# Metro | Making a great place

# METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING SUMMARY

September 24, 2013 Metro Council Chamber

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

Councilors Excused: Councilor Craig Dirksen

Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:09 p.m.

# 1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

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

- The State's organization for boating access (SOBA) will be holding its annual conference in Portland, and Metro will be receiving an award for the Glisan Boat Ramp project.
- Alexandra Eldridge just had her baby, a daughter named Lila.

## 2. ORENCO WOODS NATURE PARK UPDATE AND STATUS REVIEW

Ms. Kathleen Brennan-Hunter and Mr. Rod Wojtanik, both of Metro, provided an update on the Orenco Woods Nature Park project. The purpose of the presentation was to review the status of the planning process and the draft master plan, on which staff was seeking feedback.

Ms. Brennan-Hunter gave a brief history of the site since it was a golf course. She noted that the majority of the site is currently co-owned by the City of Hillsboro and Metro, who are working collaboratively under an intergovernmental agreement (IGA). Ms. Brennan-Hunter explained that a portion of the land will be sold for development, and the proceeds of the sale will go toward development of the park. Per councilor inquiry, Ms. Brennan-Hunter clarified that any remaining proceeds will be split between the City of Hillsboro and Metro.

Mr. Wojtanik gave an overview of the site's context and the planning process. He noted that the nature park would serve nearly 50,000 nearby residents and complement other Intertwine sites. He noted the public involvement process, and explained the program elements and project goals which included: honoring the site's natural and historic attributes, providing access for both community and neighborhood uses, and incorporating sustainability and low impact development principles. Mr. Wojtanik then outlined the draft master plan and potential future uses for the McDonald House. He noted the environmental education features that will be included in the design of the park. He concluded by outlining the next steps for the project, which included: design development, construction documents, and securing the appropriate permits.

#### Council Discussion:

- The Council discussed the amount of planned parking and the lack of parking available in the surrounding neighborhood.
- Per councilor inquiry, Mr. Jim Desmond clarified that the park will qualify as a regional park, but will most likely act as a neighborhood park.
- Councilors expressed interest in exploring inclusionary zoning strategies on future projects of this size.
- Councilors inquired about the site's eligibility for usage of natural area levy funds for maintenance. Ms. Brennan-Hunter explained that the site is eligible, but reiterated that the current plan is to utilize proceeds from the property sale to pay for the park.
- Due to the developed nature of most golf course sites, councilors inquired about the level of sculpting that will be necessary on the site to restore a more natural setting. Mr. Wotjanik clarified that little sculpting will be necessary.
- Councilors inquired about the level of restoration in the McDonald House.
- Per councilor inquiry, the presenters explained that 71 housing units would be developed on the parcel to be sold.

## 3. IMPROVING THE SOLID WASTE COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Deputy COO Scott Robinson, Mr. Roy Brower, and Mr. Bill Metzler, Metro, provided the Council with an update on the proposed improvements to the Metro Solid Waste Community Enhancement Program. The purpose of this presentation was to gain Council feedback on the proposed changes.

Mr. Robinson explained that Metro's code is outdated, but the technology has continued to update. This improvement process is intended to modernize the code.

Mr. Brower reviewed the facilities that currently collect the community enhancement fee then outlined the five key recommendations for improving the program.

- 1. Update Metro Code Chapter 5.06 and make clear that the program framework will continue to rely on state law.
- 2. Clarify the type of facilities that are eligible and ineligible based on state law. [Continue to suspend yard debris facilities from the program pending further regulatory evaluation.]
- 3. Establish a collaborative process to include the host local government for considering whether to impose fees at eligible facilities, both existing and new.
- 4. Provide a range of options for program administration and fund distribution.
- 5. Increase the fee due to inflation since program inception (from \$0.50 to \$1.00 per ton), and establish a process for modifying fees in the future. New fees to be effective upon Metro adoption of new rates in 2014.

#### **Council Discussion:**

- Councilors discussed Metro's engagement in the fund distribution process when the facility is Metro owned, and the difference when the facility is privately owned. They noted that all future IGAs could be worded to include a provision regarding Metro being included on the enhancement committees.
- Councilors asked clarifying questions about: the implications of following state guidelines, Metro's role in influencing the focus of the fund, and Metro's role in grant approval.

- The Council discussed potential legislative strategies for the 2014 session, including a step in the fee cap.
- Per councilor inquiry, Mr. Robinson explained that the community enhancement fee makes solid waste facilities more tolerable to the cities in which they are sited.

At this point the presenters reviewed three questions with the Council:

- 1. Does Council support moving forward with a stakeholder review process and have any suggestions for improving the stakeholder engagement process?
- 2. Does Council support the proposed decision process for determining when and how to start collecting enhancement fees at a facility?
- 3. Does Council support increasing the enhancement fee from \$0.50 per ton to \$1.00 per ton the statutory maximum? Does Council wish to pursue state legislation to increase the fee in the future?

The councilors gave tentatively affirmative answers to each question.

# 4. <u>COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATES</u>

Councilor Shirley Craddick gave an update on the Cemetery Advisory Committee. She noted that the Intertwine Fall summit will be on October 9, 2013. Additionally, she informed her colleagues that she attended the Travel Portland Board of Directors meeting at which the Willamette Falls Legacy project was presented.

Councilor Harrington inquired about her status as the Active Transportation Plan liaison following the release of the final plan.

## 5. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Bob Stacey gave an update on the I-5 replacement bridge. He asked that information regarding the project be crosschecked by staff.

Councilor Kathryn Harrington noted that Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation Department hosted the second annual Sunday Trailways last Sunday. She made a note of Luis Nava's (father of one of the women's disc golf championship competeitors) appreciation of Metro's investment in the Blue Lake Park disc golf course. Tomorrow she will be presenting at the City of Hillsboro and on Thursday she will be sitting on a panel at the Oregon Walks summit.

Councilor Carlotta Collette informed her colleagues that she has been giving Metro update presentations to her cities and Clackamas County. She noted that today she gave a brownbag presentation at the Port of Portland regarding the Willamette Falls Legacy project.

Councilor Shirley Craddick noted that she is also beginning her city updates. Also, last Friday she participated in a mini policy makers bike ride hosted by the City of Gresham.

Council President Tom Hughes gave his colleagues an update on the CII Leadership Council's meeting and on the OCC hotel.

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# 6. <u>ADJUORN</u>

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Council work session at 4:27 p.m.

Prepared by,

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# ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2013

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	Doc Date	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT NO.
1.0	РРТ		Orenco Woods Nature Park	92413cw-01