

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, February 5, 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 2:01 p.m.

1. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, FEBRUARY 7, 2008/ADMINISTRATIVE/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Bragdon reviewed the February 7, 2008 Metro Council agenda.

Councilor Harrington asked about item number 4.1 on the February 7, 2008 Council meeting agenda regarding the Contingency Fund. She asked Michael Jordan, COO, specific questions about the fund.

2. COLUMBIA RIVER CROSSING DISCUSSION

Councilor Burkholder introduced the discussion and handouts. He addressed timelines and processes (see attachments). He talked about issues involved, and conversations he had with different neighborhood groups and individuals (see attachments). He talked about different design elements involved (see attachments). Councilor Collette asked who was doing design planning. Councilor Liberty asked what Councilor Burkholder needed from the Council during the work session. Councilor Burkholder explained that as a liaison, he was presenting information. Councilors Hosticka and Liberty expressed concerns that were not addressed in Columbia River Crossing literature. Councilor Hosticka had questions regarding land-use, the environment and how many vehicles would be crossing the bridge. Councilor Liberty pointed to information in the handout. Councilor Burkholder answered Councilors Hosticka and Liberty's questions. Councilor Hosticka and Liberty again asked about induced demand. Councilor Burkholder clarified the induced demand question. President Bragdon stated the process regarding further steps and summarized further issues. Councilor Park asked what needed to be emphasized. President Bragdon opened discussion regarding unanswered questions.

Councilor Hosticka had questions on how many cars would cross the bridge, and land-use and environmental impacts.

President Bragdon wanted an analysis on how investments such as the crossing would affect Metro, the region, and the state of Washington. An example question he asked was, regarding the bridge, 'How does this ensure that 100,000 people do not move to Battleground?' Richard Brandman, Metro Transit Program Director, stated that information could be provided.

Councilor Liberty provided summaries and read the letter from October 19, 2006 (see attachment). Mr. Brandman said at this stage in the process a conceptual plan would be developed, but no further plans beyond a conceptual framework. Councilor Liberty asked if it was possible to separate trade-offs. Mr. Brandman and Mark Turpel, Metro Principal

Transportation Planner, answered questions relating the Columbia River Crossing to the Regional Transportation Plan. They clarified specific questions. Councilor Liberty introduced a study on the crossing over the Ohio River as a possible model for Columbia River Crossing studies.

Councilor Harrington asked about tolling. She asked what sort of tolls would be implemented. Councilor Burkholder answered and clarified different techniques to utilize tolling as a tool. Mr. Brandman clarified there had been no decisions made because the project was in the preliminary stage. Councilor Park asked how mega-warehouses would affect freight movement, and referred to the Washington state flood. He further asked about increases in vehicle movement across the river, and additionally how transit would be affected if tolls were implemented. Councilor Liberty said the large majority of trips were from Portland to Clark County, and asked how many semi trips were made over the river and through Portland. Councilor Park answered he did not have concrete numbers, but would like to know what different levels of congestion would do to freight throughout the day. Councilor Collette asked about total freight traffic on the bridge and if trucks pay more tolls than other transit. She asked if this just simply moved the bottleneck. Councilor Burkholder said it was relative, and it was the best possible proposed solution for that particular crossing problem. He said there were problems in the system, but this was one proposed solution.

President Bragdon switched discussion to Councilor Burkholder's memo (see attachment). Councilor Collette said she preferred one auxiliary lane, kept as narrow as possible. She would like it as a package. She said there are a lot of aspirations in the region, and this could suck up resources for a long time. Councilor Park asked if there were any recommendations addressing I-205. Councilor Burkholder said it could be considered and is a political decision. Councilor Park asked how to get an answer if his question were outside the scope of this project. Councilor Burkholder said the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) was a good forum for discussion. Councilor Park said he would like to work on language with someone. Councilor Harrington did not want options to be narrow. She said she was sensitive to trying to fix past ills, and was supportive of identifying opportunities. Councilor Liberty said his comments were contingent on getting more information. He said it was important to establish the tolling system and allocate tolling funds appropriately. He said it was important to guarantee performance for freight movement and developing a land-use strategy. Councilor Liberty said he was having a hard time grasping twelve lanes. Councilor Collette addressed salmon runs. Councilor Burkholder said salmon runs were addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). President Bragdon said light-rail and tolls were important, and that tolls be used as a management and revenue tool, and that toll revenue be used creatively. He further noted that pedestrian and bicycle facilities on the bridge should not be an afterthought. He said urban design and impacts to Hayden Island and other land-use impacts were important to focus on. President Bragdon said he was interested in looking at alternatives as well. Councilor Hosticka said he was very strongly in favor of variable tolling. He said the beneficiaries of the bridge would be individuals traveling during congestion hours and therefore people traveling at non-congestion hours should not be tolled the same. He said pursuing I-205 was also worth further looking into. Councilor Hosticka said the project could not take credit for hybrid cars and other vehicle innovations.

Councilor Liberty commented on pricing, benefits, and burdens. He said the bridge would be built for commuters and the majority would be commuter traffic from Clark County. He further said if tolling were used as a management tool, job location would be a key component. Councilor Collette mentioned testing tolling on I-5 beforehand. Councilor Burkholder reiterated that the project was in the preliminary stages. Councilor Hosticka talked about toll funds paying for the bridge, and Councilor Burkholder explained specifics. Councilor Hosticka requested

information on building the bridge without toll funding. Councilor Liberty mentioned he would be drafting an alternative resolution and requested additional staff support. Councilor Burkholder, in response to different questions, provided a scope of the project, stating how truly large it was.

Councilor Liberty stressed his concern with knocking off other projects in order to fulfill the financial needs of the Columbia River Crossing project.

3. BREAK

4. BUDGET WORK SESSION

Mr. Jordan introduced Jeff Tucker and his discussion.

Jeff Tucker, Finance Manager of Regional Parks and Greenspaces, discussed budget handouts (see attachments). He discussed the budget and its connections to various performance measures, specifically also including sustainability. He described processes and strategies for the Performance Measures and Program Budget Mock-up for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008-09. Councilors Hosticka and Liberty talked about different goals and funding prioritizations. Mr. Tucker further explained the Performance Measures budget. Councilor Park asked where a balancer enters the picture, referring to measurement of how much sustainability would cost, and what the cut-off was. He requested a 'user's guide' so that there was not only a narrative or numbers. Councilor Liberty asked if the agency had created a document showing yields on investments. Mr. Tucker explained where the agency and budget were at in connection to performance measure indicators. He further explained the formatting of the budget draft to meet Council requests and needs. Councilor Harrington asked about taking on too much with the proposed budget.

Councilor Liberty asked what a narrative would look like for the capital budget. Mr. Tucker explained the capital budget format. President Bragdon said the budget was helpful to make trade-offs, and to ensure proper management of the agency; he further noted the role of operational measures and subsequent measures. Councilor Liberty said that regarding trade-offs, there might be a need to analyze performance measures.

Kevin Dull, Human Resources Manager, introduced his hand-out on efficiency measures (see handout). He described processes in developing the hand-out.

Mr. Tucker explained and presented his second hand-out entitled, '*How one program links up to the Performance Indicators and Metro Goals*' (see attachment). Councilor Harrington asked about property assessment in regards to restoration and a timeline system looking towards the future. She said she would like to see performance measures look to the future and make recommendations and strategies for the future. Councilor Park talked about the qualitative part of the budget and performance measures. Mr. Jordan explained how the process would happen. Councilor Liberty talked about how different projects were not all equal to the Council, and this should be kept in mind when developing the budget. President Bragdon said it was important to distinguish the priority of individual projects in the budget, especially as an efficient management tool. He said there were restraints on quantitative measurements. Mr. Tucker said deadlines have been met and wanted to check with the Council whether everything looks according to plan. He said he was checking in. President Bragdon said its use as a budget tool needed to be honed in more. Councilor Hosticka said he thought the format was good, but did not know when actual

elements of the document would be finalized. He said it was a discussion item to help make decisions. Councilor Park said it was a tool defined by what it was, and what it was not.


5. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Park provided an update on the headquarters hotel and provided hand-outs (see attachments). Bill Stringer, Chief Financial Officer, answered financial questions regarding the headquarters hotel. Councilor Liberty asked about hotel bond issuance. Councilor Park explained the timeline (see attachment).

Councilor Liberty talked about attending constituency meetings. Councilor Park wondered what different demographics various businesses require in order to locate somewhere. Councilor Liberty said that information exists on the web. Councilor Harrington talked about 'study guides' for neighborhood groups as a beneficial tool. Councilor Liberty talked about public involvement in processes. Councilor Harrington said it would be useful to get some of those ideas moving forward.

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Prepared by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Andersen', written in a cursive style.

Tony Andersen
Council Operations Assistant

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF
FEBRUARY 5, 2008**

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1	Agenda	2/7/08	Agenda: Metro Council regular meeting, February 7, 2008	020508cw-1
2	Memo	1/31/08	To: Metro Council From: John Osborn, P.E., and Doug Ficco, P.E. Re: Response to Questions Received from Metro December 2007 January 31, 2008	020508cw-2
2	Memo	2/1/08	To: President Bragdon and Council Members From: Councilor Rex Burkholder Re: February 5 Council Work Session – Columbia River Crossing February 1, 2008	020508cw-3
2	Letter	10/19/06	To: Hal Dengerink and Henry Hewitt, Co-Chairs Columbia River Crossing Task Force From: Metro Council Re: Columbia River Crossing update October 19, 2006	020508cw-4
2	Visual	2/5/08	Land Use Concepts and Designs, February 5, 2008	020508cw-5
4	Draft	2/5/08	Performance Measures and Program Budget, FY 2008-09, Mock-Up, February 5, 2008	020508cw-6
4	Draft	2/5/08	SAMPLE: How one program links up to the Performance Indicators and Metro Goals, February 5, 2008	020508cw-7
4	Draft	2/5/08	Critical Success Factors for Back Office Functions – Efficiency Measurements, February 5, 2008	020508cw-8
5	Memo	2/5/08	To: Metro Council President Bragdon and Metro Council From: Alison Kean Campbell, Metro Senior Assistant Attorney Re: Quick Summary off OCC HQ Hotel Development Agreement February 5, 2008	020508cw-9
5	Visual	2/5/08	Headquarters Hotel 2008 Decision-making timeline	020508cw-10