

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL INFORMAL MEETING

Tuesday, February 18, 2003

Metro Council Chamber

Councilors Present: David Bragdon (Council President), Susan McLain, Brian Newman, Carl Hosticka, Rod Monroe, Rex Burkholder, Rod Park

Council President Bragdon convened the Metro Council Informal Meeting at 2:05 p.m.

1. SALEM LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Marvin Fjordbeck, Metro Attorney's Office, distributed an updated legislative review package, which is included in this meeting record. Councilor Newman requested a weekly summary of changes to the legislative list. Councilors discussed several bills and requested additional information on HB 2651 having to do with special elections; HB 2220 having to do with Transportation facility planning; and a bill (not listed) having to do with a TriMet payroll tax increase.

2. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, FEBRUARY 18, 2003.

Council President Bragdon reviewed the February 20 Council agenda. Councilor Burkholder explained that item #5 on the agenda, Oregon Convention Center Advisory Committee Report, provided an opportunity for the advisory committee to inform the Council of its accomplishments and recommendations.

Agenda item #4 was heard out of order.

4. MTIP POLICY DISCUSSION

Andy Cotugno, Director of the Planning Department, explained that every two years Metro goes through a Metropolitan Transportation Investment Program (MTIP) application process. By September of 2003, Metro will adopt a list of projects to fund, which will incorporate two categories that Metro controls, plus federal highway and federal transit categories. Mr. Cotugno explained that funds are allocated for transportation-related purposes and that at least half of the overall allocations must include projects that qualify for Congestion, Mitigation, and Air Quality (CMAC) eligibility.

Tom Kloster, Planning Department, reviewed the Transportation Priorities 2004-07 updated schedule, provided an overview of the applications, and talked about the ranking process. Copies of his handouts are included in the meeting record. The Council discussed opportunities for public involvement in the process. Citizens are encouraged to be involved at the local jurisdiction level, but there are also opportunities for input at later points in the process. Councilor McLain said she would like to see more efforts made to develop a model of what constituted good public input.

Mr. Cotugno then reviewed the Metro applications for MTIP funds and explained that there are two basic types of projects in the proposed application listing—planning and implementation. He said that the implementation projects included in the list were the ones in which Metro had an

active implementing role. The Council discussed specific projects, including Big Streets and the Gresham Civic Station and TOD Development projects. Councilor Newman questioned the rationale for allocating \$3,450,000 for the Gresham Civic Center development project rather than leveraging funds for projects in several areas. Mr. Cotugno explained that Metro owns the property for transit-oriented development (TOD) around Gresham's light rail station, and there was extensive discussion about Metro's commitment to encouraging development of TODs. Councilor Monroe said that the Gresham Civic Center project competes with every other project for funds. Mr. Cotugno pointed out that from approximately \$25 million a year, the TOD Program only accounts for \$1 million, with the remaining \$24 million allocated to other projects.

Mr. Cotugno highlighted a new program called the Metro Urban Centers Implementation Program, which would create an implementation program for centers similar to the TOD Program. Councilor Newman said he would like to see more resources directed to the centers program because its effect would be region-wide and not dependent on light rail corridors. Extensive discussion ensued, and several councilors pointed out the centers around light-rail stations are receiving a greater amount of funding because the infrastructure exists. Mr. Cotugno added that there is a demonstrated real estate market response to light rail which is significantly different from bus, and also that the federal eligibility to use federal dollars adjacent to a light-rail station is different from other areas. He said that we are in the early stages of defining non-light-rail centers.

Mr. Cotugno and Mr. Kloster reviewed the Transportation Priorities 2004-07 Project Summary document (included in the meeting packet) and Mr. Kloster explained the scoring process. Councilor Burkholder said he would like to revisit the issue of how well the criteria encouraged good projects, with the goal being to set criteria so that all applications were viable. Councilor Hosticka expressed concern about the criteria being weighted to those areas where there are failures that Metro is trying to fix rather than projects that support Metro's 2040 goals. Councilor McLain suggested a field trip for JPACT and the Council to visit project sites that are being dropped from the list.

3. UPCOMING BUDGET REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS BRIEFING

Council President Bragdon said that the Council would be dedicating a great deal of time to the budget review process in the next few months, and he asked Mark Williams, Interim Chief Operating Officer, to walk the Council through the FY 2003-04 Budget Briefing and Review Calendar. A copy of the calendar is included in the meeting record. After discussion by the Council, the calendar was modified slightly. It was agreed that all Council amendments would be due by noon on Friday, April 18. In addition, the Council agreed to discuss and vote on amendments at the April 24 Council meeting, with the option of falling back to the April 29 Council meeting, if needed.

Mr. Williams explained that part of the budget process would be to examine the rate of increase in central services spending versus the ability of the agency's operating arms to pay, with the intent of looking for efficiencies. The Council discussed whether the central services budget should be heard early or late in the process, and it was decided to leave the briefing on April 1, as scheduled. Mr. Williams handed out a copy of an amendment form (included in the meeting record) and said that he would be assigning them to the appropriate staff members.

5. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Hosticka asked for a review of the work plan and issue paper for fish and wildlife habitat protection as soon as possible, preferably the week of February 23 or March 2.

Councilor Newman reported that Clackamas Community College has eliminated the executive director position of its Environmental Center and is currently re-evaluating its mission. The college is interested in seeking a stronger partnership with Metro.

Councilor Burkholder said that he passed by the Convention Center Rain Garden during a heavy rain recently and that the garden funnels rain water according to plan and is also beautiful. Mr. Williams reported that some of the balcony space on the expanded part of the convention center has already been rented out for fireworks celebrations.

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 4:10p.m.

Prepared by

Claudia Wilton

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 18,
2003

ITEM #	TOPIC	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOC. NUMBER
1	Legislation	2/18/03	Proposed Senate/House bills	021803ci-01
2	MTIP	2/18/03	Memo from Tom Kloster to Council re MTIP Update	021803ci-02
3	Transportation	1/28/03	Transportation Priorities 2004-07 Updated Schedule	021803ci-03
4	Transportation	9/24/02	Transportation Priorities 2004-07 Pamphlet	021803ci-04
5	Metro Applications for MTIP Funds	2/3/03	Resolution 03-3284, Staff Report, Exhibit A	021803ci-05
6	Transportation	2/6/03	Transportation Priorities 2004-07 Project Summary	021803cui-06
7	Proposed MTIP Allocation	2/5/03	Memo from Andy Cotugno to JPACT	021803ci-07
8	FY 03-04 Budget		FY 03-04 Budget Briefing and Review Calendar	021803ci-08
9	FY 03-04 Budget		FY 03-04 Budget Briefing Schedule	021803ci-09
10	FY 03-04 Budget		Budget Amendment Form	021803ci-10