



## **METRO COUNCIL MEETING**

Meeting Summary

Oct. 24, 2013

Metro, Council Chamber

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

Councilors Excused: None

Council President Tom Hughes called the regular council meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

### **1. INTRODUCTIONS**

There were none.

### **2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS**

There were none.

### **3. FY 2012-13 ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT**

Metro Auditor Suzanne Flynn provided a brief presentation on FY 2012-13 annual report for the Auditor's Office. Her presentation included information on:

- FY 12-13 accomplishments and audits released;
- Office's expenditures and available staffing;
- Number of audits, average hours per department, and audit recommendation implementation rate; and
- Ethics line approach, incident locations, and annual report.

Audits currently under development include the organics waste system which is anticipated to be released in October 2013, and audits of Metro's public engagement, and minority, women-owned, and emerging small business (MWESB) procurement processes. (Full presentation and report included as part of the meeting record.)

#### ***Council discussion***

Councilors thanked the Auditor for her presentation and stated that her work plays a critical role in creating confidence among the region's taxpayers. Metro's constituents have more confidence in the agency's work because of the auditor's detailed reporting. Councilors recognized the amount of time dedicated to complete an audit and to address an audit's recommendations, and were impressed to learn that 93 percent of the auditor's recommendations have been implemented over the last year.

Councilors asked clarifying questions about the ethics line and what were the common cases and the severity of the incident reports. Auditor Flynn stated that the ethics line is a fairly common tool to process and respond to inquiries, and provides an additional avenue for internal and external parties to communicate with Metro. She stated that the calls received vary and span a broad range of topics. The majority are from internal staff that requires additional information or explanation versus incidents that require a formal investigation and action to be taken. Additional Council comments addressed the number audits in the Planning department; Councilors looked forward to receiving audits on other Metro programs or departments in the future.

#### **4. NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM PERFORMANCE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Natural Areas Program Performance Oversight Committee Chair Drake Butsch and committee members Peter Mohr and Rick Mishaga provide a presentation on the committee's annual report. Their presentation included information on land acquisition and site stabilization, Terramet information system, program administrative costs and staffing, public outreach through the "It's Our Nature" communications initiative, unusual circumstances in property transactions, and the dashboard highlights for regional acquisition, local share and Nature in Neighborhood's capital grants program.

As the committee's 2013 annual report title suggests, Chair Butsch stated that the project continues to make steady progress overall. The committee provided 9 recommendations for the next year that address regional acquisition, expenditures within the local share and NIN programs, use of Terramet by other regional parties, the program's administrative costs and staffing levels, site stabilization guidelines, and application of unusual circumstances. (See report for full recommendations.)

#### ***Council discussion***

Councilors thanked presenters and the full oversight committee for their service. Councilors stated that the committee is steady and rational, and as a result Metro has continued to see consistent progress and success in the program. Councilors thanked members for how seriously they take the oversight committee charge; and stated that their work helps create confidence among the region's voters that Metro is diligent with public dollars. Councilors wanted to ensure that Metro provides clear and consistent messaging around opportunity acquisitions and unusual circumstances. Councilors emphasized that the region's voters approved 27 target areas where Metro is acquiring natural areas and trails to safeguard water quality, protect fish and wildlife habitat, and preserve access to nature for future generations. Opportunities outside the 27 areas, such the former Blue Heron site, are highly unusual and present a once in a lifetime opportunity for the region. Chair Butsch agreed and stated that the oversight committee is watchful and reviews the special circumstances list carefully as these opportunities are very rare. Additional discussion addressed the cost application methodology and program administrative costs, and possible reasons why certain target areas have experienced fewer acquisitions (e.g. lack of willing seller or lack of property master plan).

Council President Hughes, on behalf of the full Council and Metro, recognized, thanked and presented Ms. Sue Marshall, Chair of the NIN Capital Grant committee, with photo plaques for her service.

**5. CONSIDERATION OF THE COUNCIL MINUTES FOR OCT. 10, 2013**

Motion:	Councilor Shirley Craddick moved to approve the Oct. 10, 2013 council minutes.
Second:	Councilor Craig Dirksen seconded the motion.

Vote:	Council President Hughes, and Councilors Craddick, Harrington, Chase, Dirksen, Collette and Stacey voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 ayes, the motion <u>passed</u> .
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**6. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING**

6.1 **Ordinance No. 13-1317**, For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Chapter 7.02 (Financing Powers).

Second read, public hearing and Council consideration and vote scheduled for Oct. 31.

6.2 **Ordinance No. 13-1319**, For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Chapter 2.16 (Naming of Facilities).

Second read, public hearing and Council consideration and vote scheduled for Oct. 31.

6.3 **Ordinance No. 13-1320**, For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Title IV (Oregon Zoo Regulations) and Metro Code Chapter 2.14 (Facilities Related Parking-Policy and Regulations).

Second read, public hearing and Council consideration and vote scheduled for Oct. 31.

**7. RESOLUTIONS**

7.1 **Resolution No. 13-4469**, For the Purpose of Approving the City of Wilsonville Tax Increment Financing Request for Five Urban Renewal Areas

Motion:	Councilor Bob Stacey moved to approve Resolution No. 13-4469.
Second:	Councilor Dirksen seconded the motion.

Mr. Tim Collier provided a brief staff report for Resolution No. 13-4469 which if adopted would approve the City of Wilsonville's tax increment finance request for five urban renewal areas. In March 2013, Wilsonville residents voted to support creating up to six single property urban renewal districts to incentivize capital investment and job creation by manufactures. The city has proposed five, parcel-specific, urban renewal areas that will each be capped at a \$12 million dollar increment over a 15-year period. While the city's formula used to develop the tax increment finance zones is unique, Metro staff does not see any conflict with regional policies or regulations, and looks forward to seeing how the city's application of the urban renewal policy fares. If successful, this approach may be used in other local communities. (See the staff report to Resolution No. 13-4469 for the formula breakdown.)

### ***Council discussion***

Councilors asked clarifying questions about Metro's financial contributions. Staff clarified that the amount of property taxes forgone will be approximately \$90,000 at each urban renewal district. However, staff estimates Metro will receive approximately 40 percent revenue in return, netting about \$200,000 total over the 15-year span. Staff stated that should the Metro Council not approve the request, the proposal would default back to the standard formula.

Additionally, staff confirmed that the resolution is essentially a courtesy from the city to Metro and other taxing districts to receive endorsement of the city's concept and acknowledge the loss of revenue as result of the city's efforts. Councilors were interested inviting a representative from the City of Wilsonville to attend a Council work session to discuss the city's approach, how it will be measured over time, and try to determine if the new formula is a best practice to be shared with other jurisdictions around the region.

Vote:

Council President Hughes, and Councilors Craddick, Harrington, Chase, Dirksen, Collette, and Stacey voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 ayes, the motion <u>passed</u> .
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### **8. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION**

Ms. Martha Bennett provided updates on the following items:

- Ms. Bennett congratulated Councilor Kathryn Harrington for receiving Oregon Walks' prestigious 2013 Weston award.
- The votes are in – over 15,000 votes received – to name the Oregon Zoo's new lion cubs . The cubs will be named Kamali, Zalika and Angalia.
- Metro's Opt In survey of the Willamette Falls Legacy Project will be open Oct. 25 to Nov. 15. Questions will be focused on the project's public access, economic redevelopment, historic and cultural interpretation and healthy habitat elements.
- Metro's Research Center sponsored a table at the Oct. 24 Oregon Economic Forum. Ms. Bennett stated that some of the data released by the state would be of interest to the Metro Council. Highlights included that Oregon, and in particular the Portland area, is seeing rapid growth in high and low-wage jobs. Middle class jobs, however, are experiencing low growth.
- Ms. Bennett will be attending the northwest area Regional Council of Government's manager meeting in Lincoln City on Oct. 25.

### **9. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION**

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings or events: Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) meeting, North Portland Enhancement Committee meeting, Metro quarterly trails forum, Travel Portland's Board of Directors retreat, metropolitan export initiative's advisory committee meeting, regional disaster preparedness policy group meeting, presentation to a Pacific University politics class, Westside Economic Alliance breakfast presentation, Alma Gardens grand opening, and Rail~Volution and AMPO conferences.

**10.     ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the regular meeting at 3:36 p.m. and reconvened in an executive session in the Council Annex 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 Metro Council will convene the next regular council meeting on Thursday, Oct. 31 at 2 p.m. at Metro's Council Chamber.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelsey Newell, Regional Engagement & Legislative Coordinator

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF OCT. 24, 2013**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Doc. Date</b>	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>Doc. Number</b>
4.0	Report	10/2013	Natural Areas Program Oversight Committee 2013 annual report	102413c-01
5.	Minutes	10/10/13	Council minutes for Oct. 10, 2013	102413c-02