

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

June 14, 2011 Metro Council Chamber

Councilors Present: Tom Hughes (Council President), Rex Burkholder, Carlotta Collette, Shirley

Craddick, Kathryn Harrington, Carl Hosticka

Councilors Absent: None.

Council President Tom Hughes convened the Metro Council Work Session Meeting at 2:00 p.m.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE/ COUNCIL AGENDA FOR JUNE 16, 2011/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Metro Chief Operating Officer Dan Cooper reminded the Councilors that the Metro Council is scheduled to adopt the final budget for the agency on at the Council regular meeting on June 23.

2. FINAL ACTION FOR FY 2011-12 BUDGET ADOPTION ON JUNE 23

Ms. Margo Norton of Metro discussed the Finance department's complimentary actions undertaken with the annual passing of the agency's budget. She discussed the need for the Metro Council to annually readopt the agency's Investment and Financial Policies, which ensure the stability and health of Metro's financial affairs. Metro Councilors will also be presented a list of Metro's contracts worth over \$50,000. Ms. Norton also discussed the Capital Asset Management Policies (CAMP), which ensure the existence of operating funds to manage public investments.

3. DISCUSSION OF FY 2011-12 PROPOSED BUDGET AMENDMENTS

The Metro Council had no questions on the technical amendments, and the discussion moved toward the individual amendments proposed by individual councilors. Councilor Harrington noted the budget currently reserved \$58,411 for future elections, and that because there are no election expenses in this fiscal year, she believes this sum of money could be used to help fund some of the remaining budget amendments proposed by councilors.

Councilor Hosticka's budget amendment to conduct a feasibility study of the Tualatin River Trail was discussed at length; Mr. Jim Desmond, Director of Metro's Parks and Environmental Services (PES) department, explained to the council the trail has been designated as worthy of investment as a nonmotorized recreational facility in planning documents published in 1992, 1996, and 2006. This amendment would allow for a feasibility study to conclude which of five Metro-owned properties along the Tualatin River is most appropriate for conversion into a boat launch, and the Council had a conversation about whether this project could be phased over multiple fiscal years. Mr. Desmond and the councilors also discussed the potential of drafting a "master plan" for the PES department so that the Metro Council can allocate funds for recreational amenities based upon regional priority. The possibility of creating an "opportunity fund" to potentially provide resources for the Tualatin River Trail boat launch or Councilor Burkholder's proposed Howard park parcel.

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Councilor Collette's amendment to set aside funds for Development Center Funding was met with broad approval from the Council; the modification added an additional \$170,000 to the \$80,000 in the budget to support projects in streets, communities and town centers. The amendment to study Parcelization was also well-received, and Councilor Harrington noted that the initiative would no longer need an additional Full Time Employee (FTE), but would require \$65,000 instead of \$50,000 of technical support as originally proposed. Councilor Harrington's amendment to study brownfield remediation would focus research on looking at smaller parcels in town centers and communities (rather than large, peripheral industrial lots) and would help create a database of the current obstructions and roadblocks preventing development of specific brownfields around the region. Councilor Collette's amendment to support eco-efficient employment included grants for pilot communities to implement environmentally friendly practices to support industrial development.

The Council also heard Rex Burkholder's proposal for the creation of an agency-wide permanent climate change coordinator position, which would continue to build capacity and regional leadership around climate issues. Councilor discussion included questions about the potential redundancy of this position, the inability for this proposal to be scaled down to anything less than an additional FTE, and how this position would be used to coordinate regional and local climate change related actions.

Ms. Norton reminds the Council that time has been set aside in the upcoming work session on June 21 to finalize which amendments will be included. President Tom Hughes reminded the Council that the agency faces difficult times ahead, and that the Council should take into consideration the sacrifices requested from staff when making decisions about budget amendments. Mr. Cooper stated that technical-level detail of each of the Councilor budgetary amendments will be available for the councilors in time for the next Work Session.

4. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATION

Councilor Burkholder invited fellow councilors to join him on the annual Policymakers Bike Ride, and encouraged staff and councilors to attend the June 25 Sunday Parkways event in North Portland. Councilor Collette briefed the Council on her recent trip to Washington DC, where she met with the region's federal representatives and discussed the upcoming cuts expected in the federal transportation bill, which is to be released next week.

Prepared by,

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ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF June 14, 2011

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1	Agenda	6/16/11	Agenda: Metro Council regular	061411cw-1
			meeting, June 16, 2011	
2	Memo	6/10/11	To: Tom Hughes, Metro Council	061411cw-2
			From: Dan Cooper	
			Re: Management response to	
			Councilor Amendments	
3	Chart	6/14/11	FY 2011-12 Approved Budget	061411cw-3
			Requested Department	
			Amendments	