

## MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, November 25, 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 President Bragdon convened the Metro Council Work Session Meeting at 2:01 p.m.

### **1. ADMINISTRATIVE/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS**

Scott Robinson, Deputy COO, discussed the process and arguments for and against accepting a diesel retrofit grant (see attachment). He requested feedback from the Council. Councilor Collette asked if the grant were accepted, whether more money could be applied for at a later date. Councilor Harrington asked about stated discrepancies in truck numbers - 165 versus 175. She asked about tipping point ranges, and resource allocations regarding staff time and funding. Mr. Robinson said legislative action was required to retrofit Metro's entire fleet. He talked about funding and fleet specifics. Councilor Burkholder said he felt it was a good idea, because solid waste operations were a system. He gave examples from Seattle, Washington. Michael Jordan, COO, said Metro would pursue legislative action. President Bragdon and Councilors agreed they should decline the grant because of the resources involved in administration.

### **2. MINORITY, WOMEN, AND EMERGING SMALL BUSINESS (MWESB) ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY 2007-08**

Darin Matthews, Procurement Manager, presented a Powerpoint presentation and discussed the handout "FY 2007-08 Utilization of minority, women and emerging small businesses at Metro" (see attachments). He talked about contracting rules and specifics of the report. President Bragdon asked about certain contract inclusion in MWESB. Councilor Liberty noted a history of departmental utilization over time would be useful in the future. Councilor Harrington was concerned with excluding businesses outside of the Portland market. Councilor Burkholder was curious why numbers were so up-and-down. Mr. Matthews said there were a variety of factors and variables. Councilor Burkholder said he hoped these concepts were integrated into Zoo operations. He talked about social sustainability and First Opportunity Target Areas. He talked about targeting certain areas as opportunity areas for contracting. Councilor Harrington talked about variance in awarded contracts by year. Councilor Park asked about the turnover rate for minority contracts, and about failure rates of businesses. Councilor Liberty asked about the number and percentage of minority women in the regional workforce.

### **3. FIRST QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT**

Margo Norton, Finance and Administrative Services Director, said the first quarter was mixed. She said interest rates were down. Attendance rates went up over the summer. Gas prices went way up and then down. She talked about tax turnover. She talked about legislative action and defeasing solid waste bonds. She talked about funds, bondholders, and bond disclosures. Councilor Park talked about bond success and reflections of government efficiency. Ms. Norton talked about tonnage allocations and the Recovery Rate Stabilization Fund. Councilor Burkholder noted current numbers were estimates. Ms. Norton explained and noted budget

amendments. Mr. Jordan talked about management practices in connection to budget implications. Ms. Norton talked about the possibility of reduction targets.

#### **4. BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM UPDATE**

Miranda Bateschell, Planning, introduced the Brownfields Program update agenda item. She discussed prioritization of brownfield sites. She further talked about specifics relative to each site, and conducting outreach with landowners. She talked about site assessments and contamination characterizations, and the correlation between property clean-up costs versus the price of the property alone. She discussed specific locations of various brownfield sites in the region, and subsequent unique and relative uses of various brownfield properties. She talked about redevelopment practices, and city collaboration with site renewals. She discussed brownfield work timelines and the Brownfields Task Force. Ms. Bateschell requested input on the Brownfields Task Force and nominees and also legislative amendments for future action. Councilor Harrington appreciated the program and wondered if the Council expressed adequate appreciation for their work. Councilor Burkholder said the task force would be different than a standing committee, as this was ongoing advising from the task force. He said it was important to compliment the City of Portland's brownfields program as well. Councilor Liberty talked about the possibility of expanding the program. Councilor Park asked about getting in between the buyer and seller in an undesirable way. He expressed caution in acting as an "agent" for a particular party in various transactions. Councilor Collette talked about a site in Milwaukie. Ms. Bateschell discussed grants and revolving loan funds. Councilor Burkholder discussed expanding the Brownfields Program and including such an expansion in budget amendments. Councilors discussed having a Council liaison on the Brownfields Task Force.

Dick Benner, Senior Attorney, discussed zoning issues in District 3. He talked about legalities involved in zoning issues. Councilor Hosticka talked about Title 1 and density issues. Councilor Park preferred delayed legal action until further discussion. Councilor Harrington said she preferred to proceed delicately. She said there was a single action, but there were also other areas looked at – she was also concerned about precedent as there would be changes over time. Councilor Liberty said the action put Metro in an awkward situation. He talked about capacity directions and what the situation meant for Metro and the Council. Councilor Collette said she wanted to avoid a confrontational situation and setting unintended precedent. President Bragdon summarized Council input – including the theme of cooperation. Councilors wanted to hold off on filing.

#### **5. BREAK**

#### **6. HIGH CAPACITY TRANSIT (HCT) UPDATE**

Ross Roberts and Tony Mendoza, Planning and Development, introduced the High Capacity Transit update agenda item. Mr. Roberts introduced the high capacity transit think-tank. Councilor Collette talked about the wealth of information resulting from think-tank discussions. A Powerpoint presentation was given on the "High Capacity Transit System Plan" (see attachments). Councilor Liberty asked about timeframes for transportation improvements in Los Angeles, California. Councilor Burkholder asked about existing right-of-ways used as high capacity transit right-of-ways and subsequent costs involved. He asked how this would affect the evaluation of relative costs. Mr. Mendoza talked about discrepancies in costs. Councilor Burkholder said he would like to look at existing right-of-ways instead of consistently buying additional land for high capacity transit options. Mr. Roberts talked about looking at trade-off

costs. Councilor Liberty asked about investment sources and their relation to corridor extensions. He talked about gaps between presentations and stated screening criteria. He further talked about interesting and useful facts and information in the presentation relating to Los Angeles bus ridership. Mr. Roberts talked about various transit option extensions aside from light rail. Councilor Liberty worried transit pieces were disconnected. He wished there was a way to generate the same interest and appeal in other transit options as there was into light-rail extensions. Councilor Collette discussed high capacity transit's role in "Making the Greatest Place" and other regional planning goals. She said high capacity transit ideas were long-term planning concepts. President Bragdon discussed the importance of people not having to travel far distances to reach destinations in the first place – he talked about more intense urban renewal of various areas so that people did not need to travel across the region. Councilor Collette talked about community readiness. Councilor Harrington was supportive of the think tank, but not as a deciding body. She said she was concerned where high capacity maps were distributed and was further concerned with directions of high capacity transit plans. Councilor Park talked about financability and deliverability options, and subsequent realities of such transit projects. Councilor Liberty talked about investment priorities. Mr. Mendoza stated the importance of access and equity in terms of transit priorities.

## **7. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATIONS**

President Bragdon talked about the Goal Setting Work Session on Tuesday, December 2, 2008. He talked about developing best practices for Council goal setting and discussed the framework of the agenda. He talked about the connectivity of various Council goals, and also the need for active prioritization. Councilor Harrington discussed the scope of "Making the Greatest Place."

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Prepared by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Andersen', written in a cursive style.

Tony Andersen  
Council Operations Assistant

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF  
NOVEMBER 25, 2008**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Doc. Date</b>	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>Doc. Number</b>
2	Report	11/25/08	FY 2007-08, Utilization of minority, women and emerging small businesses at Metro, November 25, 2008	112508cw-1
1	Summary	11/25/08	Background Material on the EPA's Diesel Retrofit Grant and Arguments for and against accepting the retrofit grant, November 25, 2008	112508cw-2
6	Powerpoint	11/25/08	Powerpoint presentation: High Capacity Transit and 2040, Challenges and Aspirations, November 25, 2008	112508cw-3
6	Powerpoint	11/25/08	Powerpoint presentation: High Capacity Transit System Plan, Metro Council Work Session, November 25, 2008	112508cw-4
6	Table	11/25/08	HCT Evaluation Criteria, Community Evaluation Category, November 25, 2008	112508cw-5