



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MEETING SUMMARY
April 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 2:02 p.m.

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

Ms. Martha Bennett of Metro described an upcoming discussion between Clackamas County and Oregon City regarding goals for working together on the acquisition of Willamette Falls. Ms. Bennett also mentioned a discussion to be had at the East Metro Connections Alliance. Metro received an enterprise zone notification from the City of Beaverton. Ms. Bennett noted that enterprise zones are positive from a land use perspective but could compress property tax revenue in the region. Lastly, Ms. Bennett shared a draft timeline of major information and action items for the Metro Council covering the spring and summer of 2012.

2. NATURAL AREAS FUNDING

Councilor Roberts gave a couple of brief remarks addressing Metro's responsibility to take care of the 15 thousand acres of parks and natural areas in the agency's portfolio. Two voter-approved bond measures tasked Metro with acquiring natural areas and parks land throughout the region. The bonds, however, were not intended to be used for ongoing maintenance or restoration. Councilor Roberts urged Council to take action to ensure Metro has capacity to care for its portfolio of natural areas and parks. Councilor Roberts expressed that if Metro decides to move forward with a future ballot measure designated for preserving natural areas and parks, she would like to see a citizen's advisory council formed and appointed by the COO. Ms. Bennett explained that Metro staff has researched and will make recommendations to Council regarding the possibility putting a parks measure on the ballot in May of 2013.

Mr. Jim Desmond of Metro introduced Ms. Rebecca Ball of DHM, who was retained to conduct public opinion research on parks. Ms. Ball described a survey that was performed in mid-March and issued to a balanced sample of voters in the region. Survey participants were asked about potential a ballot measure, what they think about natural areas and knowing both sides of the issue and how they would vote. Ms. Ball explained that the sample was split in half to examine the difference between prioritizing preservation and providing more access to recreation.

Ms. Ball presented findings from the survey, which indicated people are more likely to support a ballot measure and dedicated tax for parks when they know the money will go to preserving natural areas. Open ended answers to survey questions showed that people value natural areas and parks in the region for a number of reasons:

- Place to relax/enjoy open spaces
- Preservation is necessary/important
- Get to do things with family/children
- Good for hiking/walking/running
- Important part of community/Oregon
- Preserve for future generations

Moreover, results showed that preserving and restoring water quality and wildlife habitat prompted more support for a dedicated tax than public access to natural areas and rivers. Ms. Ball then discussed results from when people were given statements in opposition to a designated tax, such as parks not being a priority when compared to schools and libraries, and that Metro should instead reallocate funds to pay for maintenance. Ms. Ball noted that results showed no significant opposition to a parks funding measure. At the end of the survey, each split sample was asked the same questions posed to their group at the beginning; shall Metro continue preserving natural areas, protect fish, wildlife and water quality, and shall Metro preserve natural areas and increase recreational opportunities? In both cases, there was an increase in support of a parks measure by the end of the survey.

Mr. Desmond added a contextual perspective, noting that similar themes such as environmental preservation were traced during the two previous natural areas bond measures. Public opinion surveys also consistently show the importance of appropriately using public money, especially during an economic recession. Mr. Desmond then proposed the formation of a citizens' oversight committee, similar to the Zoo Bond Oversight Committee to provide public insight and feedback in process of seeking and implementing a parks operating levy.

Council Discussion:

Councilors questioned the precedence for citizens' oversight committees for operating levies, and noted the difference between a relatively small levy and much larger bond. Mr. Desmond reiterated the importance of ensuring voter trust when proposing a new tax. Ms. Bennett cited Metro limitations in regards to campaigning for a ballot measure, stating that a citizens' committee could play an important role in rallying public support. There was some concern from councilors that a committee could overcomplicate an effort to propose and implement a levy. In addition to concerns, there was a discussion about the benefits of a committee including public visibility and acknowledged expectations.

Councilors and staff discussed the possibility of needing to renew the operating levy in the future, but decided that said renewal shouldn't be considered when proposing the initial ballot measure. Councilors then talked about the importance of connecting Metro campaigns like *It's Our Nature* with every community in the region. It was agreed that the citizen's committee should be representative of the region's geography, scientific, business and tourism sectors.

3. BREAK

Council recessed for five minutes.

4. CRC LAND USE FINAL ORDER AMENDMENT ON REMAND FROM THE SUPREME COURT

With Council action schedule for the Thursday, Apr 12 regular meeting, Mr. Andy Cotugno of Metro introduced a revision to the Land Use Final Order (LUFO) for the Columbia River Crossing, which was originally adopted on Aug 11, 2011. Five parties appealed the LUFO decision to the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) and the Oregon Supreme Court. It was determined that Metro exceeded its authority issuing the LUFO outside of the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB), which ends on the north shore of Hayden Island. Hence, the portion of the LUFO outside the UGB was remanded. Mr. Cotugno explained the drafted Resolution remedies the issue and that adopting of the Resolution constitutes the final approval action on the scope of the project.

Mr. Dick Benner of Metro noted opposition to the drafted Resolution from the attorney representing Plaid Pantries, who made the argument that if the portion of the LUFO outside the UGB is taken out, then the whole order should be invalid. In case this argument is raised during Thursday's meeting, Metro's Attorney can advise Council to reject expanding the scope of the drafted Resolution.

Council Discussion:

Councilors suggested editing the language in the drafted Resolution to make clear that the revision includes only the jurisdictional issue addressed by the LUBA remand. There was concern that if this language was unclear at all, it could be interpreted as a revision and therefore reconsideration of the LUFO in full. Councilors asked about further appeals if the drafted Resolution is adopted. Mr. Benner explained that there are only two parties eligible to appeal, and that he sees no grounds for continued proceedings given LUBA confirmed every other aspect of the 2011 LUFO.

A comment was made regarding the upcoming election for Portland Mayor and City Council positions, and if there was possibility to disturb the LUFO through the city's permitting process. Mr. Benner cited the City of Portland's limitation to deviating from their Transportation Systems Plan (TSP), which has to be consistent with the Regional TSP and the State of Oregon's transportation plan, both of which contain the Columbia River Crossing project.

5. INPUT ON CRC GOVERNANCE OPTIONS AREAS

Mr. Cotugno presented several governance options that Columbia River Crossing project staff and jurisdictional partners must consider, including toll setting approval process, the roles and scope of a mobility council and performance measures. The toll setting process would be addressed by the two transportation commissions in the region, but will also factor into the ongoing evaluation of the project. The Columbia Crossing Mobility Council would monitor, make recommendations and consider locally preferred alternatives. Mr. Cotugno mentioned an ongoing effort to assess the performance of the project based on an objective set of measures. An investment grade traffic analysis must be completed, which will require updated data on traffic conditions.

The Mobility Council, an independent group comprised of appointed citizens, would be charged with comprehensively evaluating how the system works. While the Mobility Council will make recommendations, they are not a decision making body. Recommendations could be submitted to the transportation commissions and project and jurisdictional sponsors. Additionally, a joint committee, made up of appointments from the two transportation commissions will determine a single rate structure.

As Metro's representative on the Columbia Crossing Integrated Project Staff, Mr. Cotugno asked if there are particular aspects of the performance measures missing from the framework and if Council had any feedback on the makeup and role of both the Mobility Council and the joint committee.

Council Discussion:

Councilors noted the importance of safe and clean bicycle and pedestrian facilities on the Columbia Crossing and questioned the mechanism that will determine how tolls will ensure both quality facilities and bond repayments simultaneously. There was discussion about designating some funding for community enhancement projects along the corridor to circumvent degradation. Mr. Cotugno mentioned a work group to develop a community enhancement fund that he will chair.

Councilors then commented on the roles of potential Mobility Council chairs or leaders, and that they should maintain separation from the joint committee to determine tolling. The point was Mobility Council chairs should avoid losing flexibility and credibility that comes with entering in to the tolling discussion. Mr. Cotugno reiterated that the mission and objective of the Mobility Council is to adopt a broad agenda.

There was some concern about whether the transportation commissions have fully embraced the Mobility Council because of added amount of coordination and engagement needed to form the volunteer body. Mr. Cotugno noted that the foundation for Mobility Council has been established by all project sponsors, but that a formal adoption of bylaws by the two transportation commissions could further solidify the Council's role and influence.

6. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

- Councilor Collette mentioned that Climate Smart Community project staff will be presenting to MPAC and JPACT.
- Councilor Collette reported on a Regional Solutions Advisory Panel's tour of the Blue Heron site at Willamette Falls and noted a sense of growing support from the State of Oregon to develop a project for the location.
- Councilor Harrington attended the Local Officials Advisory Committee (LOAC) to present the Climate Smart Community Scenarios project and received affirmation from other members to provide regular check-ins. Also on the LOAC agenda was a recap of the legislative session.
- Councilor Harrington reported on an update from the Industrial Areas Work Program.
- Councilor Roberts mentioned the Rose Garden's presentation on local businesses operating in the facility to implement sustainability initiatives.
- Councilor Craddick attended the East county Multnomah County Courthouse, and commented on the many sustainable features such as an efficient heating system, solar panels and a green roof.

- Councilor Burkholder noted the Portland Trail Blazers' Green Sports Alliance, a national effort to encourage the sport industry to promote sustainable business practices.
- Councilor Burkholder attended Circe de Soleil opening night with Councilor Collette, and mentioned the high attendance at the Oregon Zoo during Easter weekend.

7. ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the Council work session at 4:28 p.m.

Prepared by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Springer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "S".

Josh Springer
Council Office Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF APRIL 10, 2012

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
	Agenda	4/12/12	41212 Metro Council Meeting	41012cw-01
1.0	Handout	N/A	Spring-Summer 2012 Timeline: Major Information and Action Items for the Metro Council	41012cw-02
2.0	PPT	April, 2012	Metro Service Territory Voter Study: Opinions About Natural Areas	41012cw-03
6.0	Handout	4/5/12	Climate Smart Communities Scenarios Project Phase 1-3 timeline	41012cw-04
6.0	Memo	4/5/12	Climate Smart Communities Scenarios Phase 2 – Supplemental Materials	41012cw-05
6.0	Memo	4/2/12	Climate Smart Community Scenarios Phase 2 to JPACT	41012cw-06
6.0	Handout	3/21/12	Industrial and Employment Areas Work Program	41012cw-07