

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, February 12, 2008
Metro Council Chamber

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

Councilors Absent: Carl Hosticka (excused)

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

1. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, FEBRUARY 14, 2008/ADMINISTRATIVE/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Bragdon reviewed the February 14, 2008 Metro Council agenda. The Council discussed questions related to transportation funding and Resolution Nos. 08-3891 and 08-3917 related to Portland Regional Transportation Priorities and endorsing Multnomah County's Bridge Safety Funding Ballot Measure. Councilors discussed specific numbers and fees related to Multnomah County's Bridge Safety Funding Ballot Measure numbers.

Michael Jordan, COO, talked about available grant funding to replace Chamber televisions with flat-screen monitors, and additionally put monitors at the dais. Mr. Jordan asked for Councilor input. Councilors wanted to guarantee the audience could see presentations and visuals well.

2. DESIGN COMPETITION BRIEFING

Stacey Triplett, Parks Manager, and Corie Harlan, Nature in Neighborhoods Coordinator, introduced 'Integrating Habitats. A design competition.' Ms. Triplett explained the design submission process and showcased a few selected entries as design examples. Ms. Triplett and Ms. Harlan explained site sizes of submitted designs. Ms. Triplett talked about what would occur on February 26th and provided background on the design competition jury. Ms. Triplett asked Councilors what they would like to hear from the jurors. Councilor Harrington wanted the question of 'What would the region get out of this?' discussed. She asked how this could be directly applied to our region, state, and the Northwest. Councilor Burkholder wanted to know the common themes, and ways to bring innovative designs, like the designs submitted in the competition, to the region. President Bragdon wanted to know if there were innovative code and zone-writing tools that encouraged innovative design outcomes. Councilor Liberty asked what could be built as a template for future efficient development and according to scale. Councilor Park was concerned with the balance between environmental, economic, and social aspects. He was curious how jurors used a balancing lens that focused equally on both environmental and social aspects. Councilor Collette was concerned with integrating innovative transportation options into designs. Councilor Park asked about recording the designs and the design competition. Ms. Triplett explained video strategies employed. Ms. Harlan explained three questions that would be asked on Design Award night and recorded. The questions included inquiries about interest, design experience, and inspiration. Ms. Triplett explained different technological devices used to record the design event. Councilor Harrington talked about expanding the design competition for regional citizens. Councilor Liberty asked if designs would be presented in comparison to one another. Ms. Triplett and Ms. Harlan described how designs would be presented at the event.

Councilor Liberty said he would like to enable people to understand different processes behind each design. Councilor Harrington asked about making design information more user friendly. Councilor Collette asked if planners were invited to the event, as they could take away the most from presented designs. Ms. Triplett said most definitely. Councilor Park mentioned recordings could act as idea generators. Councilor Harrington said it was important that materials reach the website in a user friendly way and were easily accessible. Councilors congratulated Ms. Triplett and Ms. Harlan for their work.

3. SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN

Councilor Burkholder introduced actions Metro could take to address issues of climate change and sustainability. Councilor Burkholder asked how the Council would like to carry the process and about ways to implement it into action. Councilor Park asked to what extent the Council would like to make the sustainability resolution an educational tool. Councilor Collette asked about hiring an agency sustainability coordinator. She also asked about language stating 'New Look' instead of 'The Greatest Place.' She said Metro should be specific about clarifying internal sustainability and external regional sustainability efforts. Councilor Liberty said this should be looked at as a new project. He said the sum of money that would be spent on a sustainability position should be applied to sustainability efforts with current projects. Councilor Harrington said she was concerned with phraseology and language in the resolution regarding economic development and efficiency. She said development should be addressed in connection to sustainability. She further noted that there was a viable balance between energy use and community economy. Councilor Burkholder asked how to move internal and external sustainability efforts forward and said that the resolution was only language, so was there any input as to how a viable work plan could be developed? Councilor Collette said roundtables and workshops could act as conveners to discuss issues related to Metro sustainability. Councilor Collette said she did not see the Regional Transportation Plan address sustainability like it should. Councilor Liberty talked about obscurities in sustainable goals. He said one or two goals should be focused on to set a national example. He said sustainability should not be a fashion statement; it should be an action plan. Councilor Burkholder said one strategy is rebranding Metro sustainability. He said Metro should adopt a regional climate plan. He said there are also internal sustainable efforts such as ENACT (Environmental Action Team) and Metro Green Team. Councilor Burkholder talked about condensing the broad discussion of sustainability, focusing on a few key issues and goals. Councilor Harrington said she wanted another opportunity to provide feedback. Councilor Burkholder said there have been, and would be, opportunities to discuss. Councilor Collette said the sustainability discussion at MPAC should stay simple and focused. She said Metro could act as a convener of sustainable discussion throughout the region.

Councilor Burkholder said he would make revisions and changes to the resolution, present it at MPAC (Metro Policy Advisory Committee), and bring the resolution back to the Council for a vote.

4. BREAK

5. METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

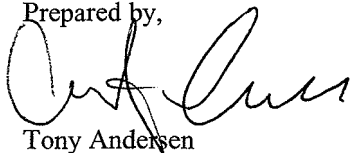
Ted Leybold, Planning Manager, said he came before the Council to discuss the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP). He explained funds involved in the MTIP process. He explained he wanted feedback from the Council and other stakeholders for putting together a draft policy report that would come before the Council on March 20th for a vote. Mr. Leybold went through the draft memo he distributed to the Council (see attachment). Councilor Harrington asked how much difference there was between the current plan and what the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) included in their plan. Councilor Burkholder explained there had not been much change in priorities, but there were a few changes in capacity. He further noted that even though there were few changes to priorities, discrepancies were created because priorities changed over time. Councilor Liberty addressed the language, stating 'economic development' should be changed to only 'development.' Councilors discussed issues related to MTIP policy issues. Mr. Leybold explained tier prioritization. He explained process issues. Councilor Park talked about different agreements and moving plans along. Councilor Burkholder asked how many dollars were allocated to road capacity. Mr. Leybold stated it was approximately forty percent. Councilor Burkholder explained his support of the discrepancy between local and regional projects (i.e. local bike trail versus regional bike trail). Councilor Burkholder said criteria should be identified for spending money. Councilor Burkholder asked how investments became mixed and what criteria were used for selection choices. Councilor Harrington asked if Tri-Met's city center study would reexamine and reevaluate different bus routes. President Bragdon said the bus service component of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) needed additional attention.

6. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Liberty talked about the Regional Housing Plan (RHP). He talked about partners and various meetings they have had. Councilor Liberty asked about appropriations.

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Prepared by,



Tony Andersen
Council Operations Assistant

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF
FEBRUARY 12, 2008**

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1	Agenda	2/14/08	Agenda: Metro Council regular meeting, February 14, 2008	021208cw-1
5	Report	2/12/08	Report: Policy Questions – JPACT/Council Topline Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) Federal Fiscal Years 2010-2013	021208cw-2
5	Memo	2/12/08	To: Metro Council From: Ted Leybold, MTIP Manager Re: Draft Policy Issues for 2010-13 MTIP Date: February 12, 2008	021208cw-3