

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, January 5, 2010
Metro Council Chamber

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

Council President David Bragdon convened the Metro Council Work Session Meeting at 1:02 p.m.

1. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, JANUARY 7, 2010, ADMINISTRATIVE / CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Bragdon reviewed the January 7, 2010 agenda and briefed the council on the Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission (MERC) appointments.

Jim Middaugh, Director of Metro Communications, overviewed the tools being used to communicate the status of the urban and rural reserves process. The councilors emphasized the importance of offering a centrally-located reserves public hearing.

COO Michael Jordan discussed Metro's acquisition of Chehalem Ridge Natural Area in the Tualatin Valley. Mr. Jordan also explained the impetus behind a Notice of Termination sent to Multnomah County regarding a motorboat management Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA). Additionally, he offered a brief update on Metro Regional Center's parking garage.

2. TITLE VI LEGISLATION: DISCUSSION

COO Michael Jordan introduced Chair Ellis Ray Leary and Vice-Chair Judie Hammerstad of the Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission. Mr. Leary and Ms. Hammerstad discussed with the Metro Council the amendments to Title VI of the Metro Code.

Mr. Leary began by admitting that the Commission is still discussing implementation of the amendments to Title VI and stressed that stabilizing the Commission remains a priority. In order to stabilize the Commission, Mr. Leary asked the Metro Council to refine the search and appointment processes for Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation commissioners.

Ms. Hammerstad thanked Council President Bragdon for reappointing her to serve on the commission. She noted that MERC sees itself not only as an advisory committee, but also a committee comprised of individuals with sufficient business acumen to make short and long-term decisions that remain in the best interests of the MERC facilities, and then pass those decisions on to the Metro Council. Ms. Hammerstad suggested that Metro consider the feasibility of acquiring ownership of the Portland Center for Performing Arts (PCPA), in order to allow ownership and operation of the facility to fall under Metro's umbrella.

Councilor Liberty thanked the Commission for its work and asked how the variety of MERC facilities and the potential to expand through acquisition of new facilities could help the economic vitality of the Portland metropolitan region. Mr. Leary said the first step is avoiding "cannibalism" between the Expo Center and the Oregon Convention Center by developing a market niche at each facility. Mr. Leary went on to voice optimism in the Portland region's capacity for growth in the entertainment sector, stressing that MERC facilities have the potential to be at the forefront of that growth.

Councilor Burkholder thanked the Commission for its work and encouraged the Commission to strive to create cultural equity throughout the region and search out venues that could supplement economic development for the region as well.

Councilor Collette thanked the Commission for its work and asked the Commission to offer bottom-line information in concert with long-range strategic planning. Interim General Manager Cheryl Twete noted that a strategic plan was adopted three years ago.

Not hearing any requests for changing the proposed amendments to Title VI of the Metro Code, Mr. Jordan brought the discussion to a close.

3. ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVE UPDATE

Ms. Lake McTighe offered an update to the Council on the Active Transportation Initiative, describing the progression towards meeting the goal of tripling regional walking and biking mode share by 2035 with a system of active transportation corridors integrated with public transportation. Ms. McTighe discussed integration, targeting the population interested in active transportation, strategy, implementation and outcomes. Furthermore, Ms. McTighe updated the Council on achievements in active transportation leadership, demonstrating potential, cost reduction and system development, and concluded with focusing on next steps.

4. VETERINARY HOSPITAL BOND PROJECT: DISCUSSION

Deputy COO Scott Robinson introduced Interim Zoo Director Mike Keele, Zoo Bond Program Manager Craig Stroud, and Zoo Bond Project Manager Jim Mitchell. The Oregon Zoo's Veterinary Medical Center and Quarantine facilities need replacement due to sub-standard conditions.

The Zoo Infrastructure and Animal Welfare bond passed on November 4, 2008. The bond included funding for a new veterinary medical and quarantine facility. Zoo bond materials identified the veterinary medical center target budget as \$9.2 million.

The Project team contracted engineers and architects to offer facility designs and feasible locations given the target budget of \$9.2 million. The project team offered two options to move the project forward:

1. The first is to incorporate the value engineered savings into the project construction documents, resubmit for City of Portland land-use and construction permits, and upon permit approval formally bid the project in the competitive construction market.
2. The second option is to stop the project and redirect the project team to restart at design development. This option likely results in significant sunk costs for the initial effort, as well as significant project delays and potential new costs.

The project team recommended the first option to the Metro Council for consideration. There was a short session of Council questions and comments that centered on striving to improve the budgeting process and changing the committee name. The Metro Council approved the first option to move forward with formally submitting the existing project bid in the competitive construction market.

5. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS / COMMUNICATION

With no further business Councilor Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Prepared by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Matney".

Tom Matney
Council Intern

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF
DATE, 2009**

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1	Agenda	01/07/10	Agenda: Metro Council regular meeting, 01/07/10	010510cw-1
2	Powerpoint	12/09/09	Oregon Zoo Bond Veterinary Medical Center and Quarantine, Project update	010510cw-2
3	Powerpoint	01/05/10	Active Transportation Initiative Update - PowerPoint Presentation	010510cw-3
4	Report	01/05/10	Oregon Zoo, Veterinary Medical Center and Quarantine Facilities Project, Exhibit A	010510cw-4
3	Fliers	Spring 2009	The case for active transportation, packet	010510cw-5