

## MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, February 10, 2009  
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, FEBRUARY 12, 2009/ADMINISTRATIVE/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS**

Council President Bragdon reviewed the February 12, 2009 Metro Council agenda. Randy Tucker, Legislative Affairs Manager, gave a legislative update. He discussed drafts, bills, and amendments on transportation issues. Councilor Liberty asked if “diesel retrofit” could be called something more accurate like “clean air initiative.” He said there were a lot of issues under the radar. Councilor Harrington talked about regional inclusion and awareness. Michael Jordan, COO, discussed speaking engagements. Mr. Tucker discussed specifics of bills, including rural lands and infrastructure. President Bragdon talked about issues specific to counties in urban areas, and that such issues should be approached in a non-dictating way to more rural counties. Councilor Hosticka talked about Council support to pass on to Mr. Jordan. Councilor Harrington clarified discussions. Councilor Hosticka asked if Councilors preferred Mr. Jordan provide a statement letter to the legislature. President Bragdon asked for comments on infrastructure issues in the 2009 legislative bill. Councilor Liberty talked about successful land-use scenarios. Councilor Collette asked about specific content of the bill. Councilor Liberty reported that he planned to attend the Oregon House Land Use Committee hearing on House Bill 2229 on Tuesday, February 10, 2009. He said he would testify on the bill, but represent only himself.

### **2. OREGON CONVENTION CENTER SOLAR PROJECT**

Jeff Blosser, Oregon Convention Center Director, introduced the solar panel agenda item. He discussed project briefing status and Request for Proposal (RFP) update. He said they wanted to be 100% renewably powered in the future. He said he hoped Oregon Convention Center costs for power to be zero. He said it would be a high visibility and profile project, and would bolster green marketing. Nathan Sykes, Office of Metro Attorney, discussed bidding and the RFP process. He talked about roof licensing and self-sustaining financing. Mr. Blosser said the Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission (MERC) approved the project. Councilor Burkholder asked about green roof projects. Councilor Liberty asked what would be done with the equipment in future years. Mr. Sykes said that would be part of contract negotiations. Councilor Liberty asked if there were materials of future concern used in the project. Mr. Blosser discussed energy cost specifics. Councilor Harrington talked about solar fabrics and wanted to ensure the RFP process was open to latest technology use. Councilor Liberty asked about energy costs per use. Councilor Park asked about timelines. Mr. Blosser said a minimum 90-day response time for contractors and something might be installed by the end of the year. He wanted to select a contractor by June 2009.

### **3. HIGH CAPACITY TRANSIT PLAN UPDATE**

Ross Roberts and Tony Mendoza, Regional Planning, introduced the High Capacity Transit (HCT) Plan update agenda item. He said they would walk the Council through the resolution, go over packet materials, and provide an overview of engagement tools. Mr. Mendoza went over the high capacity transit plan map. He said Councilors would be asked to adopt the map. Councilor Harrington appreciated fine-tuning. Councilor Hosticka asked about high capacity connectors. Councilors discussed transit extension lines. They talked about miles of lines and number of riders per day. President Bragdon asked for number thresholds in defining “high capacity.” Councilor Harrington talked about extension to neighboring cities – and whether that was wanted or not. Councilor Burkholder talked about existing rail-lines used for extensions and connecting activity centers. Councilor Hosticka said as a practical matter, there would be debate on how best to serve Sherwood. Councilor Liberty said discussions should be centered on capacity rather than actual volume. Mr. Mendoza talked about discrepancies in “low priority” versus “high opportunity.” Mr. Mendoza talked about capital costs per rider and costs per mile. Councilor Liberty expressed appreciation for inclusion of opportunity costs and trade-offs in materials.

Councilor Liberty talked about equity and averaging people together – he said it was important to look at differential markets. Councilor Burkholder asked about right-of-ways, and said he wanted it to be recognized there would be trade-offs in using or not using existing facilities. He said there could be expensive capital costs. Mr. Mendoza said they were working to make the process as accessible as possible – and objective rather than subjective, as well as participatory and analytical.

Karen Withrow, Public Involvement Manager, provided an overview for high capacity workshops. She said it was very important and useful for local residents to participate in conversations. She said once workshops were confirmed, notices would be sent. Crista Gardner, Planning and Development, presented a Powerpoint presentation on HCT workshops and objectives (see attachments). She talked about scenario design tools at workshops. Councilor Liberty talked about business markets correlating to specific populations, and whether that aspect had been built into the public involvement tool. Councilor Park asked what was already in the system and what could be augmented in. Mr. Roberts said the tool was very adaptable, but what the tool really intended to analyze was what was on the ground, and what could be developed, and it acted to further capture aspirations. Councilors Hosticka and Burkholder asked who “owned” the tool and whether it could be provided to communities for use.

Councilor Harrington said activities needed reinforcement outward. Councilor Park asked how much data could be placed into the tool. Ms. Gardner said theoretically there were not size issues, but instead staff and time issues.

### **4. BREAK**

### **5. I-5/99W CONNECTOR**

Andy Cotugno, Strategy Center, discussed expressway scenarios to connect 99W to I-5. He said the problem was not how to build a connector, but different modes of transportation. He discussed expanding the system and other expressway alternatives. He said no one was completely satisfied with expressway alternatives, and one alternative was the result. Councilor Liberty asked about alternative incorporation. Mr. Cotugno explained concept maps, various alignment possibilities, and different connector scenarios. Councilor Harrington asked how

identified areas do not guarantee people will not use connectors for unintended uses. Mr. Cotugno talked about strategies to reduce unintended connector uses. President Bragdon asked about price-tags between different alternatives, and agreement between cities. Councilor Hosticka said people were discussing how they saw the plan happening. He said there continued to be different perspectives, however. Mr. Cotugno said Wilsonville consistently had concerns. Concerns consisted of studying connector corridors, but not I-5 itself. Councilor Hosticka talked about tradeoffs. Councilor Liberty said this was a more sophisticated analysis, however alternatives were always compared, but not other projects. He talked about return on investments, for such a high price-tag. He said there was little comparable data between projects. Councilor Collette asked if commuter rail was included in cost. Councilor Harrington asked about mode-specificity and business involvement. Councilor Hosticka said there was a high level of business involvement. Councilor Burkholder asked if Councilor Hosticka was supportive of new scenarios. Councilor Burkholder said he thought it was interesting that something that had been on the books for more than thirty years could be reexamined. He said the approach was a good model and fit closely with the RTP.

President Bragdon discussed clear purpose of the “connector” project, and appreciated clear direction. Councilor Hosticka stated endorsement of Alternative 7.

## **6. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATIONS**

Councilor Burkholder distributed “Oregon’s Economic Engines” materials (see attachments). He reported on meetings he had attended. Councilor Harrington asked how materials were being distributed. Councilor Burkholder said materials were drafts and had not been shared yet. Councilor Harrington asked about timeframes. Councilor Burkholder talked about inclusion of parking lot issues in the RTP. Councilor Harrington talked about future meetings and personal absences. Councilors discussed Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission (TSCC) issues.

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

Prepared by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Andersen', written over a white background.

Tony Andersen  
Council Operations Assistant

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF  
 FEBRUARY 10, 2009**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Doc. Date</b>	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>Doc. Number</b>
1	Agenda	2/12/09	Agenda: Metro Council regular meeting, February 12, 2009	021009cw-1
1	Letter	8/7/08	To: Mike Thorne, Chair, Oregon's Task Force on Land Use Planning From: Metro Council Re: Task Force Recommendations Date: August 7, 2008	021009cw-2
2	Report	9/6/07	Oregon Convention Center Solar Power Report for City Facilities, For Energy Trust of Oregon, September 6, 2007	021009cw-3
3	Powerpoint presentation	2/10/09	Planning for high capacity transit in the region, High Capacity Transit System Plan and Local Aspirations Workshops, Metro Council Work Session, February 10, 2009	021009cw-4
6	Memo	2/10/09	To: Metro Councilors From: Rex Burkholder, JPACT Chair CC: Andy Cotugno, Robin McArthur, Michael Jordan Re: 2009 Regional Transportation topic assignments Date: February 10, 2009	021009cw-5
6	Handout	2/10/09	Oregon's Economic Engines, Northern Willamette Valley (DRAFT)	021009cw-6
6	Handout	2/10/09	Oregon's Economic Engines, Greater Bend Region (DRAFT)	021009cw-7
6	Table	1/30/09	OMPOC Transportation Priorities for the 2009 Oregon Legislature, January 30, 2009	021009cw-8