



**METRO COUNCIL MEETING**

Meeting Summary

Nov. 8, 2012

Metro, Council Chamber

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

Councilors Excused: None

Council President Tom Hughes convened the regular council meeting at 2:04 p.m.

**1. INTRODUCTIONS**

There were none.

**2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS**

Claudia Martin, Sylvan Highland Neighborhood Association: Dr. Martin was not in support of Resolution No. 12-4384 and stated that sufficient notice was not provided to her neighborhood association. She stated that some of the plan's language was worded as if agreement had already been reached; such as parking meters in Washington Park. Dr. Martin did not support paid parking in Washington Park citing potential impacts to local neighborhood residents. She also did not believe Metro residents from other parts of the region should have to pay to visit the park. She recommended the issue be placed on the ballot for consideration. She also stated that her neighborhood was told it would be included as part of the transportation management plan discussion, but did not see this reflected in the park's plan. She stated that additional discussion was needed. (Written comments included as part of the meeting record.)

Bryan Burch, Portland: Mr. Burch was opposed to Resolution No. 12-4384. He stated that there is a disconnect between activities that happen in and outside Washington Park. He stated that Metro and partners need to manage the traffic driving through the neighborhoods to visit park attractions. Mr. Burch stated that he has tried to find language that could satisfy both the Park Alliance and neighborhood associations, but unfortunately has not been able to reach common ground. He stated that staff has been listening to the neighborhoods for almost 20 months, but that the joint discussions were not reflected in the plan. He urged the Council to reconsider Resolution No. 12-4384. (Written comments included as part of the meeting record.)

**3. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES FOR NOV. 1 2012**

Motion:	Councilor Rex Burkholder moved to approve the Nov. 1, 2012 council summary.
Second:	Councilor Barbara Roberts seconded the motion.

Vote:

Council President Hughes and Councilors Roberts, Craddick, Hosticka, Burkholder, Collette and Harrington voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 ayes, the motion passed.

**4. RESOLUTIONS**

4.1 **Resolution No. 12-4384**, For the Purpose of Authorizing the Chief Operating Officer to Enter into the 2012 Washington Park Transportation and Parking Management Agreement.

Motion:	Councilor Shirley Craddick moved to approve Resolution No. 12-4384.
Second:	Councilor Carlotta Collette seconded the motion.

Councilor Craddick introduced Resolution No. 12-4384. Councilor Craddick stated that the agreement represents a new era of collaboration and significantly changes the approach to transportation access and parking management at the Oregon Zoo, Portland Parks, and other Washington Park attractions. She stated that for many years the Oregon Zoo has managed and been financially responsible for the Washington Park's south parking lot. However, as visitor levels have grown so have the Zoo's management and financial responsibilities. Councilor Craddick emphasized that a more comprehensive, park-wide, approach would better serve the Zoo, park attractions and the surrounding neighborhoods.

Councilor Craddick welcomed Ms. Kim Smith of the Oregon Zoo, Ms. Cheryl Twete of Metro, and Mr. Mike Abbate and Mr. Todd Lofgren of the City of Portland to provide a summary of the agreement. Their presentation provided information on the Washington Park Alliance partners, strategic planning efforts, the new parking management agreement compared to the previous management approach, and key elements of the new agreement. Examples included a paid-parking system in all of Washington Park and the establishment of a Transportation Management Association in 2013. Staff indicated that the World Forestry Center, Hoyt Arboretum, Portland Children's Museum and Portland Japanese Garden have approved the agreement. The City of Portland is scheduled to hold a public hearing and consider the agreement on Nov. 14.

*Council discussion*

Council asked clarifying questions about the TMA, good neighbor agreements, potential for neighborhood parking permits, outreach to the surrounding neighborhood associations, and the City of Portland's authority to establish paid parking in parks. Staff stated that the neighborhood organizations had two primary concerns: (1) not to discourage patrons from using the park – specifically if someone wants to come to Washington Park he or she is able to park; and (2) possible displacement at the park's north end – specifically park patrons parking in the neighborhoods instead of paying for parking. Staff clarified that the neighborhood associations would be represented – with voting privileges – on the TMA similar to the Washington Park Alliance members and TriMet. Staff stated that the TMA would provide an ongoing, consistent regular forum to address concerns like those stated by the neighborhood association representatives. Additionally, staff stated parking permits are voluntary and requested through neighborhood associations, and that the TMA and resolution would not stop this kind of agreement process from moving forward.

Staff also clarified that paid parking was an already pre-existing – nonnegotiable – term of the agreement, and was included in the material provided over the past 9 months to the neighborhood associations. Staff stated that the last meeting with the Arlington neighborhood association was on Monday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> and the last Sylvan neighborhood association meeting was June 2012.

Councilors stated that the public process had been flawed and that greater outreach to the surrounding neighborhood associations should have been completed to inform the groups of the Metro Council and City of Portland's upcoming actions. Councilors encouraged the City of Portland to have greater outreach prior to Nov. 14. That said, Councilors acknowledged and shared personal experiences with TMAs, paid parking, and neighborhood parking permits, and spoke to the benefits these systems can provide. Councilors also noted the importance of managing expectations of all parties and problem solving to come to consensus and a common understanding. Additional discussion included the good neighbor agreement as a basis for developing an ongoing relationship, and the potential for the Washington Park shuttle service to also benefit local neighborhood residents.

Vote:

Council President Hughes and Councilors Roberts, Craddick, Burkholder, Hosticka, Collette and Harrington voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 ayes, the motion passed.

**5. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION**

Ms. Martha Bennett provided an update on the following:

- The Metro Regional Center will be closed on Monday, Nov. 12 in observance of Veteran's Day.
- Metro's Charitable Giving Campaign will begin Tuesday, Nov. 13 with a grill cheese and soup cook-off contest and ping-pong tournament. Proceeds from the events will go the charities.
- She provided an update on upcoming external meetings regarding a potential natural area levy - for example, Council President Hughes is scheduled to meet with the region's mayors on Nov. 14. Lastly, Ms. Bennett stated that staff is in the process of developing a telephone poll to determine the public's appetite for conversation on this issue.

**6. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION**

There were none.

**7. ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the regular meeting at 3:15 p.m. Council will convene the next regular council meeting on Thursday, Nov. 15 at 2 p.m. at the Metro Council Chamber. Council reconvened in the Metro Council Annex for a work session.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelsey Newell, Regional Engagement and Legislative Coordinator

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF NOV. 8, 2012**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Doc. Date</b>	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>Doc. Number</b>
3.0	Minutes	11/1/12	Council summary for Nov. 1. 2012	110812c-01
4.1	PowerPoint	11/8/12	Washington Park Transportation and Parking Management Agreement presentation	110812c-02
4.1	Testimony	11/8/12	Written comments submitted by C. Martin	110812c-03
4.1	Testimony	11/8/12	Written comments submitted by B Burch	110812c-04