

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL MAKING THE GREATEST PLACE WORK SESSION

Thursday, April 23, 2009
World Forestry Center, Mt. Hood Room

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

Councilors Absent:

Council President Bragdon convened the Regular Council Meeting at 2:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Objectives

Reserves:

- Council understanding of each county's process and rationale for rural and urban reserve candidate area recommendations

- Direction to Councilor Harrington on rural and urban reserve candidate areas

Regional Transportation Plan:

- Council understanding of process for integrating land use and RTP-related efforts into RTP investment strategy

Engagement:

- Direction on the process and decision-making forums

Agenda

I. Overview – Stephan Lashbrook (5 minutes)
Objectives for today's meeting

Stephan Lashbrook, Deputy Planning and Development Director, introduced the work session agenda. He recapped previous meetings and requests. He discussed Councilor Hosticka's role as Council liaison. He discussed the report on local aspirations. He said a lot of things were moving forward on many different channels.

II. Urban and rural reserves -- Councilor Kathryn Harrington, John Williams (1 hour and 40 minutes)

Councilor Harrington introduced the urban and rural reserves agenda item. She discussed County Commissioner involvement in Making the Greatest Place work sessions. Councilor Harrington introduced County Commissioners.

Review candidate area recommendations and rationales: (1 hour)

Clackamas County (Commissioner Charlotte Lehan, Doug McClain)
Multnomah County (Commissioner Jeff Cogen, Chuck Beasley)
Washington County (Chair Tom Brian, Brent Curtis)
Council discussion of candidate areas and direction to Councilor Harrington (20 minutes)

Charlotte Lehan, Clackamas County Commissioner, discussed controversy surrounding the definition of conserving prime agricultural land. She said land south of the Willamette River was the most controversial. She talked about urban development and subsequent investment. She said there were no urban services easily accessible south of Wilsonville. She said there was only one bridge, which was I-5. She talked about logical service providers in the Wilsonville area. Councilor Harrington asked Dick Benner, Metro Senior Attorney, about applicable administrative rules. Commissioner Lehan said she felt a commitment to support local cities and decisions. Councilor Harrington said joint findings needed satisfied through joint factors and rules. Commissioner Lehan said the third party was not at the table, so a decision was uncomfortable. Councilor Collette said it was a defensible decision. Councilor Burkholder asked about geographical locations on the urban and rural reserve maps and whether they were being looked at or not. Councilor Harrington said the Stafford area was going to be studied for both urban and rural use. Councilor Liberty asked how counties approached serviceability. He asked about flood plains and discharge permits. Commissioner Lehan discussed sewer serviceability. She said service areas were rated by “low, medium, and high.”

Councilor Liberty talked about suitable service areas. He asked about capacity and boundaries and what the next sequence should be. He asked what roles should be played. Commissioner Lehan said there was not enough sewer capacity to serve areas designated urban. Jeff Cogen, Multnomah County Commissioner, discussed narrowing down all areas outside of the urban growth boundary, and priority service areas. Councilor Hosticka discussed close coordination with other nearby counties in designation discussions. He asked what was happening to guarantee collaborative discussions took place. Commissioner Cogen said this work session was a good example of cross-jurisdictional collaboration. Commissioner Cogen talked about serviceability rations and variance in different locations. Councilor Liberty asked about actuality of serviceability.

Tom Brian, Washington County Commissioner, discussed public comment, and factors and screens involved in narrowing or expanding proposed areas. Land areas were discussed from a screening and consideration perspective. Councilor Harrington asked how analysis for rural reserves was conducted and screened. Councilor Liberty asked about different approaches and what those different approaches represented. Commissioner Brian said different paths were taken. Commissioner Brian discussed including incorporating unincorporated urban areas in Washington County into urban designations. He said there were a lot of opportunities to increase density and service areas. He said there were a lot of “orphan” areas, but if a master plan were done, cities would be interested in incorporating. Councilor Harrington asked about Washington County leadership. Councilor Burkholder asked if it made sense to do a sequence with the urban growth decision later – he asked if it were helping make rational decisions, and

if discussions were helpful. President Bragdon talked about the legal defensibility of final decisions. He said consistency was legally defensible, and decisions could be vulnerable by way of inconsistency. He wondered how to work together to alleviate that concern. He said there were different stages in the game, especially when talking about candidates versus final decisions. Commissioner Brian talked about records of areas. Councilor Harrington talked about sufficient findings. Commissioner Lehan talked about inconsistencies in the treatment of satellite cities. She said confusion was resulting.

Councilor Hosticka said all the political analysis in the world would still leave complicated political processes. He asked what the legitimate next step was, and about consistency leading to legal defensibility. Councilor Park wanted to ensure that areas were carried into analysis before automatic elimination as a study area. Councilor Burkholder asked about conversations surrounding Sauvie Island.

Councilor Liberty talked about outcomes and strategy. Councilor Harrington talked about guiding principles in direction and decision-making. Councilor Hosticka asked what sort of clarity was being sought after. Councilor Harrington said having regional partners present provided better understanding and communication. Councilor Hosticka said a discussion needed to occur regarding what regional interests were versus localized interests.

Assessing the adequacy of reserves – Dick Benner (20 minutes) (handout)

Mr. Benner walked through the process of assessing the adequacy of reserves. Councilor Liberty asked about legal defects in designation at different times in the process. Councilor Liberty asked about sequencing decisions. Councilor Harrington discussed timelines for the process. Councilor Hosticka asked about the phrase “too much.” He did not understand a ceiling on “too much” land. He said he could understand a “floor,” however. Councilor Park talked about projections and capacity in terms of utilization of land. He said it was reasonable to assume better efficiency. He asked about conversion of land currently, and overdesignation. Councilor Harrington said she would not be comfortable with designations before fruitful policy discussions with local jurisdictions happened. Councilor Burkholder talked about potential and feasibility. He said it was important to back off the UGB discussion, and the goal was to plan for future urbanization. Councilor Hosticka discussed state legislative action on discretion in setting reserves. He talked about associated risks. He asked about the risks of overdesignating. Councilor Liberty said he felt overdesignation had already occurred and land cannot be un-designated. He said he felt there were so many topics that could be addressed only so deep, and he said capacity discussions would not happen.

Councilor Park said he wanted to know the job was done adequate because of stewardship of a much larger area. President Bragdon said sticking to the schedule should not be a priority, but simply getting the work done should be the primary and focus priority. He said there was a work plan signed off on, and the plan needed adhered to. He talked about differences in policy preferences across the region. Councilor Harrington said she was going through a process of examination to frame recommendations.

Councilor Liberty talked about aspirations and capacity inside the UGB. He hoped that discussion was included on the agenda.

Reference Material: Updated candidate area maps (included in packet)

IV. Regional Transportation Plan – Councilor Rex Burkholder, Kim Ellis (45 min)

Status Report (10 min.)

- Update on RTP needs assessment and next steps for system development
- RTP Investment Strategy (35 min.)
- Review sample case study that integrates local aspirations, HCT, Freight, TSMO, BRC for Trails and mobility corridors work
- Discuss Council role in connecting land use and transportation efforts to cultivate champions and challenge partner agencies to bring forward an integrated community building and mobility strategy when defining investment priorities

Reference Material: Memo on system development process and summary slideshow (included in packet); atlas of mobility corridors (provided under separate cover)

Councilor Burkholder framed the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) agenda item. Councilor Hosticka asked what it meant to “crunch” and why there was comparative conflict. He did not understand what actual operational choices were. Kim Ellis, Transportation Planning, followed Councilor Burkholder’s introduction. She asked Councilors for their suggestions for improving case studies, if they supported proposed engagement roles, and how much time Council needed before final release in September. Ms. Ellis discussed the RTP schedule. She discussed the Powerpoint presentation slides in the meeting packet (see meeting packet). She talked about footprints and mobility strategies.

Councilor Burkholder discussed current policies and the Oregon Department of Transportation’s investment priorities in Tigard. Councilor Burkholder asked about integration. Councilor Harrington said she did not think mayors in her district were getting the general themes and becoming engaged. Ms. Ellis proposed one aspiration case study per Council district. Councilor Harrington said people had vested interest in bringing data forward. She said it was important that mayors saw the value. Councilor Hosticka liked the general overall format. He said it was important to identify inconsistencies between local aspirations and current RTP content. Councilor Collette requested more information on the mobility atlas. She said the impact of the mobility map was huge, and as a handout it should be bigger.

Councilor Park said maintaining staff engagement was important. Councilor Liberty said differentiating between different tracks was good. He said it was important to look at what was in the plan and also the improvement program. He said there was the benefit of putting a little more meat behind details. He said part of local aspirations would connect

to housing needs and affordability and further connections to transportation. President Bragdon said it played a valuable role in making the plan real to people, and not an abstraction. He said presentations were stronger on the diagnostic side. He talked about modal layers. He talked about next steps and directional strategy for jurisdictions.

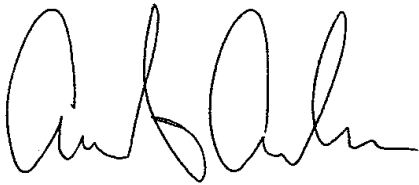
V. Summary and Next Steps

Tentative topics for May 14 Making the Greatest Place work session:

- Discuss infrastructure strategy
- Discuss urban and rural reserves candidate area evaluation results
- Direction on process to change Regional 2040 design types

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Prepared by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Andersen', written in a cursive style.

Tony Andersen
Council Operations

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF
April 23, 2009

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1	Powerpoint presentation	4/23/09	Regional Transportation Plan, Linking transportation to land use, the economy and the environment, A Case Study of Tigard, Metro Council Work Session, April 23, 2009	042309cw-1
1	Packet	4/23/09	Executive Summary: 2009-2030 Preliminary housing needs analysis, April 2009 draft	042309cw-2
1	Intergovernmental Agreement	12/3/97	Intergovernmental Agreement on Green Corridor and Rural Reserve and Population Coordination, Among City of Sandy, Clackamas County, Metro and the Oregon Department of Transportation	042309cw-3