

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, December 16, 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. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, DECEMBER 18, 2008/ADMINISTRATIVE/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Bragdon reviewed the December 18, 2008 Metro Council agenda. Councilor Harrington asked about Resolution No. 08-3888 and requested to extend its action until the next Council meeting in January 2009. President Bragdon granted the request and moved Resolution No. 08-3888 to January 2009. Councilor Hosticka asked about Resolution No. 08-4009, and Dan Cooper, Metro Attorney, discussed Ordinance No. 08-1204.

Councilor Park discussed headquarters hotel business and commitments, including updates. Mr. Cooper discussed legalities involved in adding resolutions and other action items to Council agendas. He talked about decision-making meeting processes including extensions and revisions. Councilor Park revisited that Mayor-elect Adams was supportive of the hotel project moving forward. Councilors discussed inclement weather and possible scenarios for Thursday, December 18, 2008.

2. PORTLAND-MILWAUKIE LIGHT RAIL PROJECT UPDATE

Bridget Wieghart, Planning and Development, introduced the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Project Update agenda item. She discussed timelines and on-the-ground construction plans (see attachments). She talked about the financing plan, and matching processes in response to Councilor Park's question whether a finance plan existed or not. A Portland to Milwaukie Light Rail Powerpoint presentation was given (see attachments). Councilor Liberty talked about multi-non-automobile uses of the proposed Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail bridge. Councilor Hosticka asked about design parameters impeding navigation. Councilor Park asked about connections between cost and longevity. Councilor Harrington asked about pier images. Ms. Wieghart talked about differences in pier placement. Councilor Liberty asked about typical practices and processes. Councilors discussed conceptual design and cost elements.

Ms. Weighart asked the Council about implications of taking a higher cost/higher risk bridge type to the public, and whether the Metro Council wanted to provide guidance to the Willamette River Bridge Advisory Committee. Councilors discussed finance plan scenarios, including supplemental 50/50 plans as well as 60/40 federal plans. Councilor Burkholder wanted to ensure financing plans were feasible before moving forward. Councilor Collette said in a public process, it was most important to evaluate feasibility. She said the lower the risk, the more buildable the bridge was. Councilor Liberty said it was important to frame bridge scenarios properly for the public. Councilor Harrington did not want to weigh aesthetics over feasibility. Councilor

Burkholder asked about lottery fund financing. He asked if Metro was “funding” or being “funded.”

3. HIGH CAPACITY TRANSIT SYSTEM PLAN UPDATE

Ross Roberts, Planning and Development, and Tony Mendoza, Planning and Development, introduced the High Capacity Transit System Plan Update agenda item. Mr. Roberts discussed timelines. Mr. Mendoza presented a Powerpoint presentation (see meeting packet and attachments). Crista Gardner, Planning and Development, presented a Powerpoint presentation on her outreach work and evaluation criteria (see attachments).

Councilor Liberty asked about quantitative screening criteria. Councilor Burkholder said he wanted to see screening criteria connected to cost, as trade-offs would be required. He talked about using right-of-ways, and his experience with jurisdictional plans. He said there was urgency. Councilor Liberty talked about equity components. He talked about the completed system, versus the screening process for the completed system for evaluation. Councilors Collette and Liberty discussed local aspirations and that the Portland central city would not absorb all the region’s growth by the year 2040 – therefore, focusing on a system of downtown Portland (first) and then outward (second) was not feasible or aligned with the Region 2040 Growth Concept. Councilor Park discussed taking transit to outer areas, and poverty existing in outer areas. Mr. Mendoza talked about the importance of equity and prioritizing important elements. Councilor Park discussed land-use issues. Councilor Harrington asked when the “think-tank” would complete stated goals and objectives. Mr. Mendoza said there were two additional meetings scheduled into Spring 2009. Councilor Harrington wanted to ensure the think-tank would not evolve outside of stated goals and objectives. She wanted to ensure energy was not primarily invested in the think-tank, taken from other resource areas. Mr. Mendoza discussed balancing criteria. Councilor Hosticka asked about proposals addressing accessibility. Councilor Collette talked about local aspirations indicating what a particular jurisdiction was willing to do to implement. Councilor Liberty talked about discrepancies in centers versus corridors. Councilor Park asked about impacts to urban form. Mr. Mendoza said it primarily consisted of city collaboration and education. Councilor Liberty asked about evaluating different land-use scenarios and screening effects.

4. BREAK

5. 2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Randy Tucker, Strategy Center, introduced the 2009 Legislative Session agenda item. He talked about special districts, urban renewal, and school districts. He talked about requiring criminal background checks for any Metro employee working with children. He explained specifics of possible proposed legislation. He talked about parks and lottery funding. Councilor Park discussed the Council’s support of sustainability in terms of climate discussions. Mr. Tucker said Metro’s angle in the climate change conversation had not been defined. Councilor Park said it gave a starting point. Councilor Liberty discussed regional priorities and modeling. Councilor Harrington talked about passing climate change action plans and sustainability models without any sort of developed or implemented assessment. Mr. Tucker discussed revisions to his handout (see attachments). Councilor Park wanted to see diesel-retrofit from a broader perspective and how local jurisdictions responded. He talked about pesticide-use and hazardous material usage. Councilor Hosticka asked about defense on the issues.

Mr. Tucker discussed his handout "Twelve Legislative Ideas to Keep Oregon Great" (see attachments). Councilor Collette asked about regional lobbyist groups. Mr. Tucker explained participation and involved groups. Councilor Park was concerned about Measure 50 reform. Mr. Tucker asked about an appropriate process to endorse, adopt, or collaborate with other jurisdictions on various Metro legislative actions. President Bragdon talked about connections to land-use and the built environment, and was concerned decisions were made that affected land-use and infrastructure adequately and in alignment with Council opinions. Councilor Liberty asked if items remained so general, what did it mean to endorse and support? Councilor Burkholder talked about frameworks to work around, and thought additional environmental action required inclusion in the list. Councilor Park talked about advantages of being an "early signer" in the legislative process. Mr. Tucker said he would draft a staff report for Council to review before the 2009 legislative session.

6. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Burkholder presented goals developed by the Climate Action Program staff (see attachments). President Bragdon said the MPAC meeting and Greatest Place work session meetings were canceled. He introduced 2009 nominations regarding Council assignments. Councilor Harrington talked about Greatest Place models and workplans, and wished she had more confidence in future workplans meeting goals and objectives. Councilor Hosticka said a strategy for making choices was necessary. Councilor Liberty talked about policy outliers and how to manage. He talked about advancing political ally participation in 2009. Councilor Park said creating a bottom-line was important.

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 5:25 p.m.

Prepared by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Andersen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Tony Andersen
Council Operations Assistant

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF
 DECEMBER 16, 2008**

| Item | Topic | Doc. Date | Document Description | Doc. Number |
|-------------|------------------------------|------------------|--|--------------------|
| 1 | Agenda | 12/18/08 | Agenda: Metro Council regular meeting, December 18, 2008 | 121608cw-1 |
| 2 | Table | 11/1/2008 | Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Project Citizens Advisory Committee, December 16, 2008 | 121608cw-2 |
| 2 | Powerpoint presentation | 12/16/08 | Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Powerpoint presentation, Willamette River Bridge, December 16, 2008 | 121608cw-3 |
| 2 | Timeline | 12/16/08 | Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Project Timeline, December 16, 2008 | 121608cw-4 |
| 3 | Map | 12/9/08 | Going Place, Regional High Capacity Transit System Plan, Discussion Draft, December 9, 2008 | 121608cw-5 |
| 3 | Powerpoint presentation | 12/17/08 | High Capacity Transit System Plan, Metro Council Work Session, December 16, 2008 | 121608cw-6 |
| 5 | Memo | 12/15/08 | To: Metro Council From: Randy Tucker, Strategy Center Re: Legislative agenda work session item, Metro Council Legislative Priorities, Twelve Legislative Ideas to Keep Oregon Great, December 16, 2008 | 121608cw-7 |
| 5 | Revision to Handout and Memo | 12/16/08 | Revised: Twelve Legislative Ideas to Keep Oregon Great, December 16, 2008 | 121608cw-8 |
| 6 | Handout | 12/15/08 | DRAFT: Climate Action Program Goals – Phase 1, December 15, 2008 | 121608cw-9 |