



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MEETING SUMMARY
Mar. 20, 2012
Metro Council Chamber

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

Councilors Excused: None

Deputy Council President Rex Burkholder convened the Metro Council work session at 2:04pm.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE /COUNCIL AGENDA FOR MARCH 15, 2011/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Martha Bennett of Metro reminded Council of a brownbag and discussion with representatives from the Coalition of Communities of Color this Thursday before Council meeting. Ms. Bennett then invited Mr. Dick Benner of Metro to update Council on the status of Department of Land Conservation and Development's (DLCD) issuing a final order on Metro's 2011 Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) expansion decision. Mr. Benner explained that because of short staff and time constraints, the Assistant Attorney General for the agency has not been able to work on the order.

Based on a conversation with Mr. Jim Rue, Acting Director of DLCD, Mr. Benner reported that a former employee of the Department of Justice, Ms. Ginny Gustafson, has been hired to write the order. Mr. Benner said that the order should be expected in 6 weeks. Mr. Benner then recommended that Metro send a letter to DLCD, explaining that the order must be signed before the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) takes of review of Metro's Capacity Ordinance and its UGB Ordinance. The meeting to review both ordinances is set for early May.

Councilor Discussion:

Councilors questioned the impact of the delayed order on other proposed UGB expansions. Mr. Benner explained that further impacts from the delayed order are dependent on the timing and sequencing of UGB expansion application processes. Councilors then discussed the implications of lawsuits directed at Metro regarding the Urban Reserves. There was concern about the cost to defend against lawsuits.

Ms. Bennett informed Council of a memo regarding the reduction in TriMet services and how reductions will impact long terms planning, which is premised on frequent, reliable transit service. Ms. Bennett also acknowledged the impact of service reductions on the visitor venues such as the Oregon Convention Center (OCC). Councilors suggested asking questions in the memo about affects to Greenhouse Gas emission reduction goals with respect to transit services and Metro's sustained level of payment for decreasing transit services.

2. 2011 COMPLIANCE REPORT AND STATUS OF LOCAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN

Mr. Tom Kloster of Metro introduced the 2011 Compliance Report, which for the first time addresses compliance with the Metro Code requirements included in the Regional Transportation Functional Plan (RTFP). Ms. Sherry Oeser of Metro reported the compliance status of local jurisdictions with the Urban Growth Management Functional Plan (UGMFP). Ms. Oeser noted 12 requests from local jurisdictions for extensions, all of which were granted. The cities of Fairview and Troutdale are out of compliance with Title 13 Nature in Neighborhoods requirements. Mr. Brian Harper of Metro informed Council that city and Metro staffs have seemingly resolved Troutdale's noncompliance issues, and will have an amended version of their land use code by May 2012.

Mr. John Mermin of Metro presented the compliance status of local jurisdictions with the RTFP. The cities of Beaverton and Tigard have adopted compliant Transportation System Plans (TSP), while 4 jurisdictions have not yet completed TSP updates to comply with the RTFP. Eight jurisdictions have started TSPs and nine are scoping future TSP updates. In an effort to streamline and simplify the process, Mr. Mermin recommended amending the RTFP procedures for extending compliance deadlines and granting exceptions to specific requirements. These amendments would match the procedures within the UGMFP.

Mr. Mermin updated Council on TSP guidance efforts including a regional workshop held last fall, website and TSP contacts comprised of Metro, TriMet, ODOT and DLCD liaisons.

Councilor Discussion:

Councilors discussed the recommended amendments to the RTFP, and specifically whether or not there is precedent for exemption on the grounds that accommodating regional and state needs or meeting regional performance target would not be more difficult. Mr. Benner explained that the same language is used in the UBMFP. Ms. Bennett asked if exemption can be revoked. Mr. Benner responded that the code requirement would have to change.

Councilors asked about feedback from local jurisdictions on TSP updates. Mr. Mermin explained that most city and county staffs want to update their TSPs but have concerns about funding the planning efforts. Mr. Mermin went on to describe Metro's position, which is to support and encourage timely updates, but to avoid forcing jurisdictions to move too fast. Councilors inquired about the degree and variation of difficulty of TSP updates by jurisdiction. Mr. Mermin noted compliance is more easily realized if past updates to TSPs had been done in the last five years, rather than ten to fifteen years ago.

Councilors suggested Metro staff sell themselves and the agency higher. There was discussion about messaging TSPs as helpful in reaching local visions and developing better communities. Councilors commented on encouraging local leaders to highlight their successful planning efforts and outcomes with neighboring jurisdictions.

3. PROPOSED REVISIONS TO METRO'S LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY CHANGE CODE

Mr. Benner explained the context and rationale for revising the Boundary Change Code, noting a 2011 Oregon Legislature passed a bill that limits of the types of service districts whose boundary changes Metro must regulate and track. The goal of the bill was to improve the processing of city annexations, and to require Metro to only look at districts that relate to its mission. Metro must now conform its code to the new law. Mr. Benner mentioned that Metro can still track special service districts it is not required to regulate. Ms. Bennett reiterated that Metro wants to regulate districts that impact density and urbanization. Mr. Zac Christensen of Metro clarified that fire districts are tracked for non-regulatory reasons.

Councilor Discussion:

Councilors discussed the helpfulness of Metro's continued tracking of non-regulatory districts such as the Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation District. These districts still fall within the Metro boundary, but do not relate to Metro's mission. Ms. Linda Martin of Metro mentioned that a GIS layer can be updated and published on the agency's map tool.

4. PREP FOR COALITION OF COMMUNITIES OF COLOR DISCUSSION ON MARCH 22

Ms. Ina Zucker of Metro prepped Council on Thursday's brownbag with representatives from the Coalition of Communities of Color (CCC) and the Native American Youth Family Center (NAYA). Ms. Zucker shared some of the highlights from the report, "The Native American Community in Multnomah County: An Unsettling Profile," and directed Council to the executive summary. Mr. Andy Shaw of Metro mentioned that he met with staff from NAYA to discuss with them Metro's distinct portfolio. The intention of the brownbag is to stimulate a conversation about how Metro can engage in efforts to combat the challenges and barriers faced by the Native American community.

Councilor Discussion:

Councilors commented on the importance of engaging with community-based organizations like NAYA and the CCC. There was a discussion about focusing on Metro's role in ensuring its programs and services are equitably implemented. Councilors also noted the importance of not giving false expectation for what is achievable in Metro's organizational purview.

5. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATION

- Councilor Collette reported on a tour she and Councilor Craddick took to the Hidden Falls on Rock Creek. Metro could pursue the property with natural areas funds or capital grants.
- Councilor Harrington described the kick off of the 2012 Get Centered series of workshops with Jon Schallert. There was solid support from staff and great turnout from citizens of Lake Oswego, Vancouver and Oregon City.
- Council President Hughes mentioned an email that will be sent soon regarding a Greater Portland Inc. (GPI) announcement that an insurance company is relocating to Portland and bringing with it 300 new jobs.

ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the Council work session at 3:39pm.

Prepared by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Smith", written in a cursive style.

Council Office Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MAR. 20, 2012

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
	Agenda	3/22/12	32212 Council Meeting agenda	32012cw-01
2.0	Agenda	10/17/11	Transportation System Planning Workshop	32012cw-02
2.0	PPT	10/17/11	What's new in the Regional Transportation Plan	32012cw-03
2.0	Handout	N/A	Local Government Liaisons	32012cw-04
2.0	Report	9/8/10	Regional Transportation Functional Plan	32012cw-05
2.0	Report	10/2011	Transportation and Land Use Implementation Guidance	32012cw-06
2.0	Report	7/2011	High Capacity Transit System Expansion Policy: Implementation Guidance	32012cw-07
2.0	Report	N/A	Metro-Area Transportation System Plan	32012cw-08
2.0	Brochure	Fall 2011	Bringing the regional transportation plan to life	32012cw-09
2.0	Handout	N/A	Planning for mobility corridors	32012cw-10
2.0	Handout	N/A	Performance management	32012cw-11
2.0	Handout	N/A	Building a complete street system	32012cw-12
2.0	Handout	N/A	Planning for management and operations	32012cw-13
2.0	Handout	N/A	Planning for travel options	32012cw-14
2.0	Handout	N/A	Planning for pedestrians	32012cw-15
2.0	Handout	N/A	Planning for bicycles	32012cw-16

2.0	Handout	N/A	Planning for transit	32012cw-17
2.0	Handout	N/A	Planning for freight	32012cw-18
2.0	Handout	N/A	Key focus areas for the next RTP	32012cw-19
2.0	Letter	6/6/11	Neil McFarlane on TSP	32012cw-20