# Metro | Agenda

Meeting: Council Retreat

Date: Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2011

Time: 2 to 5 p.m.

Place: Oregon Convention Center, VIP Suite B

Outcome(s): Discuss Council organizational structure and Councilor roles; and assist

President in assigning responsibilities

#### **INTRODUCTION**

2 PM 1. **COUNCIL ORGANIZATION - DISCUSSION Hughes** 

3:15 PM 2. **BREAK** 

3:20 PM 3. **COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS - DISCUSSION Hughes** 

4:35 PM 4. **NEXT STEPS/OTHER ITEMS Jordan Hughes** 

**ADJOURN** 

# Metro Council Regional Problem Solving & Policy / Program Development

# **Council Procedures and Practices**

Revised January 5, 2005

This document describes the process by which the Metro Council supports regional problem solving initiatives and develops policies and programs. The objective of this document, and the processes described here, is to help councilors do their jobs as regional policy-makers, as members of a group, and as representatives of their districts. The policy and program development process typically takes place as part of Metro's participation in a broader regional initiative.

# **Principles**

- Metro facilitates broadly participatory initiatives that build a solid base of support behind regional solutions. Solutions are implemented by a coalition of participating organizations.
- Skilled, responsive, and unbiased staff support is in place to support regional problem solving initiatives and to provide policy options to Metro's legislative processes.
- Interested public and stakeholder groups have meaningful opportunities to provide input into regional problem solving and into Metro Council's policy making process at appropriate points and without undue time burden.
- Staff get necessary policy guidance from Councilors and also a "sense of the Council" as a whole.
- Councilors have opportunities for meaningful policy discussions that lead to closure on issues.
- Councilors have opportunity to be "policy entrepreneurs" and develop new ideas as individual legislators.
- The policy making process is efficient, transparent, credible, and leads to actual results which benefit the citizenry.

# **Project Stages**

#### Identification

In some cases, a regional initiative or policy-making project will arise as a matter of course, such as an RFP for transfer stations, which requires some policy guidance. In these cases staff will already be devoted to the project in the normal course of business. In other cases, policy ideas and regional initiatives germinate with, or are received by, individual Councilors. A new regional initiative or policy idea may be suggested by staff, citizens, advisory bodies, civic groups, or other groups.

Councilors choose the ideas that they deem worthy of consideration. If staff analysis is required, they bring the policy concept to the Chief Operating Officer for assignment of appropriate staff. The Chief Operating Officer determines the level of staff commitment required. If the idea requires only a moderate staff commitment, the COO may assign staff to do some initial development and analysis. If the idea would require a large commitment of staff time, the COO asks the Council President to put the idea on the agenda for a Council work session as a "project proposal" so that the council can consider whether committing resources is merited.

Projects will be defined by the councilor that is bringing the project forward, or by the Council President. The definition will include a description of the problem or issue being addressed, and an indication of the outcome desired (the condition that would signal that the project objective has been accomplished and the project is completed). Projects are of limited time scope.

The Council President will nominate a councilor to be the "lead councilor" on the project, and one or more additional councilors, as "councilor liaisons." A majority vote of the council is required to commit budgetary resources to move a project forward.

Only projects that 1) require council oversight (cannot be managed by staff without councilor involvement), and 2) that require a sustained commitment of time and attention (exceed the capacity for the council as a whole to oversee) or require a single councilor as a point of contact for outside stakeholders will be considered as a project for the process described in this document. While the Metro Council oversees management in a broad sense, the council does not manage routine programmatic decisions of management and staff.

#### **Formulation**

#### **Project Managers and Work Plans**

If project or issue development is approved by the council, the Chief Operating Officer will identify a "project manager" who will serve as the primary staff contact and lead the staff team working on the project. The project manager will work with

the lead councilor and councilor liaison(s) to develop a work plan for the project. Work plans will be approved by the council. The work plan will identify:

- The project stakeholders, especially those in a position to implement an element of the solution.
- An approximate timeline and the frequency of meetings, and who will be involved in the meetings.
- Listening posts. Times, or periods of time, when outside stakeholder groups and the public will be invited to provide input into any Metro legislation.
- Major milestones and any identifiable interim decisions that will need to be made by Council.
- A list of deliverables expected from the project.
- Communications and intergovernmental relations issues, strategies and requirements.
- Approximate dates of Council work session and formal Council session discussions.
- Estimated date for project completion.
- Budget, including staff resources

Work plans will be maintained by project managers and will be available at all times for council review. The councilors assigned to the policy idea or project have a strong obligation back to the other councilors to get feedback on issues pertaining to the development of the project. The councilors so delegated have a responsibility to be "honest brokers" with their colleagues in providing an unbiased sense of the council. The councilors work through the COO for access to the appropriate staff and are not managers of staff themselves. The COO remains gatekeeper in this respect but the gate is always open to the greatest extent possible.

#### Convening the Implementers

Most significant regional issues will require a broad spectrum of organizations to develop and implement a viable solution. Depending on the issue, Metro may be the "convener," of the regional initiative, the facilitator, a technical assistance provider, or merely take a seat at the table.

When Metro is the convener, project manager, and facilitator, Metro's job will be to create a consensus behind a strategy that is implemented by many different organizations. The guiding question in determining who should participate is: are all of those who will be responsible for a portion of the solution at the table?

# **Councilor Liaison Meetings**

When a regional solution requires a new Metro program or policy, the lead councilor and councilor liaisons will probably need to meet with staff to develop specific legislation. The project manager is responsible for meeting agendas, with approval of the lead councilor. Councilor Liaison meetings are chaired by the lead councilor, who may delegate the role of meeting facilitation to the project manager.

#### **Listening Posts**

Listening posts are opportunities for the public and stakeholders to discuss issues and pending legislation with the Metro Council. Listening posts may be held as part of a regular work session. Listening posts will be well-publicized. Other means of outreach will include the Internet, hot lines, etc. Lead councilors and council liaisons may also, from time to time, choose to invite key stakeholders to participate in council liaison meetings (?)

#### **Council Work Sessions**

Projects will be brought to council work session to provide information updates to councilors, and to get decisions at key junctures in the project's development. In the latter case, the project manager will clearly identify the nature of the decision required of the council. The Council President will actively facilitate the council discussion towards a decision. The Council President may delegate the role of facilitator to the lead councilor. If necessary, the council will vote on the question, in order to provide clear policy direction for further staff development.

# **Advocacy and Legitimization**

For regional problem-solving initiatives that involve Metro Council legislation, a policy idea is developed by stakeholders and staff, discussed by councilors (both at work sessions and informally), and councilors communicate with stakeholders and the public (the rollout strategy) until the policy idea is ready to be considered as a resolution. Only after these steps does the Council President schedule the project or idea for a vote in a formal council session. It may take a single work session or dozens of work sessions plus the external public involvement mechanisms before a policy idea is brought to a formal session. The Council President and delegated councilors will always keep their colleagues informed of the schedule and any updates to the work plan.

Designated councilors, with support from the Office of Public Affairs, develop a rollout strategy. The designated councilors work with their colleagues to implement the strategy. The role of the Office of Public Affairs is to help councilors be successful in the public arena and keep them focused outward to the appropriate constituencies and media outlets.

Metro staff are to consider themselves public servants working for the Council through the C.O.O., not as advocates for an outside organization or their own personal point of view.

# **Implementation**

Once enacted, the Chief Operating Officer directs the staff to implement the policy.

#### **Evaluation**

The Chief Operating Officer ensures that individual councilors, or the council as a whole, receive staff briefings on the status of program implementation.

# **Roles**

#### **Council President**

The Council President has ultimate responsibility for the fairness and integrity of the regional solutions and policy development process itself (the content of policy itself is reserved to the council as a whole). The Council President will meet one-on-one with each of the councilors, at least monthly if possible, to get feedback on project and policy direction and the flow of legislation.

# Rights and Responsibilities

- Design the regional solutions and council policy development process and make sure it is managed effectively.
- Effectively manage work session discussions and facilitate closure on policy questions.
- Work with the Deputy President and the Senior Advisor to the Council President to ensure that the regional solutions and council policy development process is functioning well.
- Work with lead councilors to schedule "listening posts."
- Develop and approve work session and council session agendas.
- Identify projects and nominate councilor liaisons and lead councilor to each.

# **Role of the Deputy President**

The Deputy President assists the Council President in overseeing the policy development process. The Senior Advisor to the Council President assists the Deputy Council President in these duties.

# Rights and Responsibilities

- Check in with council colleagues or occasionally attend council liaison meetings to stay appraised of project progress
- Identify potential synergies or strategic opportunities between different projects and bring the lead councilors for the issue together to discuss them.
- Promote communication among councilors.

- Manage discussion in council meetings in the Council President's absence.
- Participate in work session schedule management.

#### **Senior Advisor To The President**

The Senior Advisor To The President assists the Council President in managing the policy development process. This includes helping the President gather feedback from the councilors on policy direction, helping make sure councilors understand the status of projects, and assisting the President in troubleshooting the regional solutions and policy development process.

# **Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC)**

The President assigns three councilors (usually but not necessarily including himself) as non-voting delegates to the Metro Policy Advisory Committee. These designated councilors, and the Council President, will meet with planning department staff to strategize the issues that are going before MPAC as well as those items' development and progress through other bodies. This group of three will also discuss timing and preparation of staff presentations. The Council President and the designated councilors are responsible for keeping the other councilors appraised of the schedule for presenting projects to MPAC and elsewhere. The Council President and delegates undertake that in this role they represent a sense of the council rather than themselves as individuals. They acknowledge they have a responsibility back to the group of seven. Councilors should be clear when they are speaking to M.P.A.C. as individuals and when they are speaking on behalf of the Council.

#### **Lead Councilors**

The Council President nominates a councilor as "lead councilor" on a project. The lead councilor serves as a primary contact for staff, stakeholders, and council colleagues. In this role, the lead councilor represents the council as a whole, and has a responsibility to fairly represent the views and interests of the council. The Council President may also designate "councilor liaisons" that participate in the policy development process.

Lead councilors and council liaisons are nominated by the Council President and confirmed by a majority vote of the council.

# Rights and Responsibilities

- Submit a work plan for the council's consideration.
- Keep council colleagues updated on the project's progress and involve council in all major policy choices.
- In cases where the council has voted on or clearly indicated a policy direction, represent that position in council liaison meetings. In cases where the council has not voted, communicate with council colleagues to get a sense of the

- council as a whole, and represent this (in addition to personal views) in council liaison meetings.
- Ensure that staff work proceeds as directed by council. Be a conduit for the council as a whole in providing policy guidance to staff.
- When speaking to outside groups on behalf of the council as a whole, represent the council's position (to the degree that it has taken one). When presenting a personal opinion, clearly indicate it as such.
- Work with the project manager to ensure that meetings reach their objectives.
- Councilors are encouraged (though not required) to keep the lead councilor appraised of their current thinking and position on the issue.
- Work with the Council President to schedule "listening posts."
- Request work session and council session time as indicated in the project's work plan.

# **Project Managers**

Each project will have a staff person assigned as project manager by the Chief Operating Officer. Project managers are responsible for supporting the policy development process. This includes developing a work plan for the project, ensuring that technical staff work is completed, providing decision support to councilors and other process participants (as appropriate), and scheduling and managing council liaison meetings. Process skills—that is skills related to facilitation, meeting management, and project management—are as important to a project manager as technical skills and knowledge of the issue area. Metro will provide training for project managers.

# Rights and Responsibilities

- Support lead councilors and council liaisons in identifying and convening stakeholders, especially those that have a role in a solution.
- Provide project management, facilitation, technical support, and other staff support to the regional initiative, as is appropriate for the particular issue and project. Staff is to perform this function in an unbiased manner as public servants rather than as advocates for a particular pre-determined point of view held by the staff member.
- Maintain a work plan for the project that includes stakeholder meetings, "listening posts," council liaison meetings, work sessions, and other elements as identified in the "work plan" section of this document.
- Coordinate work being completed on the project.

- Establish a regular meeting schedule for council liaison meetings and ensure that scheduling is managed appropriately.
- Facilitate council liaison meetings, as requested by the lead councilor on the project, to ensure that meeting objectives are met.
- Frame issues to clearly illustrate the full range of council policy options.
- Present status reports to council as requested.
- Councilor requests for staff work large enough to impact existing work programs are referred to a department director or the Chief Operating Officer.

# **Solutions Support Team**

A Solutions Support Team will be available to consult with project managers on meeting management, the design of decision support processes and materials, facilitation, project management, and other issues of process management and decision support.

The Senior Advisor to the Council President and the Public Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations Manager (and PA & IR staff) will, to the degree they are available, participate in the policy support team. PA and IR staff will focus particularly on strategies for managing communications with and participation by outside groups.

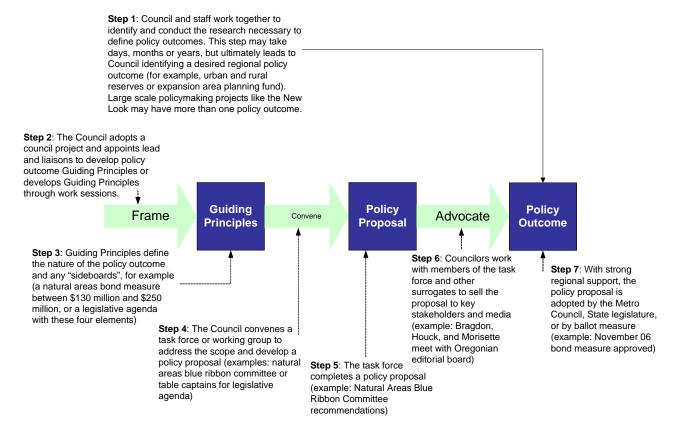
Other Solutions Support Team members will be selected based on skills needed and availability for the assignment.

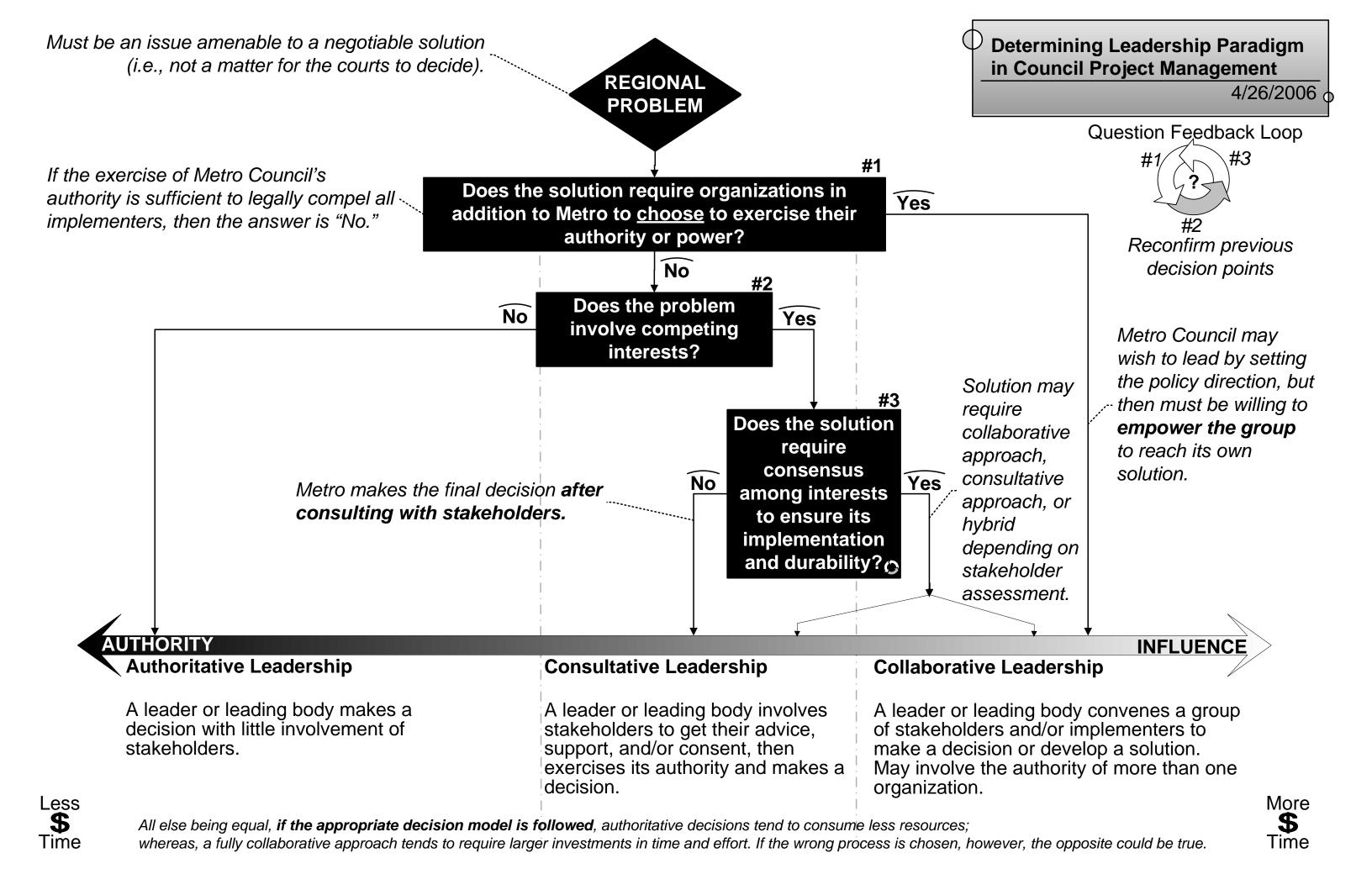
#### **Outside Stakeholders and the Public**

The work plan for a project will identify key decision points when stakeholder input is critical (listening posts). Public meetings will be held and stakeholders will be invited to provide input at those junctures. This is in addition to whatever stakeholder involvement is employed in the regional problem solving initiative itself.

# A Model for Leadership to Achieve a Regional Policy Outcome

For instances where the policy is enacted through State or Metro Council legislation or by ballot measure





#### **DRAFT METRO COUNCIL ORGANIZING MATRIX**

Drafted by Andy Shaw and Tony Andersen

**Purpose:** To serve as a tool for facilitating and guiding retreat discussions surrounding Council organization and assignments for 2011. This is an iterative draft.

**Sources:** 2003-2010 Council organizing resolutions; lists compiled by Mike Wetter and Kayla Mullis; staff input; institutional knowledge of existing committees, boards and commissions; and relevant legislation

OBLIGATION ASSIGNMENTS	METRO OBLIGATION i.e. Appointments, Formal Liaisons, IGAs, State/Federal Requirements	COMMITMENT	COUNCILOR ASSIGNMENT Write-in
<b>1-</b> Deputy Council President	Metro Charter	Ongoing annual commitment, all Council meetings and legislative flow meetings	Hosticka
2-Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC)	Liaison role	Meets at 5pm on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, other meetings as needed	
<b>3-</b> Ex Officio's to Zoo Foundation Board	Agreement with OZF	Meets every 3 months	
<b>4-</b> Oregon Zoo Bond Citizen's Oversight Committee	Required by Oregon Zoo bond measure (appointment)	Meets quarterly	
5-Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT)	Federally- mandated/MPO	Meets at 7:15am the second Thursday of the month; other meetings as needed	
<b>5a-</b> JPACT Alternate	Same	As needed	
<b>5b-</b> JPACT Vice-Chair	Same	As needed	
6-South Corridor Transportation Study	FEIS/DEIS	Dormant	
<b>7-</b> Bi-State Coordination Committee	IGA *JPACT subcommittee	Usually meets the third Thursday of the month	
8-Metro Central Enhancement Committee	Code *District 5 duty	Meets no less than two times during calendar year funding cycle calendar year	
<b>9-</b> Metro North Portland Enhancement Committee	Metro Code *District 5 duty	Meets no less than two times during fiscal year funding cycle	
10-Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Steering Committee	Metro Resolution	Meets the second Thursday of every month	
11-Regional Water Providers Consortium	IGA	Unknown or dormant	

12-MERC Liaison	Metro Code	Meets the first Wednesday of the month	
<b>13-</b> Visitor Development Fund Board (VDF)	IGA	Meets quarterly	
<b>14-</b> Travel Portland Board	Agreement	Meets every other month	
15-Water Resources Policy Advisory Committee	Metro Code	Unknown or dormant	
<b>16-</b> Nature in Neighborhoods Capital Grant Program/Selection Committee	Metro resolution/internal project liaison agreement	To be announced	
17-Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council	IGA	Meets the first Tuesday of the month	
<b>18-</b> East Metro Connections Plan Steering Committee	FEIS/DEIS, Metro Resolution *District 1 duty	Meets quarterly	
19-Portland Milwaukie Light Rail Steering Committee	FEIS/DEIS	Unknown or dormant	
<b>20-</b> Lake Oswego to Portland Transit Project Steering Committee	FEIS/DEIS	Meets quarterly	
<b>21-</b> Natural Areas Program Performance Oversight Committee	Bond requirement	Does not hold regularly scheduled meetings	
<b>22-</b> Metro Audit Committee	Required by Metro code/Metro Council ordinance	Meets twice annually	
23-Oregon City Metro Enhancement Committee	IGA *District 2 duty	Meets as needed	

EXTERNAL REQUESTS OR OPTIONAL  Non-Metro or no Metro obligation	COMMITMENT	COUNCILOR ASSIGNMENT Write-in
1-Oregon Zoo Bond Advisory Group *optional/no obligation	Meets quarterly	
<b>2-</b> Regional Emergency Management Group (REMG) *non-Metro/no obligation	Unknown	
3-Nature in Neighborhoods Nature-Friendly Practices *optional/no obligation	N/A	N/A
<b>4-</b> Sellwood Bridge Public Stakeholder Committee *non-Metro/optional	Will meet three times during the current public process to review the work of the CAC, and provide a recommendation to the Multnomah Board of County Commissioners.	
5- PSU Institute for Metropolitan Studies Board *non-Metro/optional	Meets quarterly	
<b>6-</b> CRC Project Sponsors Council *gubernatorial appointment	Meets as needed, but no more than once a month, or every other month currently	
7-ODOT Policy Group *non-Metro *traditionally (2) OMPOC representatives	Unknown, as needed	
8-Oregon Metropolitan Planning Organization Consortium *non-Metro/optional	Met quarterly in 2010, future dates TBA	
9-Congestion Pricing Advisory Committee (ODOT)	Future meetings TBA, have met as needed	
10- Target Rulemaking Advisory Committee (TRAC) *non-Metro (DLCD)	Currently meets approximately twice a month	
11-Statewide Transportation Strategy Policy Committee *non-Metro	Currently meets every other month with the possibility of every month in the near future	
<b>12-</b> Greenlight Greater Portland/Regional Partners *optional/non-Metro	Unknown	

13-Metro Committee on Citizen Involvement	N/A	N/A
(MCCI) (dormant)		
*optional/no obligation		
<b>14-</b> Liaison to Legislature	Project liaison,	
	ongoing	