



**METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MEETING SUMMARY**
October 9, 2012
Metro Council Chamber

Councilors Present: Council President Tom Hughes and Councilors Rex Burkholder, Shirley Craddick, Carlotta Collette, and Kathryn Harrington

Councilors Excused: Councilors Carl Hosticka and Barbara Roberts

Council President Tom Hughes convened the Metro Council work session at 9:32 a.m.

1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Chief Operating Officer Ms. Martha Bennett reported two items to the Council:

- The Coalition for a Livable Future's Annual Regional Livability Summit is taking place on October 12 at Portland State University.
- Due to a conflict with the Railvolution conference that is being held in Los Angeles next week the October 16 Council work session is canceled.

2. SOLID WASTE COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FEES

Mr. Scott Robinson, Mr. Roy Brower, and Ms. Margo Norton of Metro presented to the Council on Solid Waste Community Enhancement Fees. Specifically, the presenters focused on potential changes to be made to enhancement fees at solid waste facilities.

Enhancement fees have historically been collected at solid waste facilities to help mitigate the perceived negative effects these large industrial sites may have on the area such as noise and road damage from increased truck traffic. Uses for collected fees vary depending on the facility, with some communities choosing to use the funds to reduce the impact of the facilities, while others have chosen to spend it on more general community projects involving education, environmental restoration, and park enhancement just to name a few.

Metro Code regarding community enhancement fees has not been updated since the 1990's and consequently needs to be revamped to reflect changes in the solid waste system. Issues that must be addressed include incorporating types of solid waste facilities that did not exist when the code was made, clarifying the code's authority as it currently relies on both state law and Metro's home rule charter, and potentially raising the fee to adapt to current market conditions. As a result of these issues the presenters were seeking feedback from the Council on five key questions that will aid in updating the code:

1. Should Metro rely on Oregon law or Metro charter authority?
2. What is the purpose of an enhancement fee?
3. What types of solid waste facilities should be subject to an enhancement fee?
4. What amount should be collected?
5. What distribution method and level of Council oversight is appropriate?

Council Discussion:

- The Council inquired whether enhancement fees were considered revenues or a pass-through. Staff clarified that the enhancement fees were a pass-through, not revenue.
- The Council asked the presenters how the \$.50 cent fee set by the code in the 1990's compares in today's dollars. Staff reported that Oregon City had done some calculations and figured the amount to be around \$.92 cents in today's dollars.
- The Council discussed the geographic boundaries that surround each solid waste facility. The conversation revolved around how the boundaries are defined around each facility, as there are some facilities that are located near jurisdictional lines, and whose industrial affects may extend beyond the immediate community. Staff clarified that Metro code currently defines the boundaries.
- The Council requested clarification on who was imposing these enhancement fees and how they were being imposed. Staff clarified that under Metro's home rule charter the agency has the ability to independently charge an enhancement fee. However, under Oregon state law, local jurisdictions can also charge a fee in addition to any fee imposed by Metro.
- The Council discussed the purpose of the fee and how it is intended help site and then subsequently mitigate the effects of a solid waste facility. In updating the code, Metro could both increase the fee and allow local jurisdictions to charge the fee they see necessary to allow for these facilities to operate in their communities.
- The Council deliberated on whether Metro should update the code to align it with the Oregon state law, or to broaden it under the home rule charter. The Council agreed that the code should be broadened under the home rule charter and asked staff to bring back proposed changes and a sample resolution.

3. DIVERSITY ACTION PLAN PRESENTATION

Mr. Bill Tolbert and Ms. Mary Rowe of Metro presented to the Council the Diversity Action Plan.

The Diversity Action Plan is a living document which is intended to constantly ebbs and flows to best reflect the growing and changing diversity in the region. In the plan diversity is not limited to racial diversity, but extends to include ethnic, geographic, and ideological diversity, among others. The plan strategically sets goals and action items for the next four years. The presentation focused on the five core areas strategies and action items are built around:

1. Internal awareness and sensitivity to diversity issues
2. Employee recruitment and retention
3. Public involvement and citizen advisory committee membership
4. Procurement
5. Usability of facilities and programs

The plan has received support from internal stakeholders, including the Diversity Action Team and the Senior Leader Team, and external community partners. The Diversity Action Plan is scheduled to go before the Metro Council for adoption on October 11, 2012.

Council Discussion:

- The Council discussed Metro's college recruitment strategy. Establishing ties to college programs that promote diverse populations or recruiting at colleges that have diverse populations could help diversify Metro's work force.
- The Council considered challenges in the job application process that prevent some people from applying. Staff responded that they have been working to make it easier for people to apply with features such as the online applicant system and sessions that teach people how to apply for jobs at Metro. However, there are still challenges, such as with translating materials into foreign languages.
- The Council deliberated outreach strategies that could help get a more diverse array of people participating in public involvement and committee membership. Committees have historically struggled to get adequate representation from minority group members.
- The Council inquired whether there was an e-mail list for minority businesses to alert them of Metro grants and project contracts. Elsewhere there are e-mail lists for women that alert them of job opportunities daily; the Council suggested using the same approach for bolstering diversity in Metro's operations.

4. BREAK

The Council recessed for a short break.

5. POPULATION AND EMPLOYMENT FORECAST DISTRIBUTION AT LOCAL LEVEL

Mr. Mike Hoglund and Mr. Gerry Uba of Metro presented to the Council the Population and Employment Forecast Distribution.

Oregon Law requires Metro to coordinate a 20-year population forecast for planning purposes inside the UGB. The distribution is made by Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ), which are smaller units of measurement that contain data representing the building blocks of Metro's key forecasting tools (travel demand model and MetroScope). The distribution represents Metro's estimate of where growth (households and employment) will locate in the future depending on the actions of local jurisdictions such as zoning, transportation, and infrastructure investment.

Local governments are scheduled by the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development to update their comprehensive plans based on a coordinated forecast. The distribution supports local transportation system plan updates and various local planning activities. Metro intends to use this distribution to inform the next Regional Transportation Plan update. The distribution also supports transportation corridor planning and planning for water and other special districts.

Over the next two months staff will present the distribution at MTAC, MPAC, TPAC, and JPACT. The presenters were seeking guidance from the Council on points of emphasis for those committee presentations. Additionally, staff wished to know if there was anything of particular interest in the distribution the Council would like the presenters to bring back to them at a later date. An ordinance and staff report has been drafted and scheduled for a first read in late October and adoption in late November. Staff is proposing that the Metro Council adopt by ordinance this local forecast in order to make it available for use by local governments per the DLCD's request.

Council Discussion:

- The Council discussed the projection that 50% of development moving into the future will be in corridors and 50% will be in the suburbs. Staff reported that 50% of development in corridors is an increase from the past. The Council wished to see that shift better illustrated, as well as the benefits of people living in corridors such as lower transportation costs, reduced green house gasses, etc. represented.
- The Council questioned the presenters about job growth in East Multnomah County. Job growth isn't projected to be as strong on the East side of the metropolitan region as it is on the West side. Staff responded that locations such as Beaverton town center, downtown Portland, and Kruse Way in Lake Oswego are more attractive areas for employers than locations in East Multnomah County.
- The Council discussed the technical limitations and shortcomings of the modeling done in this forecast and suggested that those limitations should be made well known.
- The Council requested clarification on why the forecast was being adopted by ordinance instead of resolution as it has been in the past. Staff responded that the rule is ambiguous and DLCD wanted this process to be more formal than it has been in the past to give local jurisdictions a firmer standard. The Council asked that staff bring them further information on adopting the forecast as an ordinance instead of as a resolution.

- The Council discussed engagement efforts between Metro staff and local elected officials as well as between local staff and their respective elected officials. The Council acknowledged that the timeline for getting this forecast adopted is fairly short, but suggested that Metro staff get out and inform as many elected officials and planning bodies as possible about the distribution forecast.

6. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATION

- Councilor Shirley Craddick reported to the Council that CourseCo, a golf course operator, has been chosen to negotiate toward taking over the Glendoveer Golf Course and Fitness Trail facilities.
- Councilor Carlotta Collette reported to the Council on the Clackamas County Coordinating Committee's recent discussion on transportation funding. The Committee discussed a vehicle registration fee and/or a gas tax to fund transportation projects in the future.

7. ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the Council work session at 11:52 a.m.

Prepared by,



Adam Gardner
Council Office Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 9, 2012

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT NO.
1.0	Handout	10/9/2012	Council Meeting Agenda	100912cw-01
2.0	PowerPoint	10/9/2012	Diversity Action Plan PowerPoint	100912cw- 02
3.0	PowerPoint	10/9/2012	Population and Employment Forecast Distribution PowerPoint	100912cw-03