

Carl Hosticka

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 3 NEWS | May 2009

Carl Hosticka represents District 3, which includes portions of Washington and Clackamas counties and the cities of Beaverton, Durham, King City, Sherwood, Tigard, Tualatin and Wilsonville.



Metro considers fee changes for solid waste disposal

As part of the annual budgeting process, Metro is considering changes to solid waste disposal fees, including the per-ton price for waste disposal at Metro's two transfer stations. Changes in disposal fees can affect what haulers charge for garbage collection.

Per Metro code, the rate-setting process to date has included public meetings of Metro's Rate Review Committee (RRC), which comprises representatives from local government and the solid waste industry, along with recycling and rate experts and a citizen ratepayer. The committee forwarded its recommendations to the Metro Council,

which considered them during an April 14 public work session.

Metro already has taken steps to limit fee increases through programmatic reductions and operational changes included in the chief operating officer's proposed budget for Metro Council consideration. In addition, the RRC has recommended ways to further limit fee increases while continuing to deliver high-quality programs and excellent service.

There have also been opportunities for public comment. A hearing and first reading of the rate ordinance was scheduled for the April 30 Metro Council meeting. The council also heard testimony and was scheduled to take final action at the May 7 Metro Council meeting. Agendas and packets for public meetings on Metro's rates and solid waste budget are available online at <http://www.oregonmetro.gov/index.cfm/go/by.web/id=21730>.

Metro report shows urban centers, corridors generally most affordable

The Metro Council released a report showing that town centers and transportation corridors are among the most affordable places to live in the region, and that additional investments in affordable housing will be needed as the region grows.

Metro's analysis of the Portland region's housing needs through the year 2030 builds on research completed by the Institute of Portland Metropolitan Studies at Portland State University. The study found that urban centers and transportation corridors have the greatest variety of housing and transportation options and often are the most affordable areas in the region.

Although urban centers and transportation corridors save money, the report says housing and transportation costs will still be a burden for 18 to 23 percent of households by 2030, depending on population growth rates. Today, that percentage is 17 percent. Metro considers people who spend more than 50 percent of their monthly budgets on rent and transportation cost burdened.

The report sets the stage for a discussion among the region's leaders about new incentives for mixed-use and multifamily homes and about investments in transportation and other infrastructure to support efficient use of land inside the existing urban growth boundary.

In 1995, the Metro Council and local governments from across the region endorsed the 2040 Growth Concept, a blueprint for managing growth that seeks to direct new households and populations into town and regional centers and transportation corridors while protecting



www.oregonmetro.gov

continued

the character of single-family neighborhoods. Today's Housing Needs Analysis indicates that to provide more affordable housing options in centers and corridors, additional public investments and policy changes will be needed.

The Housing Needs Analysis is a companion report to the Preliminary Residential Urban Growth Report, issued March 31, which is intended to inform discussions about choices of public policies and investments that can support a wide range of housing options as the region's population continues to grow. The Metro Council welcomes public comment and feedback on this analysis.

In September, Metro will unveil a package of proposals aimed at integrating long-term regional land use policies with transportation investments. An updated Urban Growth Report, which will include an updated Housing Needs Analysis, will be part of that package, along with recommendations on urban and rural reserve designations and a 25-year Regional Transportation Plan, all of which will be adopted by the end of this year.

More information on the Housing Needs Analysis can be found online at www.oregonmetro.gov/urbangrowthreport

One-of-a-kind fen protected by Metro's voter-approved natural area program

A property acquisition in April by Metro secured the remainder of a rare fen located in the Willamette Narrows area near West Linn. Providing habitat to uncommon, varied and high-quality plant communities, the fen is a unique type of wetland that includes a shallow lake with a floating peat mat. According to the Oregon Natural Heritage Program, it is the only remaining fen of its kind in the Willamette Valley. The property includes large boulders, rocky piles and other features that were likely created by the action of the Missoula (or Bretz) Floods at the end of the Ice Age. Metro originally purchased 50 acres from the property owners in 1998. The natural area now totals 63 acres.

Events to note in District 3

Songbird Festival

Saturday, May 16, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

All ages are invited, rain or shine, for a day of outdoor activities, guided nature walks, hands-on crafts for kids, exhibits, presentations,

entertainment, food and fun. Meet at the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge in Sherwood. Registration and cost is free. For more information, visit www.fws.gov/tualatinriver.

Clackamas County Reserves Policy Advisory Committee

Tuesday, May 26, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The Clackamas County Reserves Policy Advisory Committee is a diverse committee of representatives from local cities, unincorporated areas and stakeholder groups who will advise the Board of County Commissioners and the Reserves Steering Committee on the development of urban and rural reserve areas in Clackamas County.

For more information on the Clackamas County Reserves Policy Advisory Committee, visit <http://www.clackamas.us/transportation/planning/reserves.htm> or contact Maggie Dickerson at maggied@co.clackamas.or.us or 503-742-4534.

Washington County Reserves Coordinating Committee

Monday, June 8, 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

The Washington County Reserves Coordinating Committee (RCC) is a joint effort of county and cities' elected officials to develop consensus-based urban and rural designation recommendations that will be forwarded to the Reserves Steering Committee for consideration. The RCC also addresses additional growth management issues including Performance-based Growth Management and Urbanization, and provision of urban services. For more information on the Washington County RCC, visit <http://www.co.washington.or.us/reserves/RCC.html> or contact Steve Kelley at steve_kelley@co.washington.or.us or 503-846-3593.

About Metro

Clean air and clean water do not stop at city limits or county lines. Neither does the need for jobs, a thriving economy and good transportation choices for people and businesses in our region. Voters have asked Metro to help with the challenges that cross those lines and affect the 25 cities and three counties in the Portland metropolitan area.

A regional approach simply makes sense when it comes to protecting open space, caring for parks, planning for the best use of land, managing garbage disposal and increasing recycling. Metro oversees world-class facilities such as the Oregon Zoo, which contributes to conservation and education, and the Oregon Convention Center, which benefits the region's economy.

Your Metro representatives

Metro Council President
David Bragdon
Metro Councilors
Rod Park, District 1
Carlotta Collette, District 2
Carl Hosticka, District 3
Kathryn Harrington, District 4
Rex Burkholder, District 5
Robert Liberty, District 6

Auditor
Suzanne Flynn

Councilor Carl Hosticka contact information

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232
503-797-1549 | 503-797-1793 fax
carl.hosicka@oregonmetro.gov

Veronica Valenzuela, policy coordinator
503-797-1939
veronica.valenzuela@oregonmetro.gov
www.oregonmetro.gov