



METRO COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting Summary

June 27, 2013

Metro, Council Chamber

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

Councilors Excused: Councilor Carlotta Collette

Council President Tom Hughes called the regular council meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

There were none.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

Jenny Glass, The Rosewood Initiative: Ms. Glass thanked the Metro Council for providing resources for the transportation case study audit. The Rosewood Initiative is a non-profit community-based organization that is focused on holistic neighborhood revitalization around the intersection of 162nd and Stark streets. She stated that the report contained concrete information the community needs in order to advocate for public and private investment. The 162nd MAX station is a crucial hub in the neighborhood and could be an incredible asset to the heavily transit-dependent community. Ms. Glass encouraged the Metro Council to be leaders and make much-needed investments in the area that could realize a long-term positive impact for the community. Additional comments addressed the Initiative's partnerships with local businesses and the Portland Development Commission.

John Charles, Cascade Policy Institute: Mr. Charles thanked Metro Auditor Suzanne Flynn for her recent transportation case study audit. He stated that the Auditor's recommendations from the 2010 report had yet to be implemented and highlighted text that stated that the Planning Department was not organized or equipped to measure progress on the report's outcomes. In addition, he referenced the Auditor's 2010 Transit Oriented Development program audit and stated that its recommendations have also yet to be implemented. He stated that Metro has a long pattern of spending money on computer models without being interested in measuring actual results. He did not support management's response to the audit and believed Metro failed. He stated someone at Metro should take responsibility for the failure and be relieved of his or her duties.

Courtney Scott, 2106 NE Flanders, Portland: Ms. Scott referenced a letter from Ms. Kim Smith regarding the welfare of Packy, an Asian elephant at the Oregon Zoo. Ms. Scott did not believe Packy was thriving at the Oregon Zoo and encouraged Metro to release him to an elephant sanctuary in northern California. She addressed Packy's current living conditions, his health, and lack of interaction with the Zoo's elephant herd.

Nancy Shaw, 2707 Falk Road, Vancouver, WA: Ms. Shaw addressed the Metro Council on the Oregon Zoo and its animal habitats. She stated that each councilor has some level of responsibility for the zoo and stated that changes need to be made. She highlighted the warthogs' habitat as an example. She stated that she did not support the zoo bond measure in 2008.

Bette Steflik, 2826 NE 61st Ave., Portland: Ms. Steflik stated that elephants are a keystone species that promote biodiversity. She encouraged the Council to release Packy to a facility in northern California. She cited Packy's mental well-being and his need for more space as reasoning.

Nancy Newell, 3917 NE Skidmore St., Portland: Ms. Newell stated that the condition of the Oregon Zoo is not appropriate for elephants and did not believe staff's statement that Packy was thriving. She stated that the Oregon Zoo's future elephant site is located on one of the worst seismic areas in the City of Portland. Ms. Newell stated that elephants can sense earthquakes well before humans can, and questioned if Zoo staff would trust an elephant's instincts. In addition, she inquired about how the elephants would be evacuated should an earthquake occur. She did not believe the current Zoo director was the appropriate person for the zoo.

Councilors clarified for testifiers and stated for the record that the Metro Council completed an onsite inspection of the Oregon Zoo on June 20.

3. TRANSPORTATION CASE STUDY AUDIT

Metro Auditor Suzanne Flynn and Ms. Mary Hull Caballero provided a presentation on the recently completed transportation case study audit. The audit, which due to its complexity took two years to complete, is focused on three MAX stations across the region: Taulity Hospital/SE 8th Avenue in Hillsboro, north Killingsworth Street in Portland, and east 162nd Avenue in Gresham. Their presentation included:

- Images of each station platform that demonstrate or highlight elements that are intended to encourage ridership, or observed factors that discourage ridership.
- Data on each station's performance, growth trends and annual growth rates.
- Information on the number of persons who: (1) live outside the study area, but are employed in the study area, (2) the number of people who live in the study area, but work outside the study area, and (3) the amount of people who both live and work in the study area.
- Demographic statistics for each study area including number of residents, level of higher education, and average household income.
- Results from a survey produced by the Auditor's Office that asked transit riders what were their top reasons for not riding transit, and what might encourage higher ridership at their respective stations.

The Auditor's Office recommended that in order to improve the effectiveness of transportation plans and their intended outcomes, the Planning Department should:

- Increase the use of place-specific analysis of transportation needs;
- Assess and report on whether local transportation projects have increased the ability to achieve regional outcomes;

- Increase the use of outcome measures;
- Assess and respond to any inequitable outcomes of funding decisions; and
- Periodically report to the Metro Council and Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation on actions that will improve the effectiveness of transportation funding decisions in achieving regional goals. In addition, identify barriers to achieving the goals and make suggestions for improvement.

(Full audit and Prezi presentation included as part of the meeting record.)

Mr. John Williams of Metro thanked the Auditor and her staff for the report and provided management's response. Mr. Williams stated that management concurred with the importance of the recommendations and stated that the audit honed in on the importance of transportation investments in the region and the local sentiment about the effectiveness of public and private investment strategies. Mr. Williams used the Southwest Corridor project as an example of Metro's planning activities that address many of the recommendations outlined in the audit such as place-specific planning. (Management's response included as part of the meeting record.)

Council discussion

Council thanked the Metro Auditor and her staff for the audit. Councilors observed that the purposes of the stations studied and their respective land use differs, and that the differences drive the dynamics of how a station has or has not evolved. For example, councilors noted that the 162nd MAX station was built almost 30 years ago when cities had different land use review and planning processes. Councilors recommended that perhaps instead of comparing station to station, data be collected on each station in the region and the growth curve or lack of growth at each station be analyzed over time. Additional discussion included the relationship between transit and transit ridership, and public investment and development.

Councilors highlighted FY 13-14 budget challenges due to reductions in revenue sources and increased costs. Councilors asked the Chief Operating Officer to provide more information on if current budget plans provide sufficient staff resources to address the Auditor's recommendations.

Councilors discussed the audit's equity considerations and adding an equity lens to Metro's work. In addition, some councilors emphasized the need to address transit access in the region – specifically the growing cost burden for very low-income populations in the region. Additional discussion addressed TriMet's role in the audit.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion:	Councilor Shirley Craddick moved to approve the June 27, 2013 consent agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consideration of the Minutes for June 20, 2013; and• Resolution No. 13-4435, For the Purpose of Temporarily Suspending the Alternative Program and Performance Standard in Metro Code Chapter 5.10.240.
Second:	Councilor Bob Stacey seconded the motion.

Vote: Council President Hughes, and Councilors Craddick, Harrington, Chase, Dirksen, and Stacey voted in support of the motion. The vote was 6 ayes, the motion passed.

5. **RESOLUTIONS**

5.1 **Resolution No. 13-4440**, For the Purpose of Authorizing the Chief Operating Office to Issue a Non-System License to Recology Portland, Inc. for Delivery of Residential Yard Debris Mixed with Food Waste from the Suttle Road Recovery Facility to Recology Oregon Compost, Inc. - Nature's Needs Compost Facility Located in North Plains, Oregon.

Motion:	Councilor Kathryn Harrington moved to approve Resolution No. 13-4440.
Second:	Councilor Stacey seconded the motion.

Mr. Roy Bower of Metro provided a brief staff report for Resolution No. 13-4440. If adopted, the resolution would grant a non-system license to Recology Portland, Inc. to deliver yard debris mixed with residential food waste to Nature's Needs Compost Facility. Recology was granted a license to accept the mixed material in 2011 and currently transports the debris to facilities in Aumsville and the Dalles, Oregon. Approval of the resolution would allow Recology to add Nature's Needs facility to its menu of places to deliver the organic material for composting. Recology is located in north Portland and Nature's Needs is located in North Plains located outside the Metro district boundary. Additionally, Mr. Brower recognized Mr. Larry Wilkins of Recology in the audience.

Council asked clarifying questions about the non-system license and Washington County's permitting for Nature's Needs. Mr. Brower clarified that the license would operate within the County's permit constraints. With Nature's Needs no longer accepting commercial food waste, the company has additional capacity to accept yard debris and yard debris mixed with residential food waste. In addition, Mr. Brower noted that representatives from Nature's Needs have stated that complaints about odors around the facility are down due to operational changes that have been implemented by the company.

Vote: Council President Hughes, and Councilors Craddick, Harrington, Chase, Dirksen, and Stacey voted in support of the motion. The vote was 6 ayes, the motion passed.

6. **CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION**

Ms. Bennett provided updates on:

- A reception in honor of Oregon Zoo staff Mr. Mike Keele is scheduled for June 27. Mr. Keele announced his intent to retire last February after nearly 42 years at the Oregon Zoo.
- The grand opening of the Chestnut Grove Memorial Garden at Lone Fir Cemetery is scheduled for June 27.
- The Community Investment Initiative's Regional Infrastructure Enterprise work group met on the morning of June 27. The group is anticipated to release its recommendations to the CII's Leadership Council on July 8.

- The Metro's Senior Leadership Team will be at offsite all day on June 28 for a training related to the agency's diversity action plan and equity strategy.

7. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings or events: recent Southwest Corridor presentations and outreach in Washington County, the June 26 Metro Policy Advisory Committee meeting, and recent all-day trip to Seattle, Washington to learn about the city's race and social justice work.

8. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the regular meeting at 3:33 p.m. The Metro Council will convene the next regular council meeting on Thursday, July 11 at 5 p.m. at the City of Gresham's Council Chamber.

The Metro Council recessed and then reconvened into two separate executive sessions. The first session was held pursuant with ORS 192.660 2(h) regarding consultation with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed. The second executive session was held pursuant with ORS 190.660 2(e) which allows for deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelsey Newell, Regional Engagement & Legislative Coordinator

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JUNE 27, 2013

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
	Agenda	6/27/13	Revised council agenda for June 27, 2013	62713c-01
4.1	Minutes	6/20/13	Council minutes for June 20, 2013	62713c-02