

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, April 1, 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 Deputy President Liberty convened the Metro Council Work Session Meeting at 2:01 p.m.

1. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, APRIL 3, 2008/ADMINISTRATIVE/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Council Deputy President Liberty reviewed the April 3, 2008 Metro Council agenda. Councilor Harrington discussed adoption of the Reserves Public Involvement plan. Janice Larson, Creative Services Manager, shared information with the Council about the new Metro Web Domain name. She introduced an April Fool's Day trophy. She discussed a timeline handout (see attachment). She showed newly developed design strategies and visuals, which included letterhead, business cards, pamphlets, and packets. Councilor Harrington talked about business card font not being big enough for constituent legibility. Councilor Burkholder asked about changing the newsletter process to a web-based system. Councilor Harrington said she would like content and space to stay the same, and that she also needed to send out hard copies – the process could not be entirely web-based. Councilors thanked Ms. Larson for her hard work.

2. SELF-HAUL STUDY

Mike Hoglund, Solid Waste and Recycling Director, introduced staff and the Self-Haul study. He talked about subsidizing self-haul. He introduced agenda items and described what would be discussed. He talked about components of the Waste Allocation study and other studies.

Paul Ehinger presented the Self-Haul study Powerpoint, and discussed specifics of the Self-Haul study, including issues, questions, solid waste loads, waste deliveries, and collection surveys (see Powerpoint attachment).

Councilor Burkholder asked about residents in the urban area who do not have collection service. Mr. Ehinger talked about collection service not being required. Councilor Liberty wondered about discrepancies in self-haul across different zip codes. Councilor Harrington asked about survey coding. Mr. Ehinger said a non-response was not coded as a 'no' answer. Councilor Liberty asked what percentage of waste included mattresses. Mr. Ehinger said he did not know those specifics. Councilor Park asked about amount of food contamination in self-haul loads. Councilor Liberty asked about the self-haul study in comparison to other, out-of-state urban areas (i.e. Seattle). Councilor Harrington asked what 'mandatory collection' means. Mr. Ehinger said collection is a component of the utility bill. Councilor Harrington asked about pricing incentives regarding facility capacity. Mr. Hoglund talked about enabling public transfer stations. Councilor Burkholder asked how the number of days transfer stations were open for self-haulers conflicts with the number of days stations were open for commercial haulers using the same stations.

Councilor Liberty asked about recovery percentage rates. Mr. Hoglund asked if Councilors needed additional background information, and described next steps. Mr. Hoglund noted that there are two different issues: operations and recovery. Michael Jordan, COO, asked about aspects of illegal dumping. Mr. Ehinger said there were ties to income in relation to self-haul and also illegal dumping. Councilor Park asked if there was another way of reducing costs and prices, but avoiding illegal dumping. He noted it also must be identified how to allow private companies to compete as well. Councilor Burkholder talked about changing behaviors and avoiding capital costs. Councilor Liberty talked about short-term versus long-term fixes. Councilor Harrington asked about timelines for future steps.

3. SOLID WASTE RATE MAKING AND UNIFIED FIELD THEORY

Doug Anderson, Regional Solid Waste and Recycling Department, introduced a Powerpoint presentation (see attachment). He presented various tip fee and rate-making strategies contained within the Powerpoint presentation. Councilor Liberty asked about the bond covenant breach in the slide "Some Milestones in Tip Fee History." Mr. Anderson talked about the bond structure and process involved in the breach. Councilors Burkholder and Collette asked about the term "real tip fee" and asked for clarification about its economic definition, as it was not addressing a "real" fee. Councilor Harrington requested language addressing St. John's landfill be changed. Councilor Hosticka asked about bond funds. Mr. Anderson clarified facilities funds. Councilor Burkholder asked about excise taxes. Marv Fjordbeck, Metro Attorney, advised that using solid waste fees might not be a permissible. Dan Cooper, Metro Attorney, talked about using Metro general fund money, and various guidelines according to Metro code. Councilor Liberty asked about collecting information about recovery rates over time. Councilor Park talked about reducing the rate now and using a bond to recover lost funds. Councilor Hosticka talked about a replacement of debt service. Councilor Burkholder talked about funding infrastructure, and different funding strategies. Councilor Liberty discussed uncertainties in fuel costs, and specified that Metro was not a leader in waste recovery.

4. BREAK

5. LANDFILL STANDARDS REPORT

Bill Metzler, Regional Solid Waste and Recycling Department, introduced a Powerpoint presentation (see packet and attachment). He further presented and answered Councilor questions. Councilor Harrington asked about landfill standard impositions. President Bragdon asked about differences in regional landfills. Councilor Liberty asked if there was debate over results and conclusions. Mr. Hoglund said results had not been largely distributed yet, so therefore not much feedback had been received yet. President Bragdon asked about compliance matters. Councilor Liberty talked about Lakeside Landfill, regarding standard compliance. President Bragdon discussed that the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is not actually monitoring some sights, and he further wanted to know Metro's role in assessing compliance. Councilor Liberty thought it would be interesting to see if there were records of violations. Councilor Park asked about Metro's liability and stewardship roles. He said if Metro did implement standards, he wondered if people would criticize for being too stringent. Councilor Burkholder talked about setting standards, and different options available. Mr. Metzler talked about ongoing compliance issues. Councilor Harrington talked about weighing options for standard implementation.

Councilor Harrington talked about the absence of review or comments from regional partners (i.e. DEQ, facilities operators, etc.) and she requested that information be included. President Bragdon said he would like standards developed that address Councilor's personal concerns. Councilor Burkholder said he felt more information would be helpful, but he agreed with President Bragdon. Councilor Park asked what was being achieved above current gains, and what would be improved upon. Councilor Harrington asked about different results, and wanted to see further scoping of all different options and possibilities -- regarding what would be achievable and what would the requirements be for such achievements. Councilor Park talked about baselines and clarification of issues. Councilor Liberty added that he would be more confident in ensuring current standards were met rather than developing an entire new set of standards. Councilor Harrington asked how different landfills were complying with current standards.

**6. INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF FOREST GROVE
FOR TRAIL DEVELOPMENT**

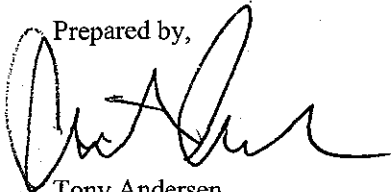
Jim Morgan, Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department, talked about an easement Forest Grove requested to connect to Metro property. He said the easement complied with Metro policy, but it still required Metro approval. He gave background information on the easement application and request process. He described the geographical environment of the easement request area. Councilor Harrington asked about specific provisions. Councilor Park asked about beginning and ending connections. Councilor Harrington stated she felt there should be an outreach effort regarding the easement. President Bragdon clarified saying input from the farming community would be preferred, and then the easement could be approved. Councilor Hosticka talked about his concern with the trail turning into a "one-lane highway" and becoming a maintenance issue. Councilor Park asked about next steps. President Bragdon said the Council would support. Councilor Harrington said she would carry the issue.

7. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Burkholder talked about Council transportation projects. He said funding was a primary issue and he wanted to provide clarity. Councilor Harrington asked how the forum meetings related to transportation funding. Andy Cotugno, Planning Director, talked about transportation districts and vehicle registration fees. He talked about transportation funding and contributions. Councilors discussed different transportation strategies, including briefing each other on the Sellwood Bridge, and other transportation issues.

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 4:08 p.m.

Prepared by,



Tony Andersen
Council Operations Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF
APRIL 1, 2008

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1	Agenda	4/3/08	Agenda: Metro Council regular meeting, April 3, 2008	040108cw-1
1	Timeline	4/1/08	WWW.OREGONMETRO.GOV Hard Launch plan, April 1, 2008	040108cw-2
2, 3, 5	Powerpoint Presentation	4/1/08	Self Haul Waste Study, Metro Council Work Session; Solid Waste Rate Making and Unified Field Theory; Landfill Standards Report, April 1, 2008	040108cw-3
6	Map	4/1/08	City of Forest Grove, Proposed LGGP Project Vicinity Map, April 1, 2008	040108cw-4