



**METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION**  
**MEETING SUMMARY**  
July 31, 2012  
Metro Council Chamber

**Councilors Present:** Councilors Carlotta Collette, Kathryn Harrington, Shirley Craddick, and Rex Burkholder.

**Councilors Excused:** Council President Tom Hughes and Carl Hosticka,

Council President Tom Hughes convened the Metro Council work session at 2:02 p.m.

**1. ADMINISTRATIVE /CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS**

Ms. Martha Bennett of Metro stated that Ms. Michelle Bellia was present if any councilors had questions regarding the derelict barge situation.

Ms. Bennett stated that on August 2, Metro was holding an all managers meeting at the Convention Center. The meeting would concern how to deal with offensive remarks and how to properly handle the situation. Ms. Bennett welcomed the council to attend.

Councilor Burkholder stated that on Thursday, August 9, council will start at 3pm. Afterwards the East Metro Connection players will attend a reception. At 2pm there will be an executive session on the employee related performance review. The review will be about the process and how to move forward. The hotel recommendation would be put off until August 16<sup>th</sup> and the decision will be made after recess.

Councilor Burkholder stated that Council President Hughes would like to start, in September, moving some of the work sessions in the morning. Council President Hughes would explain more about the reason for the change in the future. Councilor Harrington noted that she had a prior engagement on one Tuesday mourning.

**2. TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WORK PLAN**

Ms. Robin McArthur of Metro gave preamble to the three agenda items by discussing the Community Investment Strategy. The overall goal of the strategy is to bring six desired out outcomes, Jobs, equity, affordable housing, vibrant downtowns and main streets, getting smart bout climate change and access to clean air and water. Ms. McArthur explained the variety of Metro programs that are supporting this strategy.

Ms. Elisa Gertler of Metro introduced the all three agenda items and explained that all three agenda items are interrelated and the themes taken from each program can be used to improve each other. Each of the projects is at different milestone. The TOD work plan is updates to the current work plan. The East Metro connection plan is coming to completion, and the presentation will be on what was learned and how the region can move forward.

Ms. Megan Gibb of Metro provided an overview of TODs including, how TODs relate to other Metro Programs, Development Center activities, the history and funding of TODs. Ms. Gibb reviewed current, approved and completed TOD projects. Ms. Megan Steele of Metro reviewed the updated strategic work plan, which received changes with advice from the Office of Metro Attorney. The changes were to clarify project eligibility criteria, new elements respond to Strategic Plan & Metro Auditor recommendations but the overall scope substance generally stayed the same. Metro Council take action on the TOD work plan August 16<sup>th</sup> and then consider for Steering Committee appointments in August/September.

**Council Discussion:**

Councilors stressed the importance of making 7-day letters available to Councilors electronically. Councilors stated that the appointments were to be made by the council, not appointed by the COO and Council President. Some members were concerned with the viability of the economic benefits. Staff noted that the Vacancy rate in the region but also stated that Metro didn't collect information that kind of information due to limited recourses to do so. Staff does report on the uses of transit usage at the TODs. Staff also noted they would consider job creation from construction and tax generation as the strongest economic benefits.

Council members discussed the re-write and reason for it. Staff confirmed that work plan was re-written to clearly state why projects might not be eligible for the program. Members were requested staff to show car ride reduction, to show cities can have reduced parking requirements.

The committee agreed to move the break until after the next agenda item and move the East Metro Connection Plan ahead of the SW Corridor in order.

**3. EAST METRO CONNECTION PLAN**

Mr. Brian Monberg of Metro presented the conclusion to the East Metro Connection Plan. Mr. Monberg discussed the policy background and partners who worked on the study. The EMCP study came out of the 2035 RTP and will be amended to the RTP this fall. Mr. Monberg identified investments that serve key land uses such as the Edgefield, Mount Hood Community College and Vista Business Park. Mr. Monberg overviewed the goals of the EMCP and explained how the improvements will use multiple existing arterials in the gridded system. He highlighted targeted investments for access & mobility, economic development, safety. The Plan has been approved by all City Councils unanimously in the plans area as well as Multnomah County. Metro will continue to try to work with jurisdictional, community, business partners. Mr. Monberg reviewed lessons learned and gave key themes that future projects should look for. The EMCP will come to council on August 9<sup>th</sup> for approval.

**Council Discussion:**

Councilors noted the EMCP has been a guide for leaders in the in SW corridor. All local actions on the EMCP have been unanimous and have eased the concerns of local officials. This process happened over time, step by step and a narrowing process. The

Council members wanted to know how the phasing of the projects and deciding readiness. The EMCP was able to reinforce local plans and helped local aspirations. Metro Staff and the diversity of

the Steering Committee were instrumental tempering the discussion and giving the project at objective discussion. Having 18 months was important to allow time for discussion. The future of the program needs an established process. Overall councilors noted that the programs improved local esteem.

Some Councilors requested that the presentations be longer for television. It was noted that the meeting was shortened but they want to let local officials speak. Councilors noted that more than just four cities and a county were involved in the program. Councilors also requested a more simplified EMCP flyer for everyone. Councilors noted that the Powell/division corridor could be a future connection to the EMCP.

Councilors expressed for concern of improving safety while improving arteries. Staff recommended talking about roundabouts to improve safety.

#### **4. SOUTHWEST CORRIDOR PLAN UPDATE**

Councilor Roberts who is a liaison to the project introduced the SW Corridor Plan update. The SW Corridor covers more than many cities but also three countries. The project did not decided on a transit plan but first will evaluate multiple factors such as economic, equity and environment. Ms. Malu Wilkinson of Metro provided an update to the project. Through the experience of the EMCP the SW Corridor team saw the need to leverage and prioritize projects.

This corridor planning effort is beginning with the community-identified focus areas and city land use planning work and then will consider the best ways to support places with investments in transportation (all modes to support community access), parks, trails and habitat, economic development, infrastructure, development incentives and barriers, workforce housing and equity, and public health. Ms. Wilkinson discussed what the local communities were doing as there in their own planning.

Ms. Karen Withrow of Metro Overviewed the SW Corridor Websites and explained the feedback from the website as well as focus groups. Communities stated they want a local sense of identity, and prioritizing and leveraging investments, intercity connectivity not just to downtown.

#### **Council Discussion:**

Council members noted that while it's called the SW corridor, it is more than just an improvement for people going to and from Portland. There is not one single transit solution to the plan. Councilor's members recommended explaining that this, along with local aspirations, is benefiting future generations.

Council members expressed concerns that that the project would need to communicate with the council if there was to be any significant changes to the project timeline. The timeframe of phase one is evolving as we go. Members were concerned that the explanation of the planning timeframe could be a surprise to some people.

Members asked about why unincorporated Clackamas County was not part of the table. Lake Oswego is representing that portion and Clackamas County at the time did not have capacity.

Members wanted to know the process that will be used to prioritize projects and how the communities will work together. Staffs stated they were in the planning phase but are working for the partnership parts.

Members noted that the public outreach comments were contradictory, some people wanted more bike amenities while other wanted more vehicle lanes. The council stated that much of the while there is diverse point a views, but choice is the key to meeting everyone goals.

#### **5. COUNCILOR BRIEFING/COMMUNICATION**

- Councilor Harrington noted that the Audit committee meeting would have its first meeting for the fiscal year on Augusts 8. Council Harington noted that she recommended councilor to attend who might be interested in being the future council liaison.
- Councilor Collette noted that earlier in the day she attended an Equity workshop at Metro with local community members. One of the themes that came out was to start working with minority groups earlier.

#### **ADJUORN**

Seeing no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the Council work session at 4:50 p.m.

Prepared by,



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**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JULY 31, 2012**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT TYPE</b>	<b>DOC DATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DOCUMENT No.</b>
<b>2</b>	Hand Out	7/31/12	Community investment Strategy	73112cw-01
<b>2</b>	PPT	7/31/12	Updated TOD Work Plan	73112cw-02
<b>3</b>	PPT	7/31/12	EMCP	73112cw-03
<b>4</b>	PPT	7/31/12	13th Ave and Barber Envision Scenarios	73112cw-04
<b>4</b>	Handout	7/31/12	SWCP Steering Committee Proposed Meeting Topics	73112cw-05