



METRO COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting Summary

April 26, 2012

Metro, Council Chamber

Councilors Present: Council President Tom Hughes and Councilors Rex Burkholder, Barbara Roberts, and Carl Hosticka.

Councilors Excused: Councilors Kathryn Harrington, Carlotta Collette and Shirley Craddick

Council President Tom Hughes convened the regular council meeting at 2:03 p.m.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

There were none.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

Art Lewellan, 3205 SE 8th Ave., Apt. 9, Portland: Mr. Lewellan addressed the Council on the Columbia River Crossing (CRC) project; specifically Concept #1 design for the Hayden Island interchange. He stated that local citizens' concerns need to be addressed and responded to. He also noted that he was in support of the proposed hotel at the Oregon Convention Center.

Robert J. Claus, 22211 SW Pacific Hwy, Tualatin: Mr. Claus stated that when the Tualatin Wildlife Refuge was established there was a pledged that privately owned land would be given to the City in order to complete the walkway and parkway. He stated that he has done his best to uphold that commitment and worked to ensure that his seven critical acres went into public ownership. He spoke to the restoration and preservation work completed. Unfortunately, due to a family emergency, Mr. Claus must now sell the property. He stated that the proposed trail has been placed in the wrong area and was concerned that the proposed trail is deterring potential buyers.

Council and Mr. Scott Robinson stated that staff would review the issue and get back to Mr. Claus shortly.

3. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES FOR APRIL 19, 2012

Motion:	Councilor Barbara Roberts moved to approve the Minutes for April 19, 2012.
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Vote:	Council President Hughes and Councilors Burkholder, Roberts, and Hosticka, voted in support of the motion. The vote was 4 ayes, the motion <u>passed</u> .
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4. PUBLIC HEARING

4.1 Ordinance No. 12-1274, For the Purpose of Adopting the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year FY 2012-13, Making Appropriations, Levying Ad Valorem Taxes, and Authorizing an Interfund Loan.

Council President Hughes passed the gavel to Deputy Council President Rex Burkholder to facilitate the public hearing on the ordinance.

Deputy Council President Burkholder opened a public hearing on Ordinance No. 12-1274:

- David Scharfenberg, Pleasant Valley School Wildside Restoration Team: Mr. Scharfenberg addressed the Council on the Nature in Neighborhoods Restoration and Enhancement Grant program. He represented the Wildside Restoration Team, a group comprised of students, parents and local community members, who are working to restore approximately 10 acres. He stressed the value of an individual's connection to the environment and sense of place, and specifically the impact it has on students and their lives. He distributed a set of letters from the Wildside team in support of the program. (Written testimony included as part of the meeting record.)
- Ed Kerns, Lents Springwater Corridor: Mr. Kerns was in support for the NIN R&E grant program. The Lents Springwater Habitat Restoration project focuses on facilitating local clean ups, tree plantings and general habitat restoration work and has been a recipient of three 2-year NIN grants to date. Mr. Kerns stated that the majority of the tree, grass and wildflower plantings and general maintenance are completed by the local schools; he spoke to the balance of in class curriculum and hands on experience outside the classroom. Additionally he emphasized the project's ability to leverage additional monies and resources. He encouraged the Council to make the NIN program a permanent grant.
- Jim Labbe, Audubon Society of Portland: Mr. Labbe distributed a letter, on behalf of approximately 43 organizations and agencies, in support of the NIN R&E grant program, and strongly encouraged the Council to establish a permanent funding source for the program. He provided a bit of history about the grant. Mr. Labbe offered a set of recommendations, developed by the Coalition for a Livable Future's Natural Resources Work Group, that more fully integrate the ecological and equity goals around the grant program. (Written testimony included as part of the meeting record.)

Council noted that the program is part of a larger, almost 15 year, effort to enhance natural areas in an urban environment. Council discussed the local movement and support from the community, and the impressive list of signatures on Mr. Labbe's testimony.

- Chips Janger, Urban Green: Mr. Janger stated he is involved in two NIN grant projects. The first project is the Park Avenue station on the planned Portland – Milwaukie light rail line. Mr. Janger stated that the station will be the first ever integrated habitat. He emphasized the design work completed and the pride the region will have when the project is completed thanks to one of the most beautiful and green light rail stations in the country. Furthermore, he emphasized that through this grant Metro provided the community with a charge to use the station as the focal point of the redevelopment of the new McLaughlin Boulevard. He discussed the broad community support and citizen movement that is now designing and taking ownership of the community's aspirations. The second NIN grant project will convert an old culvert into a stream to allow for fish to travel through the 5-mile

community. He encouraged the Council continue to support the NIN R&E grants in the future.

- Joyce Ley, Wilkes Community Group: Ms. Ley addressed the Council on the Wilkes Creek Head Waters Natural Areas and stated that the community is grateful for the property and its designation as a future park property. Ms. Ley was glad the NiN R&E grant program was included in the proposed budget and encouraged that the program be institutionalized. And while her community group has not received an NIN grant to date, she stressed that the group would like to utilize the grant's opportunities to allow citizens to organize and work in volunteers groups to make the future attainable. She also addressed walkability equity and her community's access to natural areas.
- June Mohler, 789 SW 12th St., Troutdale: Ms. Mohler was in support of the NIN R&E grant program and recommended the Council dedicate permanent funding to the program. She noted that while she has not personally received a NIN grant, she has worked on other grant funded restoration projects in the Troutdale area. She cited multiple community benefits of restoration projects and stated that restoration projects raises awareness of watershed health, wildlife habitat and nature in an urban setting, and apply social pressure towards better environmental stewardship. She also addressed Troutdale's Brownfields and the benefits of volunteer projects.
- Chris Pool Jones, June KeyDelta Community Center: Ms. Jones represented the June Key Delta Community Center which is a green building and community garden in Portland's inner-city developed by a local sorority on a former Brownfield site. She stated that the community center has been invited to apply twice for a grant, but has yet to receive one. Ms. Jones recommended the grant guidelines be revised to make intercity properties more competitive in the grant process and eligible for funding.
- Linda Robinson, Friends of Gateway Green: Ms. Robinson stated that she was a recipient of the former Fish and Wildlife program for the Naturescaping for Clean Rivers program. She emphasized that the grant was a critical element to get the program started. Currently, Ms. Robinson represents Friends of Gateway Green. She stated that the Gateway Green received a NIN planning grant and in the process of collecting data in order to prepare for a NIN capital project grant.
- Scott Fogarty, Friends of Trees: Mr. Fogarty was in support of the NIN program and encouraged the Council to determine a permanent funding source for the program. He stated that Friends of Trees has been a recipient of at least three NIN grants and has served as an umbrella organization for others. He stated that the NIN grants ensure that, not only the public, but fish and aviary animals benefit from restoration work. He stated that thanks to the NIN grants, Friends of Trees has been able to leverage other resources such as additional funding and in-kind donations. Additionally, Mr. Fogarty spoke to community stewardship.

Seeing no additional citizens who wished to testify, Deputy Council President Burkholder closed the public hearing. Ordinance No. 12-1274 is scheduled for second read, public hearing, and Council consideration and vote to transmit the budget to the Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission (TSCC) on May 3, 2012.

5. ORDINANCES – SECOND READING

5.1 **Ordinance No. 12- 1277**, For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Chapter 5.02 to Establish Solid Waste Disposal Charges, Recoverable Solid Waste Charges, and System Fees for FY 2012-13; To Modify the Structure and to Standardize the Administration of the Recoverable Solid Waste Charge; and to Establish the Effective Date for the FY 2012-13 Solid Waste Excise Tax Rate.

Motion:	Council President Hughes moved to approve Ordinance No. 12-1277.
Second:	Councilor Roberts seconded the motion.

Council President Hughes introduced Ordinance No. 12-1277, an annual ordinance that sets solid waste rates for the upcoming year. He indicated that the ordinance, if approved, would set rates for FY 2012-13 for general garbage and “recoverable” waste.

President Hughes stated that general garbage rates dominate program costs and contracts for operations, transport and disposal. However, while costs and tonnage for FY 12-13 require an increased tip fee of \$93.84, the proposed rate increase is a little less than the past 4 years at only \$4.31 per ton. The proposed change would translate to less than \$.01 per day for the average residential ratepayer. Additionally, he stated that the proposed rates for FY 12-13 for recoverable items such as clean wood, yard debris, drywall, rubble, etc. range from approximately \$25 to \$91.50 per ton – all less than the rate of general garbage and set a at lower rate as an incentive to recycle.

Metro’s independent rate reviewer has reviewed the proposed FY 12-13 rates and has determined the proposed rates are technically sound and the methodology for establishing the rates follows standard practices. If approved, the rates would be effective on Aug. 1.

Councilor Roberts appreciated staff’s response to her questions regarding the FY 12-13 rates and the waste sources. She believed the proposed rates were fair and balanced.

Deputy Council President Burkholder opened a public hearing on Ordinance No. 12-1277. Seeing no citizens who wished to testify, the public hearing was closed.

Vote:	Council President Hughes and Councilors Burkholder, Roberts, and Hosticka, voted in support of the motion. The vote was 4 ayes, the motion <u>passed</u> .
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Deputy Council President Burkholder passed the gavel back to Council President Hughes to chair the remainder of the meeting.

6. RESOLUTIONS

6.1 **Resolution No. 12-4346**, For the Purpose of Authorizing the Issuance of a Request for Proposal for the Development of an Oregon Convention Center Hotel.

Motion:	Councilor Burkholder moved to approve Resolution No. 12-4346.
Second:	Councilor Carl Hosticka seconded the motion.

Councilor Burkholder introduced Resolution No. 12-4346, which if approved, would authorize Metro staff to issue a request for proposal from potential developers for a hotel to support the Oregon Convention Center's national business. Councilor Burkholder emphasized that the proposed hotel is much different than the previous headquarters hotel project – specifically that the hotel will be privately owned, operated and financed. He noted that while the economy has been slow to recover, it – and the hotel and convention markets – is steadily improving.

Councilor Burkholder welcomed four key project stakeholders to share their support for the project: Mr. Jeff Miller, president and CEO of Travel Portland, Mr. Pat Egan, from Pacificorp and one of Metro's Lloyd District neighbors, Mr. John Mohlis, with the Oregon State Construction Building Trades Council, and Mr. Eric Jacobsen, project lead from the Portland Development Commission. The invited speakers addressed the international interest in the convention center and the Portland metropolitan area, the high demand for a hotel located close to the OCC, the project's short and long-term job creation potential, the economic impact and estimated revenues generated, and the potential for the hotel to unlock other development opportunities for the surrounding area. PDC staff stated that the local government - and property owner adjacent to the OCC – is anticipated to consider legislation on April 30th expressing support and endorsement of the RFP process, and to express intent to enter into directed negotiations with a hotel developer should he/she express interest.

Council President Hughes welcomed citizen comment on Resolution No. 12-4346:

- Len Bergstein, 805 SW Broadway, Ste. 400, Portland: Mr. Bergstein stated that he represented businesses that build and privately finance hotel properties. He was in support of the resolution, stating that he appreciated the thoughtfulness of the approach and effort to coordinate with local jurisdictions. He also supported the project's focus of private development with minimal levels of public investment. Mr. Bergstein asked that Metro enter into Phase 2 of the project with respect for the existing hotel industry and that the project selected be competitive –not strangle– the market. He applauded Metro for its leadership, and open and transparent process.

Councilors noted the change in the project's direction, largely due to the partnership with the private sector. Additional discussion included job growth, potential revitalization of the Lloyd District, the region wide economic impact of conventions that host international visitors, and the demand for immediately adjacent hotel space to the OCC.

Vote:

Council President Hughes and Councilors Burkholder, Roberts, and Hosticka, voted in support of the motion. The vote was 4 ayes, the motion <u>passed</u> .
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7. **CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION**

Mr. Scott Robinson provided the following updates:

- Oxbow Park campground will reopen on May 7th. The park suffered severe damage winter 2012.
- The Third Quarter Management report was distributed on April 25th; staff is scheduled to present the report May 8th.
- The May 10th Council meeting is canceled due to the Land Conservation and Development Commission's hearing.
- A team of the Oregon Zoo's ZooTeens program won the national Project Polar Bear contest.

- Agency staff will meet with rating agencies the week of April 30th to rate Metro's bonds.

8. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION

Councilor updates on recent meetings or events included the Regional Trails Symposium.

9. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the regular meeting at 3:16 p.m. The Council will reconvene the next regular council meeting on Thursday, May 3 at 2 p.m. at the Metro Council Chamber.



Kelsey Newell, Regional Engagement Coordinator

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF APRIL 26, 2012

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
3.	Minutes	4/19/12	Council minutes for April 19, 2012	41912c-01
4.1	Legislation	N/A	Ordinance No. 12-1274	41912c-02
4.1	Testimony	N/A	Written testimony from D. Scharfenberg (Wildside Restoration Team)	41912c-03
4.1.	Testimony	4/26/12	Written testimony from Jim Labbe	41912c-05
6.1	Legislation	N/A	Exhibit A to Resolution No. 12-4346 (Color)	41912c-06