



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MEETING SUMMARY
May 1, 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 MAY 3, 2012/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Martha Bennett of Metro summarized the “Best Practices” trip to Cleveland, Ohio, explaining that city leaders successfully brought together business, public and philanthropic sectors to address issues threatening their community. Ms. Bennett noted the Leadership Council for the Community Investment Initiative (CII) will begin to converse with mayors in the region regarding recommendations and advise they may have.

2. DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT ON URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARY DECISION

Mr. Dick Benner of Metro presented exceptions filed to the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) in response to their report on Metro Capacity and Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) Ordinances. While DLCD’s report recommended approval of the amendments to the Regional Framework Plan, Urban Growth Management Functional Plan, and Metro Code, the department also recommended remands on four elements of the Capacity Ordinance.

Portions of the Ordinance remanded:

1. Housing needs analysis: the determination of housing needs the region faces over the next 20 years including type, mix and density.
2. Inventory of employment sites: basis for the conclusion that there exists enough employment land capacity within the UGB, not including large lot industrial.
3. Determination of amount of land analyzed for potential UGB expansion; Metro looked at 9,800 of 28,000 Urban Reserves acres when determining where to expand the UGB.
4. Analysis of 9,800 acres of Urban Reserves

Mr. Benner explained that DLCD recommended that Metro redo the housing needs analysis in order to comply with procedural and legal standards. Mr. Benner then provided details on why staff believes Metro is in compliance, given that cities in the UGB have already determined and increased capacity for future growth. Metro utilizes this data and an allocation modeling tool, MetroScope, to

determine housing and employment needs for the region. Mr. Benner stated that DLCD seemingly disagrees that MetroScope adequately determines housing needs.

Mr. Benner described Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) deliberation process, which will ultimately determine the approval or partial remand of the ordinances. There will be a hearing on Thursday, May 10. Mr. Benner then explained the potential outcomes from the LCDC decision.

Council Discussion:

Councilors commented that Metro seems to be held to a higher and excessive standard when determining housing and employment needs for the region. Mr. Benner concurred, stating that it would be an idle exercise to go back and do the housing needs analysis. Councilors noted the difficulty of accounting for need in the region comparative to individual jurisdictions. Mr. Benner mentioned the importance of acknowledging the regional context in which the Metro UGB and Capacity Ordinances are determined. Cities like Tigard provide analysis of approximately 800 acres of employment land, while Metro must resolve capacity for 70,000 acres across the region. Mr. Benner argued that duplicating the work cities have done to comply with Goal 9 of the Statewide Planning Goals would be expensive and take a long time.

Councilors noted that Metro tends to underestimate capacity in an effort to be conservative when determining housing and employment needs. There was a discussion about the region's maximum zone capacity, given that cities have adopted the 2040 Growth Concept Plan, which accommodates growing needs. Councilors questioned whether DLCD's recommended remands came from external objections or primarily from the department. Mr. Benner noted that remands came from a combination, citing 1000 Friends of Oregon's objection to Metro's calculation of the housing needs analysis.

Councilors expressed concern about the possible time and expense for addressing remands, particularly housing needs analysis, if they are upheld by LCDC. It was acknowledged that the ordinances have not yet been turned back, and that LCDC can be persuaded to recognize the regional collaboration and complex forecasting completed to determine the UGB decision in 2011.

3. FY 2012-13 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Ms. Kathy Rutkowski of Metro explained the schedule for the budget review, approval and adoption, noting that Council is scheduled to approve the budget on Thursday, May 3. Ms. Rutkowski mentioned that Metro's Finance and Regulatory Services department has worked with Council Policy Coordinators (CPC) and the COO office in the past to produce budget amendments. Amendments are scheduled to be review in mid-June. Ms. Bennett noted that Council has set budget amendment ground rules in the past. Ms. Rutkowski mentioned that Councilors' proposed amendments are not required to be balanced.

Council Discussion:

Councilors noted that policy making occurs through the budget process. There was discussion about establishing criteria for allocating funds not already designated, specifically with the Opportunity Fund and on the Community Investment Initiative (CII) program. There was also a

question about the collection of excise taxes, which Ms. Margo Norton of Metro addressed. Ms. Bennett pointed to discussions held at Council Retreats, which provided direction on how to allocate funding for one-time projects, such as Nature in Neighborhoods Capital Grants program and maintenance work at Glendoveer Park grounds and facilities.

Councilors recognized that the 2012-13 budget looks good and reflect Council direction, but exclaimed that 3 weeks was not enough time for review before approval. Councilors thanked staff for comprehensive responses to their previously submitted questions. There was then discussion about the CII, and the need for added internal oversight of the work program before support for further allocation of funding. Ms. Bennett suggested a budget note to address this issue.

4. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

- Councilor Craddick illustrated takeaway points from the Cleveland “Best Practices” trip, mentioning the degree of leadership from the private and philanthropic sectors. Councilor Collette echoed these comments and highlighted the level of collaboration among city leaders and foundations to target and prioritize spending on public projects. Councilor Harrington noted the transportation systems, included Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), which increased the level of choice for riders. Given the crunch in transportation funding, Councilor Harrington stated additional techniques such as BRT should be more readily considered in the region.
- There was discussion among councilors regarding hosting a best practices trip in Portland.
- Councilor Burkholder provided Council with a chapter on technological advances in transportation from the book, “Reinventing Fire” by Amory Lovins.
- Councilor Collette reported on a tour of a Clackamas County fiber glass facility, where the bodies for electric cars are assembled.
- Councilor Hosticka described a tour set for Friday, May 4 at a Wilsonville emergency medical gear facility.
- Council President Hughes reported on a tour he and Councilor Harrington took to a Hillsboro semi-conductor manufacturing facility.
- Councilor Roberts recognized the great job Astoria and The Dalles have done to protect riverfronts along the cities.

5. ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the Council work session at 4:05 p.m.

Prepared by,



Josh Springer
Council Office Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 1, 2012

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
	Agenda	5/03/12	50312 Metro Council Meeting	50112cw-01
2.0	Report	4/30/12	Exceptions to DLCD Report on Metro Capacity and UGB Ordinances	50112cw-02
3.0	Handout	4/30/12	FY 2012-13 Council Budget Review Key Dates and Deadlines	50112cw-03
3.0	Memo	5/01/12	CII Staffing for FY 2012-13	50112cw-04
3.0	Handout	4/11/12	Councilor Burkholder Budget Questions	50112cw-05
3.0	Handout	4/19/12	Councilor Harrington Budget Questions	50112cw-06
4.0	Chapter	N/A	Transportation; Fitter Vehicles, Smarter Use	50112cw-07