

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, May 12, 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 2:02 p.m.

1. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, MAY 14 2009/ADMINISTRATIVE/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Bragdon reviewed the May 14, 2009 Metro Council agenda. Noting the location of the meeting; offsite at the Beaver Den.

2. METRO TRANSFER STATIONS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PROJECT UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

Teri Dresler, director sustainability center, introduced the proposal to Council. Ms. Dressler discussed the important dates and deadlines that were in the near future for solid waste. She talked about the differences and benefits from the changes to the solid waste contract and goals. Councilor Harrington asked what the percentage of tonnage was via self-haul and how was that amount handled. She expressed concern of entering into a contract without all the studies being completed. Paul Ehinger, Metro, explained to Council that the studies had already been completed and he agreed to provide Council with findings. Councilor Hosticka said he hoped that there would not be a requirement set on the amount of waste recovered because of the efforts that Metro made to prevent waste making it to the transfer station. Councilor Liberty asked about the wording in the Metro transfer stations proposal. He asked about the percent of waste that is reused, and about the plans that San Francisco has to reach their 'nothing going to a landfill by 2025' goal. Councilor Collette talked about how pleased she was to hear of Metro following best practices on the west coast and in Canada. She also asked what the number one most beneficial improvement would be for decreasing green house gas emissions. President Bragdon expressed interest in having certain people take place in the effort. Councilor Hosticka asked what the cost difference was from having two contracts instead of one. Mr. Ehinger explained to Council that the cost of managing to contracts was extremely minimal.

3. BREAK

4. HCT POLICY DISCUSSION

Councilor Collette introduced Gail Murray, Bay Area Rapid Transit Council member and Paul Brennan, Nelson/Nygaard. Tony Mendoza, transportation manager, discussed the High Capacity Transit system plan. Councilor Harrington expressed concern about not seeing the draft prior to work session. Ms. Murray gave a brief presentation on the BART expansions in the last two decades. She also discussed case studies that BART had completed prior to expansion in the Bay Area. Councilor Hosticka asked if there was any provision for a vote of the people to finance this transportation system. Ms. Murray explained that counties had the opportunity to tie sales tax measures into funding transportation and spent it on other projects. She gave examples of when elected officials came to Portland to see the MAX light rail system and how to build centers/corridors. She finished with challenges and successes that BART had in the Bay Area. Councilor Burkholder asked about the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that BART uses versus the national Environmental Impact Survey (EIS).

Mr. Mendoza presented the resolution before Council regarding the regional high capacity transit system. Councilor Liberty asked if there was an economic parallel between bus rapid transit and light rail, region wide and in specific corridors. He also asked if individual cities that did not meet criteria to get HCT offer to help pay costs of service, that they then would qualify for HCT in their city. Ross Roberts, transportation planner, explained that criteria was not in the proposal but would be added as an option. Councilor Harrington expressed concern about the timeline for approval of the proposal. Councilor Hosticka agreed that he had concern about being able to support a proposal that had not been approved by Council. Councilor Liberty said he had very big concerns about the use of funds to build rail lines in areas that are already serviced by bus. Council and Mr. Mendoza had a lengthy discussion about the criteria, the corridors and capabilities of HCT into areas of the region.

5. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Hosticka discussed the legislative update. Councilor Collette raised further questions about the legislature which the Council all took part in.

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

Prepared by,



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ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF
May 12, 2009

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1	Agenda	5/14/09	Agenda: Metro Council Making the Greatest Place Work Session, May 14, 2009	051209cw-1
4	Handout	5/12/09	Draft - Resolution NO. 09-4052; Re: accepting the Regional High Capacity Transit System and Priorities	051209cw-2
4	Map	5/12/09	High Capacity Transit Corridor map	051209cw-3
4	Handout	5/12/09	High Capacity Transit System Detailed Evaluation 3 rd Draft	051209cw-4