



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MEETING SUMMARY
Jan. 10, 2012
Metro Council Chamber

Councilors Present: Council President Tom Hughes and Councilors Shirley Craddick, Carlotta Collette, Carl Hosticka, Kathryn Harrington, Rex Burkholder and Barbara Roberts.

Councilors Excused: None.

Council President Tom Hughes convened the Metro Council work session at 2:01pm.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE/COUNCIL AGENDA FOR JANUARY 12, 2012/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Martha Bennett of Metro introduced Mr. Jim Middaugh of Metro to report on the results of an Opt In survey about transportation infrastructure. Mr. Middaugh explained the methodology and process of survey, attempting to address concerns about forced choices between public and active transit infrastructure and increased car mobility. Mr. Middaugh asked councilors to review his report and provide feedback in a week. Councilors requested that breakdowns of each county's participation in the survey be made public. The idea was to help people understand the sampling of Opt In surveys.

Ms. Bennett informed councilors of the finalist interviews and presentations to take place on Wednesday, Jan. 11, for the diversity coordinator position.

Ms. Bennett also informed councilors of her visits to local jurisdictional partners, including cities and counties. She will report back to councilors regarding partners' feedback on the regional policies, processes and decision making. Ms. Bennett explained that the one of the primary reasons for the visits is to strengthen relationships with local partners.

2. "FAMILIES MOVE" – CITY OF PORTLAND PRESENTATION ON HUMAN MIGRATION

Mr. Ronault "Polo" Catalani of the City of Portland described the ethnic and cultural demographic shift the Portland Metropolitan area is currently experiencing, and illustrated how immigrants can be better integrated into the community and political process. Mr. Catalani explained that the influx of immigrants will have a significant impact on the region, and that urban planners and policy makers should be prepared to address their needs. Mr. Catalina described effective integration strategies, particularly after the first 8 months of government assistance, as vital for immigrants to feel engaged in the community.

Council Discussion:

Councilors thanked Mr. Catalani for his presentation and acknowledged that communication and translation have been a challenge for local government agencies like Metro with so many languages

in the region. Mr. Catalani urged councilors to consider collaborating more directly with Mutual Assistance Associations (MMA) of each ethnic minority group. MMA act as liaisons, translators and conveners for immigrant communities, taking the pressure off government agencies to translate all public materials. Councilors questioned what other cities besides Portland have done to support recent immigrant integration, and cited Metro's role as a regional convener as well. Mr. Catalani responded that other cities lack formal programs, but that integration efforts do need to be contained within jurisdictional boundaries. Mr. Catalani also suggested welcoming more immigrants to the Oregon Zoo by featuring "country of origin" displays at animal exhibits.

3. 2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. Randy Tucker of Metro presented drafts of the Metro Council priorities and principles for the 2012 Oregon State legislative session. Mr. Tucker noted edits made to the legislative principles documents that reflect the six desired outcomes in the land use section. Councilors provided feedback on the ordering of Metro principles and asked for clarification on the use of "local authority" in two different contexts.

Mr. Tucker highlighted 3 new items on the legislative priorities list; increased authority to regulate the carrying of firearms on Metro properties, clean refuse collection, and plastics to fuel. Citing the Oregon Zoo specifically, Mr. Dan Cooper of Metro explained that Metro should have more authority to keep guns outside of the facility. Regarding clean refuse collection, Mr. Tucker explained that a lack of alignment with state law on the environmental impacts of diesel emissions is costing Metro money. Councilor Harrington asked that the language on this item be made more clear, particularly regarding the desired outcome.

Lastly, Mr. Tucker introduced Mr. Scott Klag of Metro who helped explain the plastics to fuel potential legislation. The issue is determining the appropriate statutory treatment of plastics to fuel technology. Plastic to fuel technology could be equated to recycling despite a significant discrepancy between its conservation benefits.

Council Discussion:

Councilors expressed some concern that part of Metro's operation, specifically visitor venues, is missing from the two legislative documents. Councilor Roberts stated that legislative principles could include language on the Oregon Convention Center (OCC) and protection of the economic potential from Metro's work with the Community Investment Initiative (CII).

Councilor Harrington noted that Council has been criticized for not taking legislative agenda to engagement committees such as the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC). Councilor Hosticka volunteered to brief MPAC during councilor communication at the next meeting, but made it clear that he wanted to avoid a discussion on specific language in the resolution.

Regarding the plastics to fuel potential legislation, councilors questioned the motivation for changing the designation and expressed concern about impact it could have a beneficial technology. Mr. Klag referred to the waste reduction hierarchy and the potential negative implications of redefining recycling to include plastic to fuel technology. Ultimately, councilors did not reach consensus, and decided to hold off on addressing the plastic to fuel legislation until more information is provided on the negative impacts of designating the new technology as recycling.

4. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATION

- Councilors discussed sharing the Council's legislative priorities with state representatives, like Kurt Schrader, who hosts a lobbying round table.
- Councilor Shirley Craddick noted developments from the Zoo Bond Advisory Committee included the Vet Medical Center, which is set to open next week for tours, the completed penguin project and progress with the elephant habitat.
- Councilor Harrington had a good briefing with City of Beaverton regarding Peter Court land around the Sunset Transit Center. The Cedar Mill News has an updated article that would be good to circulate in the community.
- President Hughes reminded councilors of the upcoming Joint MERC-Council work session on Jan. 17. Visitor venue audits are on the agenda as well as a discussion on a convention center hotel.

ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the Council work session at 4:01pm.

Prepared by,



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ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JAN. 10, 2012

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
	Agenda	1/10/12	Revised Agenda – Council Work Session 1/10/12	11012cw-01
	Agenda	1/12/12	Agenda – Council Meeting 1/12/12	11012cw-02
	Report	Jan. 2012	Opt In Transportation Infrastructure Survey Report	11012cw-03
2.0	Handout	n/a	“Families Move” poem	11012cw-04
3.0	Resolution	n/a	Resolution 12-4322 including Exhibits A and B	11012cw-05