and rural reserves. Mr. Tucker said there were very rigid timelines for bills to be passed for the Legislative Special Session. He said there were no apparent issues directly related to this agency. He said key issues were housing funding and audits as public record. He explained these issues (see attachment). Councilor Liberty explained housing issues in other sessions, and subsequent background and implications. Mr. Tucker said there might have been a communication breakdown between lobbyists and others. He explained that Metro pay close attention to the housing community, and introduced a joint collaborative activity.

Councilor Liberty explained the funding breakdown. Mr. Tucker said the 2009 Session was also an option to secure funding. Councilor Liberty said we need more flexibility in funding. Mr. Tucker talked about newspapers obtaining audits. He talked about draft audits reaching the public, but not until audits are final. Councilors agreed this should be the course of action. Councilor Harrington asked about language.

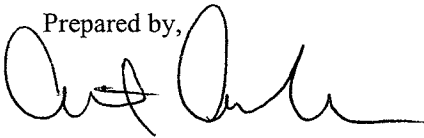
Mr. Tucker talked about and explained urban renewal (see attachment). He explained different funding strategies involved in urban renewal funding. He said it is in Metro's interest to make sure urban renewal funding was an option for Metro funding. Councilor Liberty asked about language pertaining to the definition of 'blight' (see attachment). Mr. Tucker explained different language questions. Councilor Hosticka asked about language stating 'non-contiguous.' He said it should be something to investigate. Councilor Park asked about special districts. Mr. Jordan said that Metro should follow the lead of local partners in urban renewal and building urban centers and corridors. President Bragdon said Metro should be cognoscente of Metro's position and utilize the tools of centers and corridors. Mr. Tucker said he would need more information to utilize stated opinions. Councilors discussed edge development with Mr. Jordan and Mr. Tucker. The Council said Mr. Tucker should monitor these issues. Councilor Harrington asked about emergencies and natural disasters in relation to the efficiency of the Special Session. Councilor Liberty was concerned with transportation project funding. Mr. Tucker said transportation and hotel funding would most likely have a large amount of discussion.

5. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Harrington updated the Council on the Reserves Steering Committee. She updated on agriculture representation on the committee. Councilor Park said a timeline would be made available in the near future. Councilor Liberty said he would be speaking at a new land-use committee.

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

Prepared by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Andersen', written over a horizontal line.

Tony Andersen
Council Operations Assistant

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF
JANUARY 29, 2008**

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1	Agenda	1/31/08	Agenda: Metro Council regular meeting, January 31, 2008	012908cw-1
3	Outline	1/29/08	Outline: Budget Context – Auditor’s Office, January 29, 2008	012908cw-2
3	Resolution	1/29/08	Resolution: DRAFT For the Purpose of Adopting a Definition of Sustainability For the Purpose of Directing Metro’s Internal Operations, Planning Efforts, and Role as a Regional Convener, January 29, 2008	012908cw-3
4	Statement	1/29/08	Statement: Metro 2008-2009 Legislative Issue Identification, January 29, 2008	012908cw-4