

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, March 31, 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, APRIL 2, 2009/ADMINISTRATIVE/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Harrington proposed two questions regarding the Lentz property, 'industrial' zoning currently – in the past the council decided that local governments should not change industrial zoned land into other zoning and she feels as though they are doing that currently.

Michael Jordan Metro Chief Operating Officer updated and reminded the Council members and staff that is present of the process that will take place the next few weeks and that Margo Norton will be updating each of them.

Council President Bragdon reviewed the April 2, 2009 Metro Council agenda.

2. BUDGET CONCEPTS

3. CLIMATE

Heidi Rahn Metro Climate initiative project manager began with a briefing of where we are in meeting the initiative. Ms. Rahn thanked each of the steering committee members. She described what Regional Climate Prosperity Council is and then explained the total dollar amount needed for each of the options. Mike Wetter was asked to clarify the Opportunity costs given in the presentation. Mr. Jordan further explained what the costs are if the council approves extra money that is not in the current budget. Ms. Rahn presented the options that Metro will have in order to 'get out' if this project is not going in the planned direction.

The floor was opened for questions. Councilor Harrington asked 'if we invest our dollars in this project what will the result be and how will we know?' and 'if the project is aimed at the regional level how are we assured that there will be support on a minimum of the statewide level.' Councilor Burkholder explained the breakdown of the supplemental investment choices and what the 'Prosperity Council' model can do for Metro and the region. President Bragdon gave specific examples as to why Metro is a good choice, as well as a few more implications to why there are many costs to weigh in the process. Councilor Hosticka asked who would fund the strategy. Ms. Rahn explained there will be collaboration between Portland Sustainability Center and Green light. Councilor Park expressed concern of not knowing if there is a regional consensus on the matter. Ms.

Rahn said that next week she and others will be meeting with the original authors of the regional strategy in San Jose.

4. BREAK

At 3:08-3:19

5. INFRASTRUCTURE

Andy Shaw, Metro, introduced the proposal, he described the competitive advantage that Metro has in its region and the value to the stakeholders. Mr. Shaw continued to illustrate the process that needs to take place to carry out the infrastructure finance strategy. He demonstrated what the budget dollars would go towards. Councilor Collette asked when will the Construction Excise Tax (CET) dollars be met and when would they need to do to change/extend or otherwise. Mr. Shaw explained that they estimate the CET will reach its limit of 3.65million dollars this year and if the council plans to change or extend the CET then that needs to take place 90 days prior to reaching the dollar limit. Council President Bragdon said the current CET stakeholder group is entirely focused on expansion areas and now to turn this in a different direction there will need to be a more diverse group of stakeholders which may cause friction among the current stakeholders. Councilor Harrington expressed concern with the timeline of the possible ballot measure and the hard time we will have to get allies to support. Councilor Collette feels that Metro would have a great deal of supporters or allies including all of the region's cities and counties. Councilor Park pointed to the challenges that will face the attempt at working towards the amount of funds this strategy is pursuing. Councilor Burkholder said he is not sure that this is Metro's role in the region, and without a list of what will be bought with the money we will lose a lot of support. Councilor Harrington said that Making the Greatest Place (MGP) needs to be a priority as it is a current project of ours. Councilor Hosticka asked that this presentation and discussion be continued again at a future meeting.

6. FUTURE VISION

Stacey Triplett, Metro, presented the Future Vision for the region's success. Ms. Triplett spoke to reengagement. Future Vision hopes to reengage and foster ownership by stakeholders. With authorship comes investment, with participation comes strength. New approach is most likely to use technology in making a fresh, youthful, and inactive tone. Metro has a distinct role in that as a convener, this is what we do best. Ms. Triplett spoke to the planned strategy which primarily focuses on the web application and commission work. Councilor Liberty inquired as to what the cost of the minimal charter fulfillment. Ms. Triplet spoke to risk. It requires comparatively lower political capital than other venture projects. This is being presented due to the Metro Charter stating it must be revised every fifteen years. Councilor Harrington to applauded Ms. Triplet's innovative ideas in coming to alternate solutions to comply with charter mandates. Harrington appreciates the idea of ownership. Harington had some concerns: (1) The current

proposal may confuse ongoing local aspiration and visioning groups, (2) it only targets one particular group, and (3) the presentation did not satisfy her thirst for knowing exactly how the budget can provide solutions. Councilor Burkholder wants to see how different activities come together and leverage each other. Burkholder spoke to the fact that we should engage young audiences since they will ultimately determine how our region looks in the future. Burkholder suggested that Future Vision is essentially a regional aspiration. Burkholder did discuss the amending the charter as a possible option. Councilor Park wants to expedite the process. Councilor Liberty suggested that Ms. Triplet took a mandate and made it more interesting. Liberty wanted the Council to think about whether the proposal should emphasize outreach or simply checking the box. Council President Bragdon wanted the proposal to be blended with more purpose. Also, President Bragdon said we should only do the bare minimum unless other practices provide greater value. Councilor Liberty concurred. President Bragdon suggested the budget figures are unrealistically low even considering that technology would be used. Councilor Harrington suggested that Metro's Build a Tool System could give feedback on how to approach Future Vision process with technology. Harrington said you can check the box but also use 21st Century practices. Councilor Park wants it more than just an exercise in checking a box and being done with it. Chief Operating Officer Michael Jordan said that we have learned a great deal since 1995, this process is organic and needs to focus more on sustainability.

7. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATION

There were none.

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

Prepared by,



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ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF
March 31, 2009

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1	Agenda	3/31/09	Agenda: Metro Council regular meeting, April 2, 2009	033109cw-1
1	Handout	03/31/09	Memo: FY 2009-10 Budget Process, Calendar and Amendments	033109cw-2