

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

Wednesday, March 6, 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 1:14 p.m.

1. Draft Salmon Report

Ken Helm, Senior Assistant Counsel, Salmon Recovery Coordinator, presented the draft annual report regarding Metro's ongoing activities for the benefit of salmon and steelhead, and work planned for the next year with federal, state and regional partners. (For more detail, see *Watershed and Fish Conservation, Protection and Recovery Activities, Metro Council Annual Report 2001* included with the permanent record of this meeting).

Chair McLain liked the format but wanted more specificity to the Next Steps regarding timeline and budget and how the next steps would get done.

Councilor Hosticka asked about Metro purchases of wood products being from certified forests, as related to a resolution from last week. He wondered if it dealt with the salmon issue and if they should look at it more generally here. Mr. Helm will look into it.

Councilor Atherton felt the report should include something about the status of the clean water act and Metro's activities in that regard because it was in the Regional Framework Plan. He noted development activity continued to be allowed in the region that challenged being able to meet those standards. He asked if there were any reports from fish and wildlife agencies regarding any change in the last few years in some key streams that had potential for restoring fish stocks and being active breeding sites, such as Tryon Creek, some stretches of Johnson Creek and some tributaries to the Clackamas River.

Mr. Helm said at the last meeting, the committee had discussed potentially engaging in some comment on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's native fish policy which was in process at this time. He said if it was to proceed, it would be a modification of the department's wild fish management policy to redirect some agency efforts toward wild fish management rather than hatchery fish management. He commented that ocean conditions had a huge impact on the numbers of returning adults and they had seen a big bump in that in the last two years. Most of those fish, 86% of the Chinook returning to the Willamette, were hatchery bred fish. He said there was still a question whether the river systems were being overwhelmed with hatchery juveniles and whether that was having an adverse affect on the wild fish. He said those hatchery practices have an impact on Metro facilities, like Oxbow. He said he would bring more information as time went on.

Chair McLain said there would be an opportunity at the next meeting to look closer at the next steps and said the information he asked to have added seemed appropriate.

2. Combined Riparian Corridor Wildlife Habitat Mapping

Mark Turpel, Long Range Planning, reviewed the proposed Goal 5 inventory timeline. He asked for direction from the committee regarding methodology and which identified resources were regionally significant. (For more detail, see information included in agenda packet with the permanent record of this meeting.) He reported he had made a presentation at the Metro Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC) that morning and they had no major concerns. They will have a recommendation at their next meeting on the 20th. He said other advisory committee meetings were being scheduled.

Councilor Hosticka had a concern about the format because the wildlife part was an especially important decision to be made. He wondered if they should separate the issues.

Councilor Park also wondered whether two resolutions would be cleaner. .

Paul Ketcham, Long Range Planning, recapped the features of the revised wildlife model and the criteria to evaluate wildlife patches. He gave an overview of the alternatives. He commented on how the wildlife habitat inventory relates to the riparian corridor decision of the Council in December. (For more detail, see copies of the memo regarding *Concept Maps for Regionally Significant Wildlife Habitat* and the chart, *Wildlife Model Score Distribution – Acres of Land by Category* included with the permanent record of this meeting).

There was committee discussion regarding scoring of regionally significant resources. Chair McLain said the model would be reviewed again at MTAC on the 20th. She hoped to have it back in front of this committee also on March 20th with definite direction to staff. Mr. Turpel said he would put a set of quad maps in the council office.

3. Basin Approach IGA Update

Mr. Turpel noted that an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) was currently being considered by the Tualatin Basin Steering Committee.

Mr. Helm said representatives of the Tualatin Basin Natural Resources Coordinating Committee had provided a couple of different versions of both IGAs under consideration. One IGA forms the Basin Committee, and one IGA sets forth the agreements between Metro and that committee to do the ESEE and the program for the sub-watersheds on the west side of the region. He said he was in the process of doing a review of their information and would have a few comments regarding changes.

4. ESEE Request for Proposal

After staff information and committee discussion, the committee agreed that they would release the Request for Proposals (RFP) at this time with the understanding that more time is needed to deliberate and gather public input, and to review the methodology and major issues in the scope that still need to be addressed. They felt it was appropriate to add a statement to the RFP alerting

the consultant to the fact that the committee would be weighing in on the criteria and would continue to review it throughout the process.

Chair McLain opened a public hearing for comment on the RFP.

Wayne Kingsley, Central Eastside Industrial Council, 110 SE Caruthers, Portland, OR 97214, suggested that the RFP still assumed key policy decisions had been adopted at the regional level and that the 2040 design type hierarchy on the table on page 3 assumed it and ranked priorities. He said it was his understanding that this discussion had not yet held and was not adopted.

Chair McLain responded that the Functional Plan laid out regional and town centers, transportation and affordable housing, and Title 3 issues, and that the priorities were already adopted policy. She said this committee today said they want more opportunity to talk about the elements of the RFP and had just committed themselves to another 4-6 week discussion.

Mr. Kingsley encouraged peer review for the RFP and suggested Dennis Yee's peer review panel for that. He felt the RFP was written from an environmental aspect and reminded the committee there was also a sophisticated economic system in place in the region. He felt the RFP was over-weighted in terms of the environmental vs. the economic system. He noted it talked about conflicting uses, but not about compatible uses, and there was no mention of acceptable joint or multiple uses of particular resources.

Chair McLain said the committee was trying very diligently to be sure all four elements were balanced. She suggested he talk with staff after the meeting with specific language.

Councilor Bragdon said the term conflicting uses was a term in the rule and not a value judgement on the committee's part. He thought they would all agree there were a lot of economic uses that went along with environmental protection. He said the wording was not intended to imply otherwise.

Mr. Kingsley also suggested asking the consultants for a recommendation about a sunset clause.

Councilor Park clarified that the 2040 Growth Concept had been discussed and agreed upon, however he understood Mr. Kingsley's question regarding Table 2, to be whether the weighting of industrial, commercial, mixed use etc., had been agreed to. He said the answer to that was no; it had not.

Chair McLain reiterated that that was what the committee had agreed they would be talking about in the next 4-6 weeks.

Motion:

Councilor Hosticka moved to direct staff to release an RFP similar to that in front of the committee to proceed with the ESEE process, and to continue committee dialogue over the next 4-6 weeks regarding policy issues, including having an expert review panel and a committee review of the methodology as well as the final results.

Vote:

Chair McLain and Councilors Atherton, Bragdon, Hosticka, and Park voted in favor. The vote was 5 aye/ 0 no/ 0 abstain and the motion passed.

4. Ordinance No. 02-939, For the Purpose of Amending Metro code Chapter 7.01 to Amend the Metro Excise Tax to Provide Revenues for Metro's Regional Parks and Greenspaces Programs.

Mike Burton, Executive Officer, gave a PowerPoint presentation to the committee regarding his proposal for an interim financial support step to help the Metro Parks and Greenspaces Program. (For more detail, see hard copy of the presentation, *Proposal for Metro Parks and Greenspaces Interim Financial Support*, included with the permanent record of this meeting).

Councilor Atherton commented that it was not a long term solution. He asked what was currently needed to meet the needs of the Parks Department, including renewal and replacement provisions and deferred maintenance, and to have a trails component.

Mr. Burton responded that staff could give a pretty good idea of the capital investments necessary, but he could not.

Chair McLain commented that those numbers had been in front of the budget committee and she would ask staff to get them to Councilor Atherton. She explained the process for completing committee questions to Mr. Burton, beginning public testimony, and transitioning into the Solid Waste & Recycling Committee meeting with continuing public testimony on the excise tax.

Councilor Park asked if Mr. Burton's proposal had anything to do with the proposal where staff had estimated would take another dollar a ton to allow an east side waste shed to function.

Mr. Burton responded that the determination of where materials were moved in the waste shed was an issue to be resolved by the Solid Waste & Recycling Committee or Council policy.

Chair McLain added that the Solid Waste Committee had asked for data regarding what happened when they raised the cap 85,000 tons so they could see if the waste shed idea was working to do what the committee had intended. She said the Solid Waste Committee would be coming back to Councilor Park's question in October when the reports were in.

Chair McLain opened a Public hearing on Ordinance No. 02-939.

Chair McLain noted letters from the Mayor of Lake Oswego, Mike Houck, Judy Todd, John Sherman and the Clackamas County Solid Waste Commission. Mr. Burton also entered letters of support and concern into record. (See copies of all letters included with the permanent record of this meeting).

Walt Hitchcock, Chair of the Green Ribbon Committee, presented the recommendations of the Green Ribbon Committee and his testimony in support of the proposed excise tax increase. He said the funding possibilities at the end of two years were likely to be substantially greater, given the change that is occurring in the economy, than they are today, thus he felt this ordinance would be a wise move.

Doug Neeley, Oregon City Commission and Green Ribbon Committee, 712 12th St., Oregon City, OR 97045, said a fear of the Green Ribbon Committee was that this request would be regarded as in competition with the Green Ribbon Committee proposal. He said he was concerned that the recommendations of the Green Ribbon Committee did not get put on the back burner.

David Manhart, 2024 SW Howards Way, #502, Portland, OR 97201, urged support of the ordinance. He believed the citizens of the region would support the increase.

Aleta Woodruff 2143 NE 95th Pl., Portland, OR urged support of the ordinance as a way to keep Metro's Parks Department solvent.

Chair McLain read an e-mail letter from Lise Glancy of the Port of Portland regarding the ESEE RFP to the record (see copy of the e-mail RE: *Port of Portland Letter on ESEE RFP for consideration at 3/6 NR Committee meeting* included with the permanent record of this meeting).

(NOTE: The following public testimony from the Solid Waste & Recycling Committee portion of the public hearing on Ordinance No. 02-939 is included in these minutes to preserve the total public hearing record)

David White, Oregon Refuse and Recycling Association, Tri-County Council, 1739 NW 156th Ave., Beaverton, OR 97006, agreed that money was needed for the parks but felt it created an inequitable burden on solid waste. He suggested imposing an excise tax across the board on all of the sources. He noted the ordinance does not address the commercial area or the City of Portland where there are not regulated rates that get passed along. He wondered if they were creating an inequitable situation. He felt there should be citizen input and a clear message from the citizens that this is what they want and the way they want to pay it. He did not think the solid waste industry should be completely saddled with this without that message from the citizens. He said if the citizens did agree, the industry had no problem and would collect the money from their ratepayers for Metro.

Chair Atherton asked about the impact on recycling.

Mr. White said if the tip fee was increased, there would be more and more recycling. He felt the business may disagree because of the economic downturn. He felt it was a balance between efficiencies and cost.

Councilor Bragdon commented that the Council would be reevaluating demand and disposal capacity in the near future with a potential for adjustments related to that. He asked if Mr. White had any preliminary conclusions regarding the tip fee then.

Mr. White said he would be happy to discuss that at an upcoming Tri-County Council meeting and bring back information regarding that issue.

Councilor Park asked what had changed in the market in the past few years that would make people complain about the rates.

Mr. White said the price went down when Metro renegotiated the contract, and folks had benefited from it, and losing that did not feel good. People are buying recycled and recycling so there is a synergy there, and the tip fee is part of that. He said we are in a better place than we were, and we are saving money, and it doesn't feel good to have the prices go back up. He commented that the make-up of the Green Ribbon Committee, with local jurisdictions so well represented, was good since they established the rates.

There was committee discussion regarding alternative ways to pay for parks including user fees and levies.

Rebecca Banyas, Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Committee (MRPGAC) member, 3850 SE 41st Ave., Portland, OR 97202, read a letter from the committee to the council in support of the ordinance (see copy of letter included with the permanent record of this meeting). In response to a question from Chair Atherton, Ms. Banyas said she did not recall the committee discussing other funding sources. Aleta Woodruff also did not recall any such discussion.

Councilor Park asked if the group would be willing to lobby for this to her local jurisdiction. Ms. Banyas said she certainly would and she would urge other committee members to do the same. They are fully in support.

Chair Atherton closed the public hearing on Ordinance No. 02-939.

Councilor Hosticka commented that he was interested in hearing the Green Ribbon Committee recommendations before considering this issue. He felt consideration should be put over to the next Natural Resources and Solid Waste & Recycling Committee meetings.

Councilor McLain said she was looking forward to the full budget presentation. She also felt it was important to hear from the Green Ribbon Committee. She felt if they were going to do this, it should be done, at least in a general way, by the end of March to signal to the industry and local jurisdictions their commitment to doing it. She added there was much more discussion and review needed. Chair Atherton agreed. Councilor McLain added there would be more opportunity to talk to SWAC now that they had the proposal.

Chair Atherton recapped the budget issues. He said without Mr. Burton's proposal, the reserves would be drawn down quickly.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Natural Resources portion of this committee meeting, Chair McLain adjourned the meeting at 3:32 p.m. to reconvene as the Solid Waste Committee.

Prepared by

Cheryl Grant
Council Assistant

**Attachments to the Public Record for the Joint
Natural Resources and Solid Waste & Recycling Committees Meeting of March 6, 2002:**

Topic	Doc Date	Document Description	Doc Number
Salmon Recovery	2001	Watershed and Fish Conservation, Protection and Recovery Activities, Metro Council Annual Report 2001	030602nr-01
Regional Significance	March 6, 2002	Memo to Councilor McLain from Paul Ketcham RE: Concept Maps for Regionally Significant Wildlife Habitat	030602nr-02
Wildlife		Wildlife Model Score Distribution – Acres of Land by Category	030602nr-03
Excise Tax		Proposal for Metro Parks and Greenspaces Interim Financial Support	030602nr-04
ESEE RFP	March 6, 2002	Port of Portland Letter on ESEE RFP for consideration at 3/6 NR Committee meeting	030602nr-05

Testimony Cards:

(NOTE: cards are archived with the March 6, 2002 Solid Waste & Recycling Committee record)

RE: Ordinance No. 02-939

Walt Hitchcock, Green Ribbon Committee

Doug Neeley, Oregon City Commission, Green Ribbon Committee, 712 12th St, Oregon City, OR 97045

David Manhart, 2024 SW Howards Way, #502, Portland, OR 97201

Rebecca Banyas, MRPGAC, 3850 SE 41st Ave., Portland, Or 97202

Aleta Woodruff, MRPGAC, 2143 NE 95th Pl., Portland, OR

David White, ORRA, 1739 NW 156th Ave., Beaverton, OR 97006

RE: ESEE Request for Proposals

Wayne Kingsley, Central Eastside Industrial Council, 110 SE Caruthers, Portland, OR 97214