



RESERVES CORE 4
Meeting Summary
Monday, March 30, 2009
Multnomah County
9:00 a.m. to noon

MEETING SUMMARY

Attendees: Tom Brian (Washington County), Jeff Cogen (Multnomah County), Kathryn Harrington (Metro), Charlotte Lehan (Clackamas County), plus Core 4 staff Chuck Beasley (Multnomah County), Dick Benner (Metro), Brent Curtis (Washington County), Doug McClain (Clackamas County), Karen Schilling (Multnomah County), Ray Valone (Metro), John Williams (Metro). Public attendees: Jeff Bachrach, Carol Chesarek, Tom Coffee, Meg Fernekees. Facilitation team: Deb Nudelman and Aurora Martin (Kearns & West).

NOTES:

Agenda Review

Deb called the meeting to order at 9:03 am and reviewed the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Deb asked for approval of the Core 4 minutes from February 23. There being no comments or additions, the summary was adopted as final.

Core 4 Updates

Kathryn reported that she has heard feedback that some of the open house meetings conflict with MPAC meetings. It was confirmed that the open house on April 22 conflicts with a MPAC meeting, however no alternate date was possible.

Debrief and Action Items from March 16 Reserves Steering Committee Meeting

Core 4 members heard feedback that it would be difficult for many of the Steering Committee Members to attend additional or extended meetings. Instead, they would like to see concentrated agendas and have the information to be made available in advance, possibly in the form of a memo. Discussion ensued about the pros and cons of extending or adding meetings. Deb and John will work offline to discuss the best use of full-day versus half-day meetings. [Action Item]

There was some discussion about how best to handle the balance of speaking time in upcoming Steering Committee meetings. Deb will continue to handle requests as they arise. She reminded everyone of the "no surprises" rule. Kathryn noted that she would like to look back to the operating principles as a guide for Steering Committee members' roles and responsibilities.

There was thorough discussion about (1) the March 24, 2009 memo from John Williams and Metro to Core 4 PMT and Richard Benner regarding *Metro Council discussion of rural and urban reserve candidate areas* and (2) the March 23, 2009 email from Richard Benner to Core 4 staff regarding *Reserves Record*. These documents share information, questions, and concerns about the defensibility of reserves decisions and the consistent application of factors across the region. The Core 4 jurisdictions need to be able to explain decisions based on all the factors to be legally defensible. For example, if an area is not designated as urban based on something not explicitly written in the rules, it may be subject to challenge if other factors have not been reviewed. The counties can use the screening approach now to narrow down reserve areas, but by the end there will need to be enough detail in the record to explain those decisions by reference to all the factors in the rules. The exception is the “safe harbor” clause in the LCDC rules (OAR 660-027-0060, subsection 4) which allows Foundation or Important Agricultural Lands be designated rural reserves without looking at the rest of the factors.

It was noted that it is important for counties to stay open and listen, and to provide explanations of why or why not candidate reserve areas are chosen. Available information, such as the Group Mackenzie memo, is being considered by county staff and citizen advisory committees.

There was discussion about the role of the Steering Committee. The opinion was expressed that Steering Committee members should be speaking to each other more and not focusing so much of their attention at the Core 4.

Concerns were raised about the term “undesigned” and how it causes a public perception problem as there seems to be a lot of confusion about what that means. Some ideas were discussed such as calling areas Tier 1 or Tier 2 lands for designation.

Chuck reported that the Multnomah County CAC met last week and decided Sauvie Island was not a good urban candidate reserve based on additional information about sewer and water suitability. Brent reported that the small property in the Sherwood area which was already a rural candidate reserve area will now also be an urban candidate reserve area. Doug confirmed that the changes to the maps discussed at the Steering Committee meeting have been made. The maps to be sent out for public comment will be confirmed in advance of the April 8 Steering Committee meeting, and the rationale for any changes made will be provided in a memo. [Action Item]

April 8 Reserves Steering Committee Meeting Agenda

Deb reviewed the proposed April 8 Steering Committee meeting agenda. After discussion, it was decided that Deb and John will work together to refine the agenda. Some of the updates will include: explicitly noting the materials needed for the *Rural and Urban Reserve Candidate Areas* section, moving the presentation on long-range housing needs to a later meeting to allow more time for the above discussion, and providing a short update on the 40-50 year population and employment range forecast earlier in the meeting. In addition, Deb and John will determine logistics for the public comment section in the event there are a lot of people who would like to speak. [Action Item]

There was discussion about how the Core 4 will ask the Steering Committee to make a decision at the meeting. Two maps will be presented to the Steering Committee; one map showing rural candidate reserve areas and one map showing urban candidate reserve areas.

showing rural candidate reserve areas and one map showing urban candidate reserve areas. Each person will have a minute or two to give their thoughts or opinions on the candidate reserve areas. Deb will ask two questions. The first question is whether Steering Committee members can support the proposed rural candidate reserves areas for further evaluation, and the second is whether Steering Committee members can support the proposed urban candidate reserves areas for further evaluation. The questions will be on the agenda so Steering Committee members can be prepared to answer. Deb will then ask for concurrence and if there are dissenting opinions, allow people to explain their thoughts and offer them an opportunity to submit written comments.

It was noted that the final two open houses for Phase 3 public involvement will be held after the next Core 4 meeting. As such, the Core 4 decided to move the next meeting until Monday, May 4.

Wrap-Up

Deb reviewed upcoming meeting dates and adjourned the meeting at 12:00 noon.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Aurora Martin".