



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MEETING SUMMARY
November 27, 2012
Metro Council Chamber

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

Councilors Excused: Councilors Kathryn Harrington and Carl Hosticka

Council President Tom Hughes convened the Metro Council work session at 9:33 a.m.

1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Chief operating officer Ms. Martha Bennett reported four items to the Council:

- There will be several solid waste license items on the November 29 Council meeting agenda. There are some constituents that want the Council to further discuss the licenses. In order to do so items must be pulled from the agenda. If they wish to do so any one Councilor has the ability to pull an item from the agenda.
- The Council budget retreat is tomorrow November 28 at the Oregon Convention Center.
- At the Oregon Zoo pregnant elephant Rose-Tu is showing signs that labor is imminent. However, elephants can be in labor for an extended period, so even when she does go into labor the calf may not be born for some time.
- As a reminder the Metro holiday gathering will be on November 29 at the Oregon Zoo.

2. NATURAL AREAS LOCAL OPTION LEVY

Mr. Jim Desmond of Metro and Mr. Adam Davis of DHM Research presented to the Council the results of the public outreach effort for the Natural Areas Local Option Levy.

In August of 2012 the Metro Council received a report from the citizen advisory panel recruited to consider the potential of sending a funding measure to regional voters that would aid in operating, improving, and expanding Metro's parks and natural areas. Subsequently, the Council directed staff to embark on a broader outreach effort, and authorized a budget amendment that provided funding for the outreach. Staff conducted an Opt-In online survey and a telephone survey directed at Metro's subscribers and visitors, as well as Intertwine members and other community groups.

Having been completed, the survey results were presented to the Council at this work session. The surveys found that there was a large amount of support for the potential levy, slightly dependent on the wording of the measure and the dollar amount asked for by the measure. Overall the region's natural beauty and the potential for outdoor recreation the area offers are of great importance to voters.

This work session was the first of three intended to aid the Council in considering when they should refer a measure to voters. December 18, 2012 is the date tentatively suggested for referring a measure, with May 2013 being the earliest proposal for a vote. However, the Council could delay the vote until September 2013 or later.

Council Discussion:

- The Council discussed the basic methodology used by the survey. The Council considered survey timing, distribution of responses between the three regional counties, differences between phone respondents and online respondents, etc.
- The Council had the concern that because levies were passed in the recent November election voters would be less likely to support another levy. Staff responded that much of the survey was conducted after the recent levies were passed and respondents still showed support for the Natural Areas Levy.
- The Council inquired how much support waned for the levy as the dollar amount proposed went up. Staff stated that the surveys tested several different levy amounts to see of which people were most supportive. Around \$20 per household, per year saw a good amount of support, with support falling off precipitously as the amount neared \$25 per year.
- The Council discussed the process for promoting the Natural Areas Levy if it were to go to a vote. Staff clarified that Metro can't use agency resources to advocate why people should vote for the levy; Metro can only provide facts to voters. Staff stated that this is something that Metro has done before and that staff is experienced in putting together attractive fact sheets to help inform voters.
- The Council directed staff that they would only need them to come back for one more work session. Originally, staff had scheduled three work sessions to discuss the Natural Areas Levy with the Council, but the Council determined that they had enough information that they would only need two of those work sessions.

3. BREAK

The Council recessed for a short break.

4. 2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. Randy Tucker of Metro came before the Metro Council to discuss the 2013 State Legislative Session.

This was the second work session in which the Council discussed the 2013 State Legislative Session with Mr. Tucker. The first was on November 6, 2012. In this work session Mr. Tucker brought several more legislative issues before the Council. Additionally, Mr. Tucker presented an updated version of the Council's legislative principles, revised based on the Council's suggestions from their November 6 discussion.

Council Discussion:

Due to time constraints the Council did not discuss the legislative issues in full at this work session. The conversation between Mr. Tucker and the Council will continue at a later work session.

5. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATION

Councilor Barbara Roberts reported to the Council on the most recent Southwest Corridor Committee meeting.

Councilor Rex Burkholder reported to the Council on his recent trip to Brazil and Colombia where he attended several conferences.

Councilor Carlotta Collette announced to the Council that she will be traveling to Brazil the week of the December 3 and will be touring some of the country's transportation infrastructure.

6. ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the Council work session at 11:57 a.m.

Prepared by,



Adam Gardner
Council Office Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 27, 2012

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1.0	Handout	11/27/2012	Natural Areas Local Option Levy - Outreach and Engagement Report	112712cw-01
2.0	PowerPoint	11/27/2012	Natural Areas Local Option Levy Outcomes	112712cw- 02
3.0	PowerPoint	11/27/2012	Natural Areas Local Option Levy Outreach Summary	112712cw- 03
4.0	PowerPoint	11/27/2012	Natural Areas Local Option Levy Regional Survey (dhm research)	112712cw-04