



**METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION  
MEETING SUMMARY  
May 14, 2013  
Metro Council Chamber**

**Councilors Present:** Council President Tom Hughes, Councilors Shirley Craddick, Kathryn Harrington, Craig Dirksen, Carlotta Collette, Bob Stacey, and Sam Chase

**Councilors Excused:** none

Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:04 p.m.

**1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS**

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

- She inquired about voting on the RTP amendments at the upcoming Council meeting as one block.
- There will be a work session held immediately following the Council meeting on Thursday, May 16.
- There are two upcoming ground breakings at the Zoo: the condor exhibit on May 24 and the elephant exhibit on June 10.
- There will be a Council retreat on May 28.

**2. COMMUNITY INVESTMENT INITIATIVE UPDATE:**

Council President Tom Hughes introduced two key strategies of the Community Investment Initiative (CII). First was the School Facilities Planning team, a strategy that grew out of a larger discussion of infrastructure in the region. Second is the Development Ready Communities Pilot Program, which focuses on infrastructure enhancement in communities in order to make them more development ready.

**2.1 SCHOOL FACILITIES PLANNING**

Mr. Joe Rodriguez, of the Community Investment Initiative Leadership Council, Mr. Dick Steinbrugge, of Beaverton Public Schools, and Mr. Nikolai Ursin, of Metro, provided an update on the School Facilities Planning program. The purpose of the presentation was to provide a demonstration of the planning tool, and to inform the Council on the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom workshop which took place this morning. The presenters sought feedback from the Council on the effectiveness of the tool and guidance on the region-wide application.

Mr. Rodriguez explained the importance of using an equity lens when considering infrastructure investment in schools throughout the region. He outlined the educational composition of the

region, which included the number of Educational Service Districts (ESD) and the number of schools, and noted that each district must work alone to maintain their facilities, which may involve passing a bond. Mr. Rodriguez then introduced the School Facility Planning tool.

Mr. Ursin performed a demonstration of the tool. He detailed the uses of the tool and the different facility and demographic indicators that can be selected to create maps. There are several indicators including: year school is built, energy use intensity, percent ESL, and graduation rate. All data is graph-able and exportable.

Mr. Steinbrugge thanked Metro on behalf of the schools that participated in the pilot program to help develop the tool. He noted the importance of the tool's ability to look at the region's public schools on a district-by-district level.

Mr. Rodriguez then provided information regarding the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom workshop. He explained that Senate Bill 540 offers a potential source of funding for the tool, which could act as the database proposed in the bill. He also noted that conversations with the ESD superintendents have begun to gauge interest in CII transferring the tool to ESDs oversight.

***Council Discussion:***

- The Council inquired about the tool's ability to mitigate enrollment disparities in neighboring schools. Mr. Rodriguez explained that the tool may perform that function, but that crossing school district lines can be complicated. Per councilor inquiry, Mr. Rodriguez clarified that capacity may be measured by the number of students that are able to be in a classroom, by the student to teacher ratio, or the number of classrooms. He further explained that each district measures these differently.
- The Council expressed appreciation for the project and the tool, and noted the importance of this work. Some councilors explained that it is time to look for an entity that can maintain the tool and further its uses. Other councilors noted that schools are out of the purview of Metro, but infrastructure is not. Because the tool focuses on school facilities, it is infrastructural in nature.
- Councilors discussed transferring maintenance of the tool to the regions ESDs. They also discussed the possibility of transferring the tool into the State's control.
- Councilors inquired about the likelihood of an ESD taking on maintenance of the tool. Mr. Rodriguez explained that positive feedback has been received from the ESDs, but noted that discussion is continuing.
- The Council discussed the communication opportunities afforded by the tool.
- Councilors inquired about which Beaverton schools did not receive bond funds.

At this time the Council requested that discussion with the ESDs regarding the transfer of the tool continue.

**2.2 BREAK**

### **2.3 DEVELOPMENT READY COMMUNITIES PILOT PROGRAM**

Ms. Lorelei Juntunen, of ECONorthwest, Ms. Deanna Palm, from the CII Leadership Council, Mr. Joel Schoening, of Metro, provided the Council with an update on the CII Development-Ready Communities pilot program. The purpose of this presentation was to present the findings of the pilot program and to gain feedback regarding the implementation of a permanent region-wide program.

Mr. Schoening outlined the development challenges of the region and the consequences of not acting. He explained the potential benefits of creating more development ready communities. Additionally, he overviewed the purposes of the pilot program which included: developing and testing a readiness assessment tool, gauging community interest in the program, and assessing the feasibility of creating a permanent program.

Ms. Palm explained the background of the pilot project and the outreach and engagement that was done throughout the process. Oregon City volunteered to participate in the pilot program and Mayor Neeley acted in a leadership role to support involvement.

Ms. Juntunen then overviewed the draft diagnostic tool which focuses on aligning all aspects of the development process for local jurisdictions in order to create more predictability and certainty for developers. She explained that the tool was utilized in the Oregon City pilot, but noted that the pilot program had revealed the tool to be secondary to the conversations that accompanied the assessment process. She also noted several other findings from the Oregon City pilot which included: the overall value and comprehensiveness of the tool, the need to avoid HR issues, and the importance of outreach and engagement. Ms. Juntunen then overviewed the project's preliminary recommendations: use the diagnostic tool for goal setting, develop a work program, and provide support throughout implementation and track success.

#### ***Council Discussion:***

- The Council expressed appreciation for the findings of the pilot program, and noted the importance of the tool. Councilors suggested, however, that further work and research be done before the program becomes fully functioning.
- Councilors suggested that the program become more tool-oriented because elected officials change frequently. By incorporating the tool in the city's development culture, frequent changes to the program would be mitigated as local offices turnover. Councilors also recommended providing tool training to local officials.
- The Council noted the importance of focusing on customer service in development-readiness. Land use and development permitting should be predictable.
- The Council discussed the limitations of the program's influence on local jurisdictions.
- Councilors expressed interest in remaining involved in the program, but also noted the need to maintain the Development-Ready Communities program as an entity separate from Metro.

- Councilors inquired about the feedback received from developers.
- Councilors expressed interest in discussing financial issues further.
- Councilors suggested that the wording and phraseology of some documents be altered.
- Councilors suggested that further equity lenses be added to the process.

### **3. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATIONS**

Councilor Kathryn Harrington reminded her colleagues that the Westside Trail opening is this evening.

Councilor Sam Chase gave an update on his work with the Oregon Convention Center hotel project.

Councilor Craig Dirksen updated his colleagues on the Southwest Corridor meetings. He also noted that he gave a presentation on the Southwest Corridor to Washington County Commissioners and met with Citizen Participation Organization 4B.

### **4. ADJURN**

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Council work session at 4:52 p.m.

Prepared by,



Camille Tisler

| Council Office Policy Assistant

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 14, 2013**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT TYPE</b>	<b>DOC DATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DOCUMENT No.</b>
<b>1.0</b>	PPT		Community Investment Initiative: School Facilities Planning	51413cw-01
<b>2.0</b>	PPT		Community Investment Initiative: Development-Ready Communities	51413cw-02