

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, September 12, 2002
Metro Council Chamber

Councilors Present: Carl Hosticka (Presiding Officer), Susan McLain, Rod Park, Bill Atherton, David Bragdon, Rod Monroe, Rex Burkholder

Councilors Absent:

Presiding Officer Hosticka convened the Regular Council Meeting at 2:04 p.m.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

There were none.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

Art Lewellan, 3205 SE 8th #9 Portland OR 97202, commented on his last two presentations. He had received responses from citizens who had seen his citizen communications on cable television. He summarized those comments and said that political debate was healthy. The topics included a discussion on infill, river debris and cleanup. He talked about access to the Willamette River. Presiding Officer Hosticka asked where this access would be. Mr. Lewellan responded, by the Hawthorne Bridge.

3. PORT OF PORTLAND COMMODITY FORECAST PRESENTATION

Andy Cotugno gave an overview of the history of the project. They were interested in freight related movement. He felt it was useful to better understand economic and transportation characteristics of where commodities moved.

Susie Lahsene, Port of Portland Transportation Manager introduced Paul Brigham, Project Manager. She talked about the sponsors and goals of the project. She gave an overview of the forecast sections.

Paul Bingham, Port of Portland Project Manager, gave a power point presentation on the Forecast Summary Commodity Flow Forecast Update and Lower Columbia River Cargo Forecast (a copy of which is found in the meeting record). He started with the big picture issues effecting freight demand. He spoke to the economy of the past 5 years and expectation of the next five years. He then reviewed the characteristics of long-term projections for the U.S. Economy. Exports and imports had declined because of the recession. Trade will continue to increase. He talked about National Commodity Flow Context. There would be an increasing importance of freight transport, a need for better service, faster modes. There would also be a growth in the demand for food, energy and construction materials. They expected to see a doubling of national tonnage volume within the next 30 years. He also noted that growth in the west would be faster than the national average.

He continued with factors affecting Portland/Vancouver commodity shipping including the port's position on the west coast and reductions in export capacity. He talked about the varying growth in China, India, Japan, Korea and other areas of Asia and its impacts on imports and exports to our region. He clarified the kinds of goods being exported and imported.

He then briefed the Council on the long-term projections for Portland/Vancouver. Modal share of Portland/Vancouver regional tonnage growth, the region's tonnage growth by mode, commodity share of Portland/Vancouver region tonnage, and projections of top tonnage growth commodities over the next 30 years were included in his presentation. He noted risks to the forecasts which included terrorist attacks, oil crisis, war, enronitis spreading further, Japan's financial crisis, contagion from Argentina, and double-dip recession. He focused on questions the region should address including: adequate capacity to meet increasing demands, regional transportation links and future economic requirements, freight impact of new industries and the handling of new cargo due to new transportation services or improved frequencies of service.

Councilors asked clarifying questions about the presentation including: exports and imports issues, ties to the Pacific Rim, goods being traded, freight movement, impacts of deepening of the channel, rate of growth impacts, Oregon Department of Transportation land use and transportation model as compared to Metro's model, economic forecasts over the past five years, capture rates, forecast base and commodity classifications.

Scott Drumm, Port of Portland, added this was the third time that the Port had partnered with others for this forecast. The study was receiving national attention.

Mr. Bingham said the big picture had not changed. Councilor Bragdon made some helpful suggestions on what should be included in future presentations. Mr. Bingham acknowledged those suggestions and talked about the details behind the study. Councilor Bragdon clarified what would be useful to policy makers. Councilor Park asked about impacts by mode and about mode shift. Was it significant? Mr. Bingham said in real terms energy prices were still very low. If there were higher sustained increased energy costs, there may be mode shifts. Councilor Park clarified his questions. Councilor Atherton talked about energy cost risks. Mr. Bingham said there was a shift to fuel efficiency vehicles in the United States. The percentage of fossil fuel from middle-eastern imports to the US was smaller than it had been. We got more of our fuel from South America now. Councilor Monroe asked about barging and channel deepening.

Councilor Burkholder suggested that they talk about other questions the region should address. He talked about impact on roads, how much does the public pay for efficiency, what were the trade-off, and how did they capture the value of tonnage. Mr. Bingham spoke to the benefits of pass through traffic. Councilor Burkholder talked about local government needs, funding, land use needs, and access. Councilor Bragdon added a question the region should address: relationship between private and public sector transportation.

Mr. Bingham concluded his remarks by talking about possible funding mechanisms. Councilor McLain suggested having some comparisons to other ports in the report.

4. MPAC COMMUNICATIONS

Presiding Officer Hosticka said MPAC would be meeting tonight. Councilor Park said they would be looking at housing and jobs issues. MTAC would bring forward their recommendations on the Urban Growth Report. Taxi regulation would also be discussed.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Consideration of minutes of the September 5, 2002 Regular Council Meeting.

Motion	Councilor Bragdon moved to adopt the meeting minutes of the September 5, 2002, Regular Council meeting
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Vote:	Councilors Bragdon, Monroe, Park, Burkholder, McLain and Presiding Officer Hosticka voted aye. The vote was 6 aye with Councilor Atherton abstaining from the vote, the motion passed.
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6. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING

6.1 Ordinance No. 02-961, An ordinance Confirming the Annual Readoption of Metro Code 2.06 (Investment Policy); and Declaring an Emergency.

Presiding Officer Hosticka assigned Ordinance No. 02-961 to the Budget and Finance Committee.

7. RESOLUTIONS

7.1 Resolution No. 02-3212, For the Purpose of Confirming the Appointments Ela Whelan, John Nagy and Rick Gruen to the Water Resources Policy Advisory Committee.

Motion	Councilor Atherton moved to adopt Resolution No. 02-3212.
Seconded:	Councilor McLain seconded the motion

Councilor Atherton reviewed the resolution. Natural Resources Committee unanimously recommended approval. He urged an aye vote.

Vote:	Councilors Bragdon, Atherton, Monroe, Park, Burkholder, McLain and Presiding Officer Hosticka voted aye. The vote was 7 aye, the motion passed.
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8. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION

There were none.

9. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Presiding Officer Hosticka adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Prepared by

Chris Billington
Clerk of the Council

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER
12, 2002**

ITEM #	TOPIC	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOC. NUMBER
5.1	MINUTES	9/5/02	METRO COUNCIL MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2002 SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL	091202C-01
3	POWER POINT PRESENTATION	SEPT 2002	TO: METRO COUNCIL FROM: PAUL BINGHAM, PORT OF PORTLAND POWER POINT PRESENTATION ON FORECAST SUMMARY COMMODITY FLOW FORECAST UPDATE AND LOWER COLUMBIA RIVER CARGO FORECAST	091202C-02
7.1	COMMITTEE REPORT	5/10/02	TO: METRO COUNCIL FROM: MICHAEL MORRISSEY, COUNCIL ANALYST COMMITTEE REPORT ON RESOLUTION No. 02-3212	091202C-03