



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION
MEETING SUMMARY
March 12, 2013
Metro Council Chamber

Councilors Present: Councilors Carlotta Collette, Shirley Craddick, Kathryn Harrington, Craig Dirksen, Sam Chase and Bob Stacey

Councilors Excused: Council President Tom Hughes

Councilor Shirley Craddick convened the Metro Council work session at 9:31 a.m.

1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS

Chief Operating Officer Martha Bennett updated the Metro Council on the following items:

- There has been significant turnover in the Regional Infrastructure Enterprise leadership council. Because of this turnover, the leadership council discussed the framework for equity decision making and development ready communities. The leadership council has also focused on school facility planning. They have had some work in the context tool of mapping data and how that data intersects with a wide variety of factors;
- COO Bennett also gave a brief update about legislative priorities. The leadership council has been discussing legislative concepts for cross district school facility planning, industrial land use bills, a Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) tax, and a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) bill.

Councilor discussion included:

- Councilors inquired as to how collected school data will be shared with the superintendent and the school board. COO Bennett stated that the leadership council is looking to an existing pilot group to figure out that situation. The leadership council is also looking for a group that can continue this project in the future;
- Councilors expressed concern in the amount of turnover in the leadership council. COO Bennett stated that initial commitment from members had been a year, but some people do not have the time to commit beyond that year. COO Bennett also stated that the current leadership council holds a great amount of expertise and is energetic in building sufficient infrastructure to support a healthy economy;
- Councilors asked if the leadership council has a proficient understanding of the VMT tax. COO Bennett stated that the leadership council has been struggling to grasp the concept of the VMT;
- Councilors inquired as to if previous members of the leadership council were still involved. COO Bennett stated that past members have stayed connected through work groups and that the transition of members was very healthy;
- Councilors asked if there was going to be an additional update on school infrastructure. COO Bennett noted that there will be another update during the second week of April.

2. METRO EQUITY STRATEGY PROGRAM UPDATE

Ms. Nuin-Tara Key gave an update on the Equity Strategy Program. In 2010, the Metro council adopted equity as one of the regions six desired outcomes and in 2011, directed Metro leadership and staff to initiate the development of an organizing framework that would consistently incorporate equity into Metro policy and decision making. Given the scale of effort needed to strategically move Metro's equity work forward, project staff designed a three-phase approach to developing an Equity Framework for Metro. This approach provides the strategic guidance and support needed to advance equity as one of the regions six desired outcomes.

Ms. Key noted that the program is currently in phase two. In meeting the goals of phase two, the program has developed a three-step process to achieve their goals. These goals include:

- Establishing an equity baseline for creating an evidence-based decision making process that will serve as the foundations of Metro's equity work;
- Creating a relationship map to identify the institutional structures that stand in the way of equitable outcomes;
- Developing an Equity Strategy and Action Plan to define Metro's agency- specific equity strategy that is actionable and measurable.

Councilor discussion included:

- Councilor Kathryn Harrington announced that she was stepping down from her role as council liaison to the Equity Strategy Program;
- Councilors wanted to know what the definitions of indicators are and how they are tied to the desired outcomes. Ms. Key stated that she is looking at a variety of existing indicators and will put together a list of the best indicators already in existence;
- Councilors expressed concern about the phrasing of the plan and asked to make the language of the program easily understandable as to not confuse participants on their roles and responsibilities, specifically the advisory committee;
- Councilors also expressed the need to produce tangible outcomes throughout the process. Ms. Key stated that she has been writing this to the work plan to coincide with existing efforts taking place throughout the agency;
- Councilors expressed the need engage and educate the community on what the program is, and will accomplish and also, making sure that Metro stays informed on its roles and responsibilities – understanding that it is not the foremost expert on equity issues;
- Councilors asked about the budget impacts of the program. COO Bennett noted that this is a cost neutral program, but also expressed interest in acquiring federal Housing and Urban Development grant funds.

3. RECESS

Councilors took a brief recess.

4. COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATES

Councilor Carlotta Collette gave an update on the following items:

- The JPACT Washington D.C. trip was very well attended;
- Matt Garrett, ODOT, feels that the Transportation Policy Group should become an advisory group to the Oregon Transportation Commission;
- The Port of Morrow has expressed support for the I-5 Replacement Bridge Project.

Councilor Kathryn Harrington gave an update on the following items:

- Letters of intent for Community Development and Planning Grants are being delivered to jurisdictions. LOI are for eligible jurisdictions to possibly submit multiple applications and to improve current applications;
- Councilor Harrington was impressed with the Nature in Neighborhoods Capitol Grants project after having been given a tour of the area;
- Councilor Harrington inquired about Equity Strategy touch points to have a sketch of different programs Metro is involved in.

Councilor Craig Dirksen gave an update on the following items:

- Councilor Dirksen met with the government affairs team from Wilsonville and was given and outline of the cities initiative list, which he then shared with the CII;
- At the same meeting, Headquarters Hotel was mentioned. They feel the need for a public subsidy.

Councilor Sam Chase gave an update on the following items:

- Councilor Chase met with MERC for their budget adoption;
- Councilor Chase noted that he is very interested in the Oregon Zoo Foundations, but has yet to be engaged in this organization. Councilor Shirley Craddick stated that she would fill Councilor Chase in on the details;
- Councilor Chase also noted that MPAC still does not quite understand their role to the Metro Council.

Councilor Bob Stacey gave an update on the following items:

- Councilor Stacey recently toured the Oaks Bottom natural area and was very impressed with how they used the Nature in Neighborhoods grant funds;
- Councilor Stacey also noted that MPAC was not clear in its role to the Metro Council, specifically regarding the levy issue. Councilor Stacey stated that we need to be clear to MPAC what the can and cannot give advice about.

Councilor Shirley Craddick gave an update on the following items:

- Councilor Craddick stated that Metro needs to educate communities on how to use MPAC for its intended purpose. Furthermore, Metro needs to engage MPAC on this issue;
- Councilor Craddick stated that the Inter Twine Alliance is focusing on community communication and that more elected officials need to be involved in this outreach.

5. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS AND COMMUNICATION – LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Andy Shaw provided a legislative update on the following items:

- The I-5 Replacement Bridge Project passed the Oregon Senate and will be on the Governor's desk today;
- The Area 93 legislation has been amended to become just a county change. The bill requires Metro to be the third party involved in the land transfer;
- The Industrial Land Readiness issue has become complicated and there is no vote scheduled for this bill at this time;
- The League of Oregon Cities property tax bills rely on pulling the poles;
- The Abandoned Vessels bill is currently on the House floor;
- A bill regarding publicly owned food services has passed;
- David Frasher of Oregon City has testified in favor of Willamette Falls funding, to which the Governor proposed a 2:1 funds match;
- Metro will be hiring a government relations specialist to help with appropriations funding for the Headquarters Hotel;
- There has been no action on Section 8 housing.

6. ADJOURN

Councilor Shirley Craddick adjourned the meeting at 11:19 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Joe Montanez', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Joe Montanez
Recording Secretary