

## MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, September 26, 2002  
Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center  
5340 N. Interstate Avenue, Portland

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

Councilors Absent: Rod Monroe (excused)

Presiding Officer Hosticka convened the Regular Council Meeting at 7:38 p.m.

### 1. WELCOME

Councilor Burkholder welcomed the audience and the Council to the Metro Council off-site meeting. He thanked Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center for hosting the meeting. He said the success of our region depends on its neighborhoods. North and Northeast Portland share a long and colorful history. Beginning as separate towns, the communities of Albina, St. Johns and the stockyards in Kenton to the north housed thousands of people and were dynamic centers of commerce and trade before becoming part of the expanding City of Portland.

Interstate 5 cruelly cut these neighborhoods apart, leading to many decades of economic and social decline. 5,000 homes were destroyed along the thriving black business district. Redlining by banks, discriminatory urban renewal projects and freeway-induced flight of middle class residents contributed to disinvestment, increased concentration of poverty, and race riots.

Today, you see a community on its way back. People have discovered the winning secret of city life: cities are convenient. Life was easier when jobs, schools, shopping were close by. In addition, solidly built houses and older commercial centers blessed this area. Luckily, all was not lost or bulldozed.

Metro's policies of "using what we have well" contributed to the renaissance of North and Northeast Portland. This was an ongoing project, as we will hear tonight. We will hear presentations on how Interstate Max was helping boost this community and support healthy re-investment. We will also hear about the opportunities and challenges of implementing 2040 in the St. Johns Town Center, an area with high poverty levels but good access to jobs, beautiful parks and a feisty, proud citizenry.

Councilor Burkholder thanked all for attending. He said, I hope that you will learn a bit more about this great community and our responsibility to ensure its continued health.

### 2. INTRODUCTIONS

There were none.

### 3. PRESENTATIONS

#### 3.1 ST. JOHNS TOWN CENTER PRESENTATION

Barry Manning, City of Portland Planning, gave a presentation on St. Johns Town Center (a copy of materials presented are included in the meeting record). He noted that Lombard was a critical piece of the plan. The St. Johns/Lombard planning area focused on the St. Johns town center and Lombard Street to Columbia Park. They were keeping the boundaries tight around 2040 area. He spoke to preserving the neighborhoods in the area. The plan was modeled after the Sandy/Hollywood town center plan. He gave an overview of the history and background of the St. Johns area, the partnerships of the project, funding for the project, purposes of the plan and of the project. He noted the differences in the town centers around the region. St. Johns has a strong identity as an independent place. There were great community assets such as the business district, a hometown feel, small business establishments, the influx of new retailers, the Rivergate industrial district, affordable housing, wonderful parks such as Cathedral Park, and the St. Johns Bridge. The demographics of the area were changing with an influx of younger people. He noted the ethnic diversity of the area as well.

The City of Portland's plan was working with neighborhood and business associations to develop the plan. These groups had helped communicate to the community what was being done and had given feedback on the plan. He noted two documents he provided to Council concerning Neighborhood Walks and Summary of Participant Comments (copies are found in the meeting record). He talked about the future of the project, land use and transportation proposals. He also talked about what they were hearing from the community; St. Johns had a strong identity, there was need for necessary pedestrian improvements and bicycle networks improvements, there was heavy truck traffic and a need for improving transportation system, connection to the river and access issues. He noted the Metro green space properties in the St. Johns area. The land uses in the area included maintaining the industrial and commercial activities. The big concern was how we accommodated maintaining a unique identity. What kind of housing made sense? How did we solve the truck traffic problems? How did we kick start businesses to revitalize the area?

Councilor Atherton asked about the railroad line? Mr. Manning said part of it was active. Councilor Atherton suggested opportunities for rail and trail. Mr. Manning said there had been discussions about this issue but no resolve. Councilor Burkholder identified other areas that needed development and redevelopment. He noted Smith and Bybee Lakes and St. Johns Bridge area and some of the challenges that the area had in terms of urban development and redevelopment. Presiding Officer Hosticka said it would be interesting to see how the riverfront redeveloped. He thanked Mr. Manning for his work and his presentation.

### **3.2 INTERSTATE MAX PRESENTATION**

Don Irwin, Director of Interstate Max Project, Tri-Met gave an update on the Interstate MAX project (a copy of the Interstate Max Progress Report is included in the meeting record). He reported that they were under budget and further along on the project than expected. With the budget savings they may be able to purchase additional trains. He talked about the business support project and the workforce diversity program. The scope of the project included ten stations with artwork at each station. He talked about travel time between EXPO and Pioneer Square. Presiding Officer Hosticka asked about timing from the Rose Quarter to downtown. Mr. Irwin said it would be about every two minutes that trains would cross the Steel Bridge. He noted that they had to rebuild the utility structure but it was now completed. He spoke to the progress thus far which was ahead of schedule. He detailed some of the contracts for the alignment.

Councilor Atherton asked who was the car assembler? Mr. Irwin said they were being assembled in Sacramento. Councilor Atherton asked about hybrid lightrail. Mr. Irwin said they were not yet there. Councilor McLain complimented Tri-Met on the lunch bus and the neighborhood

partnership. Mr. Irwin said they were trying to get as much of the paving done before it rained. He talked about the community celebration that was being planned. Councilor Burkholder asked about community redevelopment activity. Mr. Irwin said they were starting those conversations.

**4. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS**

Plinio Crow, 308 SE 12<sup>th</sup> St #C Vancouver, WA, spoke about I-5 Partnership Task Force. He was challenging the task force. He talked about interstate commerce and the need for military access. He suggested phase revisions and the benefits of his plan. He said lightrail was wonderful but we needed to be focusing more on our ports. He talked about necessary trade accesses for the area. He suggested looking to the future. We depended on trade. He also spoke to earthquake hazards in the area. He felt it was critical not to concentrate people. He then spoke to the railroad issues. They couldn't take on more operating capacity. He said he would be addressing the State of Oregon Transportation Department. He concluded by saying we needed to build a third bridge.

**5. MPAC COMMUNICATIONS**

Councilor Park said they discussed the MPAC/MTAC job report. Councilor McLain added that there was 3 areas for region perspective and detailed these regional issues. Presiding Officer Hosticka said some MPAC members felt they shouldn't try to fulfill all of the need by December 2002.

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

6.1 Consideration of minutes of the September 19, 2002 Regular Council Meeting.

Motion	Councilor Atherton moved to adopt the meeting minutes of the September 19, 2002, Regular Council meeting
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Vote:	Councilors Bragdon, Atherton, Park, Burkholder, McLain and Presiding Officer Hosticka voted aye. The vote was 6 aye, the motion passed.
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**7. RESOLUTIONS**

7.1 **Resolution No. 02-3221**, For the Purpose of Authorizing the Executive Officer to Purchase a Conservation Easement Over the King Property in the Gales Creek Target Area.

Motion	Councilor McLain moved to adopt Resolution No. 02-3221.
Seconded:	Councilor Bragdon seconded the motion

Councilor McLain said this resolution was a conservation easement on the King property. It was about 45 acres. It allowed protection of land for conservation and public purpose. She reviewed the committee report. Councilor Park asked about acquisition. Nancy Chase, Regional Parks and Openspaces Department, said the land in question was exclusive farmland use. Councilor Burkholder said with conservation easement would the Kings still be able to farm? Ms. Chase said they had purchased all agricultural rights to the property. Presiding Officer Hosticka said he was happy to see these coming forward. This was another tool in the natural resources protection toolbox.

Vote:	Councilors Park, Burkholder, McLain, Bragdon, Atherton and Presiding Officer Hosticka voted aye. The vote was 6 aye, the motion passed.
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7.2 **Resolution No. 02-3226**, For the purpose of direction to the Executive Officer on Implementing the Neighborhood Livability Provisions Measure 26-29.

Motion	Councilor Burkholder moved to adopt Resolution No. 02-3226.
Seconded:	Councilor McLain seconded the motion

Councilor Burkholder said the Council was considering three resolutions that responded to Ballot Measure 26-29, a charter amendment passed by the voters of the Metro district last May. Ballot Measure 26-29 required Metro to adopt policy changes to direct future growth to areas well served by transit, with close proximity to jobs and shopping and to avoid directing growth into single family neighborhoods. It also required Metro to increase the quality and quantity of information we present to citizens regarding one of our most important decisions the Metro Council makes: the decision whether and where to expand the urban growth boundary.

By a margin of three to one, the voters spoke. The Council is eager to follow their wishes. These three resolutions implement, well ahead of the one-year deadline set by the measure, key provisions of Measure 26-29. Resolution No. 02-3226 directs the Executive Officer to begin working on measures to protect the livability of existing neighborhoods, such as ensuring access to parks, to clean air and protection from excess traffic. This resolution also directs the Executive Officer to provide additional information on the costs and impact of urban growth boundary amendments greater than 100 acres.

Resolution No. 02-3227 directs the Executive Officer to implement the notification requirements of Measure 26-29 early. In fact, less than six months after passage of this charter amendment, Metro has already met the notification requirements sending out notices about upcoming urban growth boundary decision to an additional 100,000 property owners. This resolution does not require early reporting of the cost impacts of the current UGB decision be provided because of the difficulty of implementing this part of the Charter amendments as quickly and ahead of schedule.

Resolution No. 02-3229 states that, as part of this fall's urban growth boundary decision, we will voluntarily comply with Measure 26-29 provisions prohibiting Metro from requiring cities and counties to upzone single family residential neighborhoods identified as inner and outer neighborhoods on the 2040 growth concept map. We are doing this because the voters have spoken and we wish to carry out their commands even though the measure does not require this until May 2003. The Charter changes made by Measure 26-29 and these implementing resolutions increase our constituents' confidence in Metro's ability to manage growth in a way that maintains and improves neighborhood livability. Presiding Officer Hosticka said this was keeping faith with the voters. Councilor Park thanked Councilor Burkholder for his leadership on this issue.

Vote:	Councilors Bragdon, Atherton, Park, Burkholder, McLain and Presiding Officer Hosticka voted aye. The vote was 6 aye, the motion passed.
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7.3 **Resolution No. 02-3227**, For the purpose of direction to the Executive Officer on Early Implementation of the Notification Provisions of Measure 26-29.

Motion	Councilor Burkholder moved to adopt Resolution No. 02-3227.
Seconded:	Councilor Atherton seconded the motion

Councilor Burkholder urged an aye vote on the resolution.

Vote:	Councilors Bragdon, Atherton, Park, Burkholder, McLain and Presiding Officer Hosticka voted aye. The vote was 6 aye, the motion passed.
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7.4 **Resolution No. 02-3229**, For the Purpose of Indicating Council Intent to Protect Residential Neighborhoods in Considering the Need to amend the Urban Growth Boundary.

Motion	Councilor Burkholder moved to adopt Resolution No. 02-3229.
Seconded:	Councilor Park seconded the motion

Councilor Burkholder urged passage.

Vote:	Councilors Bragdon, Atherton, Park, Burkholder, McLain and Presiding Officer Hosticka voted aye. The vote was 6 aye, the motion passed.
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## 8. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION

Councilor Burkholder invited everyone to the Polish Festival this Saturday. Councilor Park announced the seven public hearings for consideration of Urban Growth Boundary expansion in October. Presiding Officer Hosticka said they would be on the westside tour this Friday.

## 9. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Presiding Officer Hosticka adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Prepared by

Chris Billington  
Clerk of the Council

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER  
 26, 2002**

ITEM #	TOPIC	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOC. NUMBER
6.1	MINUTES	09/19/02	METRO COUNCIL MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2002 SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL	092602C-01
3	ST. JOHNS/ LOMBARD PLAN	SEPT 2002	TO: METRO COUNCIL FROM: FROM: BARRY MANNING, PROJECT LEADER, CITY OF PORTLAND PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND UPDATE OF ST JOHNS/LOMBARD PLAN	092602C-02
3	ST. JOHNS/ LOMBARD PLAN	JULY 2002	TO: METRO COUNCIL FROM: BARRY MANNING, PROJECT LEADER, CITY OF PORTLAND ST JOHNS/LOMBARD PLAN NEIGHBORHOOD WALKS SUMMARY AND PARTICIPANTS' COMMENTS	092602C-03
3	ST. JOHNS/ LOMBARD PLAN	JUNE 20, 2002	TO: METRO COUNCIL FROM: BARRY MANNING, PROJECT LEADER, CITY OF PORTLAND ST. JOHNS/LOMBARD PLAN NEIGHBORHOOD WALKS	092602C-04
3	TRIMET DOCUMENT	SEPT 2002	TO: METRO COUNCIL FROM: DON IRWIN, DIRECTOR OF INTERSTATE MAX PROJECT INTERSTATE MAX PROGRESS REPORT SEPTEMBER 2002	092602C-05
4	BI-STATE PARTNERSHIP TASK FORCE COMMENTS	9/13/02	TO: METRO COUNCIL FROM: PLINIO CROW CHALLENGING THE BI-STATE I-5 PARTNERSHIP TASK FORCE	092602C-06