

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, March 18, 2008
Metro Council Chamber

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

Councilors Absent: Kathryn Harrington (excused)

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

1. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, MARCH 20, 2008/ADMINISTRATIVE/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Bragdon reviewed the March 20, 2008 Metro Council agenda. He began by talking about a waste water project and thought it would be interesting for people to see. Council President Bragdon also mentioned that the Cornelius issue wouldn't be discussed in the Thursday Council Meeting. He asked Councilor Burkholder about one issue on Thursday's agenda and discussed the potential conflict between several jurisdictions over the bridge issue. Councilor Burkholder expanded on the bridge project. Councilor Liberty talked about the change in priorities and organization of the project. Councilor Burkholder talked about problems associated with a lack of planning. Councilor Park had questions about the MTAC issue and the definition of regional bridges, he wanted this clarified. Councilor Liberty and Councilor Collette commented on the definition clarification. It was decided that this issue would be followed up with on Thursday.

2. REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Pam Peck, Planning, Regional Transportation Options (RTO), recommended a regional transportation plan. This presentation was to provide Councilors with clarification and allow them to ask questions and voice concerns regarding the plan. She outlined the plan and provided a background on the project. She listed many of the partners in the program. Ms. Peck explained why there was a need to plan for this. Councilor Liberty asked for clarification and questioned the transportation plan funding. Ms. Peck estimated vehicle cost and savings from the program. Councilor Park had a question regarding automobile cost.

Ms. Peck continued by providing a policy framework and explained the program benefits. She outlined regional environmental benefits and described pollution in the region generated by automobiles. Ms. Peck discussed the goals of the strategic plan and the Drive Less/Save More campaign, which is considered a success. She discussed individual marketing goals and methods to reach this goal. The Regional Transportation Option (RTO) plan attempts to increase the use of travel options, with a focus on employer and commuter services and to provide information and services to increase travel options. The RTO plan would report progress to increase the level of information available to Council. Ms. Peck outlined priorities in the program and then opened the discussion to Council questions. Councilor Burkholder talked about the downtown framework plan and its interaction with the RTO plan. Ms. Peck responded to the considerations and her interest in receiving feedback from city centers, and a goal of the plan to develop toolkits and broaden its implementation. Ms. Peck responded that success rates of programs and what increases citizen participation can be hard to measure. She explained information related to the transportation plan acquired from PSU, as well as the possibility of using surveys conducted by

Tri-Met. Councilor Liberty encouraged the consideration of cost in the decision making process. Councilor Collette questioned how program success would be measured. She saw the effect and benefits of a transportation plan on the Milwaukie Transportation system. Councilor Park asked about internet information and citizen accessibility to information. Ms. Peck described an internet program developed by Washington State and said that it was a possible option for Metro. Councilor Park saw a lack of easy access to information as a barrier to the system, and Ms. Peck agreed.

3. INTEGRATING HABITAT: DEBRIEF AND NEXT STEPS

Stacey Triplett and Corie Harlan, Nature in Neighborhoods, presented a summary and possible next steps from the Integrating Habitats event. Council President Bragdon outlined the possible roles of Metro Councilors. Ms. Triplett discussed the project cost and what happened in the project. She talked about the large turnout at the event, citizen feedback, and she discussed the three different areas of the project. Ms. Triplett talked about Metro Council outreach, implementing project code, and expanding the movement. Ms. Triplett estimated the employee work hours dedicated to the entire project and requests Metro had received for a project outline and outcome report of the event. She talked about finances and potential sources of funding. Ms. Triplett talked about project successes, responses to funding requests and outcomes. She talked about current funding sources for program requests and exhibit travel. She mentioned the ten requests which have come for exhibit travel and viewing from both individual and governmental sources. There was also a request for hard copy publication and creation of an Integrating Habitat catalogue for Metro to distribute. Ms. Triplett talked about ideas that had come up for the different contest areas. Growing the movement would involve fulfilling project needs and continuing the resources created through the event. Ms. Triplett shared ideas and named potential opportunities for project expansion. She also talked about opportunities in implementing future projects and potential barriers to implementing the designs that had been identified. She talked about permits needed to construct event designs, how Metro could address code barriers, and detailed building requirements. She mentioned the opportunity for a traveling exhibit and the next steps that would need to be taken.

Councilor Park had a question about why a repeat of the event would be beneficial. Ms. Triplett talked about additional issues, such as transportation, that could be considered in a future design competition. Councilor Collette felt the event should be held again and thought there was strong support for this. She mentioned a potential event to design a "\$100,000 home". Councilor Hosticka suggested partnering with an academic organization and making this a regular event. Councilor Liberty talked about market testing, feasibility and cost. He thought it would be important to follow up on the idea of suggested future events. Councilor Park talked about following up on the designs and implementing them, he felt that overcoming construction barriers was important. Councilor Hosticka thought this action would keep energy levels up for the event. Councilor Burkholder talked about issues he had seen, market influence and market change. He mentioned that rewards and incentives might encourage implementation of the designs and how "real" development could be encouraged. He wondered what actions could be taken on a regional level. Ms. Triplett talked about the Living Building Challenge and how its performance level could be increased. Councilor Burkholder mentioned a possible rewards program and potential code changes that would make development easier. Councilor Collette mentioned problems related to the event website. Ms. Triplett talked about potential ways to correct those problems. Ms. Harlan talked about problems encountered with the website voting and project entry postings. Councilor Park questioned if entry requirements could be revised for future events and project

entries. Councilor Liberty talked about the benefits of integrating green design elements into future project requirements. Council President Bragdon talked about code amendments and a potential leadership role Metro could take. He felt there was the potential to construct some of entries and felt this would strengthen the movement. Councilor Liberty outlined three event themes he saw, such as the code and construction issues. Councilor Burkholder felt the entries could provide a background for attempting code changes. Councilor Hosticka talked about the value of sustaining the energy that was generated in the recent event. Council President Bragdon wanted cost estimations of potential future events so it could be discussed in an upcoming budget session. Councilor Burkholder thought taking entries from the first event on a tour could prove beneficial to other communities' planning. Councilor Collette was interested in seeing some of the entries constructed. The Council thanked Ms. Triplett and Ms. Harlan for their hard work on the event.

4. BREAK

5. PORTLAND-MILWAUKIE LIGHT RAIL PROJECT BRIEFING

See attached PowerPoint slide printout

Richard Brandman and Bridget Wieghart, Planning, introduced the project. Mr. Brandman talked about new information on the project. He discussed the current status of the project and barriers that were delaying its progress. Ms. Wieghart provided an overview and schedule of the project and mentioned the various groups that were involved. She described the options for the Willamette River Crossing and Mr. Brandman explained the reasons for the various bridge alignments. Councilor Liberty inquired about the impact to buses and pedestrian crossings. Councilor Park asked how the project would affect the streetcar. Ms. Wieghart continued by providing park and ride options. Councilor Burkholder asked about its effect on the trolley line. Councilor Hosticka asked about the absence of stations on the Tillamook Branch of the proposed project option. Ms. Wieghart presented a slide on ridership forecasts that provided low and high estimates. She presented a detailed estimate of system transit ridership numbers and she listed the benefits to traffic and transportation. Ms. Wieghart explained some of the barriers in traffic predictions and time estimates. She outlined changes related to transportation performance and capital costs of the various light rail project options. She explained the several river crossing option changes from the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) and offered a cost comparison. Councilor Hosticka questioned the option of directly crossing the river and the cost impact to the project from property owners. The future plans of the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI) were discussed. Councilor Liberty had questions related to the segment cost and bridge cost comparison. Ms. Wieghart supplied information on the bridge clearance from the Willamette River and information received from a survey of river users. She mentioned possible conflicts related to ship masts and their availability to pass under Portland bridges. A visual of the refined alignment and input that was received from areas in SE Portland was presented. Mr. Brandman distributed a printout on the range of capital costs and explained the various options. He talked about funding, financing and revenue data. Councilor Burkholder asked about contributions from South Waterfront property owners and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). Councilor Hosticka asked about the

requirements relating to securing funding before starting the project. Council President Bragdon asked what was needed for the project and Councilor Liberty asked the Council when they would like to revisit the project. The revenue generated by lottery money was mentioned.

6. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Burkholder discussed language changes to Resolution No. 08-3916. This could be an opportunity to highlight ODOT and the Federal Bridge Rehabilitation Project (FBRP).

Council President Bragdon discussed applications that had been received and asked which Councilors would be interested in participating in the interview process. Councilor Burkholder suggested that the Council create an outline for what was important in an applicant. Councilor Liberty reviewed a meeting he attended at Bridgeport Village relating to an emissions tax and greenhouse gas emissions. The various suggestions, options and difference in predicted revenue that had been discussed were shared with the Council.

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 4:48 p.m.

Prepared by,



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**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF
MARCH 18, 2008**

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1	Agenda	3/20/08	Agenda: Metro Council regular meeting, March 20, 2008	031808cw-1
2	Exhibit	3/18/08	Exhibit A to Resolution No. 08-3916, Prioritization Criteria and corresponding Technical Measures used to Evaluate Applicant Projects, March 18, 2008	031808cw-2
2	Table	3/18/08	Range of Capital Cost of Alternatives by River Crossing Option and Bridge Type Concept, March 18, 2008	031808cw-3
2	Booklet	3/18/08	Draft, March 2008, 2008-2013 Strategic Plan, Regional Travel Options, March 18, 2008	031808cw-4
5	Powerpoint	3/18/08	Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Project, Metro Council, March 18, 2008	031808cw-5
2	Visual	3/18/08	“Wes Time” – Westside Express Service visual hand-out by TriMet, March 18, 2008.	031808cw-6