

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, January 13, 2009
Metro Council Chamber

Councilors Present: David Bragdon (Council President), Kathryn Harrington, Rod Park, Rex Burkholder, Carl Hosticka, Robert Liberty, Carlotta Collette

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, JANUARY 15, 2009/ADMINISTRATIVE/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Bragdon reviewed the January 15, 2009 Metro Council agenda. Councilor Burkholder discussed the "SAFETEA-LU" agenda item (7.3) for January 15, 2009. Councilor Hosticka discussed the Fanno Creek (7.2) agenda item. Councilor Harrington discussed regional trails. Councilor Burkholder asked about making Transit Oriented Development (TOD) a metropolitan concern.

Tim O'Brien, Planning and Development, discussed minor adjustments made to the urban growth boundary (UGB) and UGB code, and briefly presented the annual report. He discussed specific changes made and subsequent results including additional acres to the net urban growth area. Councilor Liberty asked about criteria regarding the UGB running along property lines. President Bragdon discussed split properties entering the UGB. He talked about handling certain property issues. Councilor Liberty said zoning did not have to follow property lines from a public policy perspective. Councilor Harrington asked if the UGB attachment was shared with the Metropolitan Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC).

2. FY 09-10 BUDGET UPDATE

Margo Norton, Finance Director, discussed specific changes to the Metro budget. She discussed certain initiatives' (including the Sustainable Metro Initiative) role in budget structuring. Kathy Rutkowski, Budget Coordinator, discussed budget processes (see attachments). Councilor Collette asked about bond money and reserves. Councilor Liberty asked about bonds related to the greenspaces measure, and also the zoo bond. Michael Jordan, COO, talked about the bond market and current investor actions and strategy. Ms. Rutkowski discussed the general fund, including realistic predictions for expenditures. She talked about enterprise revenues, and broke them down by internal and external revenues. Mr. Jordan discussed raising rates and connections to budget regarding implementation and legislation. Councilor Liberty asked about forecasts for solid waste revenue. Ms. Rutkowski talked about discretionary excise tax and labor costs. She said there was a decrease in employment positions. President Bragdon asked about tracking. Ms. Norton discussed recalibrating funds and full-time employment (FTE) calculations. Councilor Harrington asked about mirrored trends through history in relation to current budget forecasts. Ms. Rutkowski noted tables she had developed and stated she was happy to answer any questions regarding organized budget data. Mr. Jordan discussed ten-percent reduction exercises with staff to various staff budgets.

President Bragdon asked about program budgeting. He asked if it were stalled and how it related to Metro reorganization. Mr. Jordan discussed defining the difference between “program” and “project.” He also talked about differences between the budget and accounting operations. Councilor Harrington said it was important to not confuse and distinguish budget implications and program executions, and for updates to consistently occur. She said it was important to not waste time on mechanics, and the larger mission of the budget was more of a concern for Councilors to discuss and subsequent policy concerns. She asked about Councilor engagement.

Councilor Park asked about budget specifics so he could understand and more accurately explain the budget and process to external audiences.

Ms. Norton discussed tonnage numbers (re: solid waste disposal) and said it continued to drop. Councilor Burkholder asked about rate stabilization numbers. Councilor Harrington said she wanted to see a couple of different scenarios, including base scenarios. Councilor Liberty asked about housing backlog and its relation to the general economic climate. Mr. Jordan talked about impacts at enterprise levels, and budget systems-thinking. Ms. Norton discussed timelines and future scheduled budget work sessions. President Bragdon discussed instituting substantive discussions early in the year in January and February. Councilor Harrington requested action lists and baselines between goals and objectives. She said evaluation of what might be missing could then occur. She requested a plan. Mr. Jordan discussed work plans for future work sessions to include further discussion on adopted Council policy and relation to Metro’s budget.

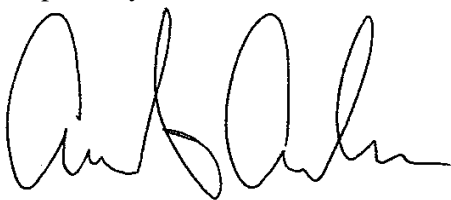
Mr. Jordan discussed Metro Regional Center physical placement of the “Connecting Green” program. Councilor Harrington asked about cross-functional teams. She asked about quarterly statements and utilization of opportunity funds.

3. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Burkholder talked about a letter regarding rescission and planning funds used for transportation. He discussed a staff report on Rail-volution, and conveying a report on conference attendance. Mr. Jordan talked about Making the Greatest Place discussions currently and into 2009. He talked about outcomes and timelines, specifically for the next three months. Councilor Liberty discussed reserves steering processes.

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 4 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
JANUARY 13, 2009**

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1	Agenda	1/15/09	Agenda: Metro Council regular meeting, January 15, 2009	011309cw-1
1	Memo	1/13/09	To: David Bragdon, Metro Council President, Metro Councilors From: Tim O'Brien, Principal Regional Planner Cc: Michael Jordan, Chief Operating Officer Re: End of Calendar Year Urban Growth Boundary Adjustment Report Date: Tuesday, January 13, 2009	011309cw-2
2	Proposal	1/13/09	Proposal for Budget Process, Council Work Session, January 13, 2009	011309cw-3
2	Report	1/13/09	Preliminary Highlights, FY 2009-10 Budget Request, January 13, 2009	011309cw-4
2	Report	1/13/09	Solid Waste Tonnage FY 2008-09 and FY 2009-10, January 13, 2009	011309cw-5