

**MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING**

Wednesday, February 20, 2002
Council Chamber

Members Present: Susan McLain (Chair), Carl Hosticka (Vice Chair), Bill Atherton, David Bragdon, Rod Park

Also present:

Absent:

Chair McLain called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

1. Consideration of the Natural Resources Committee Minutes of the February 6, 2002 Meeting.

Motion:

Councilor Hosticka moved to adopt the minutes of the Natural Resources Committee Meeting of February 6, 2002.

Vote:

Chair McLain and Councilors Hosticka and Park voted to adopt the minutes as presented. The vote was 3 aye/ 0 no/ 0 abstain, and the motion passed. Councilors Atherton and Bragdon were absent from the vote.

2. Regional Conference

Mike Hogle, Regional Planning, updated the committee on the March 15, 2002, Let's Talk Conference. (For more detail, see copies of *How do we keep it green? Perspectives on protecting regional parks, habitat and open spaces*, and an e-mail regarding the *Can we keep it green? panel at the March 15 conference* included in the permanent record of this meeting.)

John Donovan, Council Outreach, reviewed the councilor roles and panel questions for the conference. (See copy of *Let's talk viewpoints – Can we keep it green? panel questions* and *Metro 2002 Let's Talk Conference Can We Keep It Green? Track Workshop Questions*, included in the permanent record of this meeting.)

There was committee discussion regarding the questions. Councilor Hosticka suggested using the words “public ownership of fish wildlife and water and air resources” rather than public right to protect and manage fish wildlife and water and air resources. Councilor Park thought it could be more useful if they asked outright whether or not a property owner would be in favor of protecting those areas if they received adequate compensation.

3. Resolution No. 02-3147, For the Purpose of Reallocating a Portion of the Multnomah County Local Share Funds from the Metro Open Spaces Bond

Charles Cieccko, Director, Regional Parks and Greenspaces, explained the resolution.

Heather Nelson Kent, Parks and Greenspaces Planning, showed the committee mason jars of "before" and "after" water from the completed drinking water upgrade project at Oxbow Park, then showed slides of other projects completed with these funds; the Sauvie Island boat ramp, sections of the Springwater Trail, and other Oxbow Park projects. She explained the four main elements to the reallocation proposal.

Councilor Park commented that it was very interesting that while the contractor on the Springwater Trail project was happy for the contract, he was not really supportive of the program until after he saw the incredible number of people who use the trail.

There was committee discussion regarding concerns and details of the reallocation. The committee decided that the Presiding Officer should have discussions with Multnomah County Commission regarding any future plans for improvements at the park before making a decision on the resolution, keeping in mind that the timeline for Metro's first right of refusal on the land is running out.

Mr. Ciecko said the Regional Parks And Greenspaces Advisory Committee was taking the long view, looking at Howell Territorial Park as an important regional asset and a former component of the original land claim donation to the Bybee family. He said this was a once in a lifetime opportunity to acquire the property immediately adjacent to the developed portion of the park.

Ken Helm, Senior Assistant Counsel, commented that they were currently at the end of a land use process in which the Commission had denied application; and it may or may not go to the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA). To facilitate an agreement about what to do with the Howell Territorial Park would require a new application which would take time to be processed. He explained that the Multnomah County Commission had different rules now, and all land use applications of this type were processed in front of a hearings officer and any appeal would go directly to LUBA with no chance for a political solution through an appeal at the board level.

Mr. Ciecko read from a letter dated February 15, 2002, from the attorney representing the seller, Judy Taber, stating that she is extraordinarily motivated to close this deal because she has medical problems that can't be taken care of until it does.

There was additional committee discussion regarding the resolution. It was decided to move the vote on Resolution No. 02-3147 to after discussion and/or action on Agenda Item 7.1.

4. Salmon Report

Ken Helm identified four objectives from Resolution No. 99-2815A regarding Council's goals for assisting the recovery of salmon and steelhead in the Metro region and reported on the progress toward meeting those objectives during the year 2000 (see Mr. Helm's report included with the permanent record of this meeting).

Councilor Hosticka expressed his concern about the language in the Assisting Metro Partners objective. He felt that saying Metro would advocate for native fish and rivers seemed at odds with being the agency that did the balancing and planning. He felt it was not appropriate to mix the roles of advocacy and policy.

Mr. Helm suggested alternative wording and the committee agreed to the following: “Metro will ~~advocate work~~ for native fish species and rivers with its partners in the overall ESA effort, and ~~work to influence its partners in their~~ facilitate a watershed approach to salmon and ~~watershed~~ steelhead recovery.

Mr. Helm said he would like to continue interacting with the Willamette Restoration Initiative (WRI), the Willamette Urban Watershed Network (WUW-Net), the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership (LCREP) and regional ESA coordinators and bring information back to the committee regarding their work. He reported on a statewide effort to set up a technical assistance team sponsors pool of federal, state and private specialists who work on watershed issues and match them up with specific projects and needs within watersheds. He reported on several issues related to salmon and steelhead recovery that Metro had commented on; the 4(d) rule. He explained the other opportunities for Metro monitoring and comment listed in his report.

5. ESEE Scope & Request for Proposal

Mark Turpel, Long Range Planning, briefly outlined the ESEE process. (See information included in the agenda packet with the permanent record of this meeting.)

Chair McLain clarified there were still some choices and direction to be given by the committee regarding conflicting uses, impact zones for those conflicting uses, and balancing the consequences to the environmental, social, energy and economic elements of the community as well as specific questions on the use of points to balance those particular issues.

There was committee discussion regarding specific requirements for ESEE analysis and what type of work the consultants would be asked to do. They discussed zoning and design types. Councilor Park commented that assuming expansion onto farmland would be no cost was incorrect. Councilor Bragdon said the potential economic costs could be stated more directly, and that there should be some description of qualifications for bidders included.

6. Combined Riparian Corridor Wildlife Habitat Mapping

- **Developed Floodplain Mapping**

Paul Ketcham, Long Range Planning, reviewed the four options staff had come up with to identify developed floodplains. He said staff recommended using the modeled “Developed Floodplains” option (Option 3) which was built on intersecting flood area delineations with the developed lands layer, which was updated annually. (For more detail, see information in the agenda packet included with the permanent record of this meeting.)

Mr. Turpel reported that the Goal 5 TAC last Friday had also recommended Option 3 but to allow local jurisdictions a very short window of time to review in case they had some tweaks.

Councilor Park asked if the floodplains would continue to expand or if they were frozen so there could be no more development.

Mr. Ketcham said the purpose of the process to identify developed floodplains was to be able to treat developed floodplains differently from undeveloped floodplains in the assignment of

ecological value. The tie-in to the ESEE analysis was that when they assigned tiers to natural resources, developed floodplains would go from the medium tier to the lower tier.

Due to the lateness of the day, Chair McLain asked for a special meeting next week to continue the discussions on the inventory and some RFP issues.

- **Uplands/Wildlife**

Set over to the next meeting for discussion.

- **Waters of the State**

Set over to the next meeting for discussion.

- **Local Plan Analysis**

Set over to the next meeting for discussion.

7. **EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD PURSUANT TO ORS 192.660(1)(e).
DELIBERATIONS WITH PERSONS DESIGNATED TO NEGOTIATE REAL
PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS.**

Present: Susan McLain, Carl Hosticka, Bill Atherton, Rod Park, Michael Morrissey, Charles Ciecko, Dan Cooper, Ken Helm, Jim Morgan, Cheryl Grant

7.1 **Resolution No. 02-3159, For the Purpose of Authorizing the Executive Officer to
Purchase the Taber Property as an Addition to Howell Territorial Park**

Motion:

Councilor Atherton moved to take Resolution No. 02-3159 to the full Council for consideration

Councilor Atherton supported the recommendation of the advisory committee on the purchase of this property.

Councilor Hosticka supported the resolution. He said regardless of the ultimate disposition of the Howell property, the acquisition of this parcel would make it a more valuable piece of property whether Metro continued to develop it or not. He said it was good to do it now, without prejudicing any future decisions.

Councilor Park was not supportive of the resolution.

Chair McLain supported the resolution because as a stand alone decision, the acquisition of this property followed the bond measure desires and the vision of the Greenspace Master Plan, both regionally and locally.

Vote:

Chair McLain and Councilors Atherton and Hosticka voted to take Resolution No. 02-3159 to the full council for consideration. The vote was 3 aye/ 1 no/ 0 abstain and the motion passed. Councilor Park voted no and Councilor Bragdon was absent from the vote.
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Chair McLain will carry the resolution to the council.

2. Resolution No. 02-3147, For the Purpose of Reallocating a Portion of the Multnomah County Local Share Funds from the Metro Open Spaces Bond (Continued)

Motion:

Councilor Atherton moved to take Resolution No. 02-3147 to the full Council for consideration

Vote:

Chair McLain and Councilors Atherton, Hosticka, and Park voted to take Resolution No. 02-3147 to the full council for consideration. The vote was 4 aye/ 0 no/ 0 abstain, and the motion passed. Councilor Bragdon was absent from the vote.
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Chair McLain assigned Councilor Atherton to carry the resolution to the council.

8. Natural Resources Calendar

Chair McLain said if there were comments or updates for the Natural Resources calendar, please tell Michael Morrissey or Chair McLain.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the committee, Chair McLain adjourned the meeting at 3:35 p.m.

Prepared by

Cheryl Grant
Council Assistant

**Attachments to the Public Record for the
Natural Resources Committee Special Meeting of February 20, 2002:**

Topic	Doc Date	Document Description	Doc Number
Let's Talk Conference	n/a	Let's talk viewpoints – Can we keep it green?	022002nr-01
Let's Talk Conference	n/a	Metro 2002 Let's Talk Conference Can We Keep It Green? Track Workshop Questions	022002nr-02
Let's Talk Conference	n/a	How do we keep it green? Perspectives on protecting regional parks, habitat and open spaces	022002nr-03
Let's Talk Conference	2/11/02	e-mail regarding the Can we keep it green? panel at the March 15 conference	022002nr-04
Salmon recovery	2/20/02	Ken Helm's report to committee RE: Resolution No. 99-2815A	022002nr-05
Local Plan Analysis	N/a	Draft for committee review, Local Plan Analysis	022002nr-06

Testimony Cards:

None.