

METRO COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting Summary

Dec. 19, 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 2:01 p.m.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

There were none.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion:	Councilor Craig Dirksen moved to approve Dec. 19 consent agenda, which consisted of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consideration of the Council minutes for Dec. 12, 2013;• Resolution No. 13-4485, For the Purpose of Confirming the Appointment of Members of the Nature in Neighborhoods Capital Grants Review Committee;• Resolution No. 13-4487, For the Purpose of Metro Council's Acceptance of the Results of the Independent Audit for Financial Activity During Fiscal Year 2012-13; and• Resolution No. 13-4491, For the Purpose of Confirming the Council President's Appointment of Carol Gossett, Mychal Tetteh, and Steve White as Citizen Representatives to the Transportation Policy Alternatives Committee.
Second:	Councilor Bob Stacey 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 passed.

4. RESOLUTIONS

4.1 Resolution No. 13-4486, For the Purpose of Confirming Eligibility of Projects on Metro Lands for the Nature in Neighborhoods Capital Grants Program.

Motion:	Councilor Kathryn Harrington moved to approve Resolution No. 13-4486.
Second:	Councilor Carlotta Collette seconded the motion.

Ms. Kathleen Brennan-Hunter provided a brief staff report for Resolution No. 13-4486. The 2006 natural areas bond measure provided \$15 million in grant funding for community-driven projects that enhance natural areas and increase residents' access to nature. The bond resolution, approved by the Metro Council in 2006, is silent on whether projects on Metro-owned property are eligible to receive grant funds. However, staff stated the resolution's clear intent is for projects to be identified in advance by local communities and in areas where Metro owns land but the land is managed via an intergovernmental agreement with local partners.

Ms. Brennan-Hunter stated that thanks to the two successful bond measures, Metro now holds nearly 30 percent of all natural areas and park lands in the region. As such, staff has begun to receive an increasing amount of requests to allow the use of these grant funds on Metro land for community-driven projects. Highlighted examples included projects in Forest Grove and the Cully Neighborhood in Portland. Per staff's recommendation, the resolution, if approved, would allow projects on Metro-owned property if the property is managed through an IGA or clearly initiated by the local community and where the community partner will assume full responsibility for implementation, construction and maintaining the project over time.

Council discussion

Councilors asked clarifying questions about property ownership and eligible grant applicants. Staff confirmed that in order to be eligible to grant funding, projects must be on publically-owned land or possess an agreement regarding public access. In all cases, the property owner must be a project partner. In addition, staff clarified that local governments, non-profits, school districts, etc. are all examples of eligible grant applicants. Metro and Metro-driven projects, however, are not eligible.

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> .
-------	--

4.2 Resolution No. 13-4489, For the Purpose of Endorsing a Regional Position on Federal Transportation Policy.

Motion:	Councilor Collette moved to approve Resolution No. 13-4489.
Second:	Councilor Shirley Craddick seconded the motion.

Councilor Collette introduced Resolution No. 13-4489 which calls for a significant increase in transportation user fees to support reauthorization of MAP-21, the current federal transportation authorization bill scheduled to expire in September 2014. Councilor Collette stated that the

resolution emphasizes the need to increase the level of federal investment in transportation, and to reduce the government's dependence on the Highway Trust Fund. In addition, the resolution offers a series of policy positions for the region with regards to transit funding, bridge repair, active transportation, etc. Pending the Metro Council's approval, the resolution would be used to communicate the region's federal transportation priorities to the Washington, DC delegation in March 2014. Councilor Collette confirmed that the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation approved Resolution No. 13-4489 at its December 12 meeting.

Additional comments addressed Congressman Blumenauer's recent bill, the UPDATE Act. JPACT will discuss the UPDATE Act at its January 2014 meeting.

Council discussion

Councilor Stacey addressed the resolution's policy position #3, as outlined in Exhibit A, which calls for continuing to advocate for appropriations for programs, such as Projects of National and Regional Significance, to help fund the Columbia River Crossing project and other nationally significant projects. In order to support the resolution as proposed, Councilor Stacey interpreted the verbiage regarding the CRC more generally; stating that resources should be identified to improve access – for freight, bicycle, pedestrian, transit and commuters – across the Columbia River and I-5 Interstate corridor. Similarly, Councilor Dirksen stated that he also believed that policy position #8 regarding ensuring eligibility for electric vehicles charging stations, and so on, should be expanded in scope to include support of purchase and use of alternative fuel vehicles.

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 passed.
--

4.3 Resolution No. 13-4490, For the Purpose of Adopting the Substitute Transit Transportation Control Measure (TCM) as Part of the State Air Quality Strategy and Regional Air Quality Conformity Determination.

Motion:	Councilor Collette moved to approve Resolution No. 13-4490.
Second:	Councilor Craddick seconded the motion.

Mr. Tom Kloster and Ms. Grace Cho of Metro introduced Resolution No. 13-4490. In previous decades the Portland metro region failed to meet national air quality standards for carbon monoxide pollution. As a result, the region is required to develop and implement strategies to reduce carbon monoxide emissions in order to conform to the Clean Air Act. The region's air quality plan includes a budget of transportation-related emissions and a services of ongoing transportation control measures (TCMs) to help address the carbon monoxide emissions. The Portland region's TCMs require the following:

- A cumulative average of 5 miles of new bikeways every two years;
- A cumulative average of 1.5 miles of new sidewalks every two years; and
- One percent increase in transit service annually.

Unfortunately, due to transit service reductions or cuts caused by the Great Recession, staff anticipates that the region is likely to not meet the current transit TCM. Failure to meet the TCM requirements could cause the region to not comply with air quality conformity standards and disrupt federal funding.

Resolution No. 13-4490, if approved, would substitute the transit TCM to account for the region's transit investment over the life of the air quality maintenance plan and look at the region's long-term commitment to transit. The proposed substitution would allow the region to continue to meet the one percent annual increase requirement. Staff confirmed that after formal review and public comment, the Environmental Quality Commission approved the proposed TCM substitution on December 11. JPACT approved the TCM substitution on December 12. Pending the Metro Council's approval of the resolution, staff will transmit a letter, signed by Council President Hughes on behalf of the Metro Council and Councilor Collette on behalf of JPACT, confirming both bodies' approvals.

Council discussion

Councilors thanked Ms. Cho for her leadership on the project. Councilors asked clarifying questions regarding the TCM and if the one percent increase reflected riders using the system or service provided. Staff clarified that measure is based on total service hours. Councilors asked staff for their perspective on what needs to occur in order to ensure the region continues to meet the requirement of a one percent increase in transit annually. Staff addressed the challenges of a transit system funded by payroll tax and specifically challenges presented during the Great Recession. Staff highlighted the current Climate Smart Communities project as one opportunity to discuss possible ways to fund transit in the future. Councilors also inquired about what would happen if the region was not to maintain the one percent increase. Metro staff stated that TriMet strongly believes, based on the transit agency's projections, the region will meet the new TCM. Additionally, staff noted that the air quality plan is scheduled to expire in 2017.

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> .
--

4.4 Resolution No. 13-4492, For the Purpose of Allowing the Beaverton School District to File an Application for a Major Amendment to the Urban Growth Boundary.

Motion:	Councilor Harrington moved to approve Resolution No. 13-4492.
Second:	Councilor Collette seconded the motion.

Councilors Harrington and Dirksen, with staff support from Mr. Tim O'Brien, introduced Resolution No. 13-4492. The Beaverton School District has determined a need for a new high school in the southwesterly area of the district with an opening date of no later than 2017. The Metro Council has approved to expand the current Urban Growth Boundary to include the area requested by the School District. However, due to the outstanding appeals on the UGB decision, Councilors stated that the school's plans are in jeopardy. As such, the District has requested an independent major UGB amendment outside the usual application timeframe.

Metro accepts applications for major amendments to the UGB between February 1 and March 15 of each calendar year except that calendar year in which the Council is completing its Urban Growth

Report. The Council is scheduled to consider and vote on the UGR in December 2014; therefore Metro will not accept major amendment applications during the normal application window in 2014. However, Metro Code includes a provision that allows the Council to accept major amendments during other times by a vote of five or more members of the Council, upon a request of a Councilor and a finding of good cause. Resolution No. 134492, if approved, would allow the District to file an application for a major UGB amendment. Approval of the resolution would not make a determination on the potential application and/or grant the UGB amendment. Councilors clarified that pending the resolution's approval the District's petition would complete the regular application process which includes a staff review and hearings officer review and recommendation. Councilors emphasized that the issue before the District highlighted the challenges the region can face when decisions made at the regional and state level have local implications. While the UGB and urban reserves decisions are held up in court discussions, life proceeds and local communities continue to grow.

Council discussion

Councilors asked clarifying questions on the potential impacts to the District's request should the Court of Appeals remand the current UGB decision package. Legal counsel stated that Resolution No. 13-4492 addressed the District's request to submit an application and whether the request was a good cause. Analysis and/or discussion on potential impacts should a remand occur would be performed at a later date as needed. Additionally, counsel noted that the Metro Council would likely be briefed in an executive session format due to litigation rules. Additional councilor comments addressed the appeals process and capacity challenges the state faces.

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> .
--

5. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

Ms. Martha Bennett provided updates on the following items:

- Regarding the Oregon Convention Center Hotel project, the code amendments to implement the IGA between Metro, Multnomah County and the City of Portland were approved unanimously by Multnomah County. Separately, Ms. Bennett noted that opponents to the project intend to file paperwork to refer the action to the voters. Details to follow when available.
- She thanked Metro employees for participating in the 2013 annual charitable giving campaign. She stated that 37 percent of Metro employees participated in the 2013 campaign and pledged over \$98,500 for local non-profit partners.
- The Metro GreenScene brochure has been updated and has transitioned into the new *Our Backyard* publication.
- The Metro Council will be on recess Dec. 20, 2013 to Jan. 5, 2014.

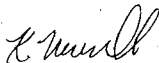
6. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION

Councilor Dirksen recommended councilors may be interested in reading an article in the Dec. 19 *Oregonian* newspaper regarding results from a recent Tigard citizens' survey on transit.

7. **ADIURN**

There being no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the regular meeting at 2:52 p.m. The Metro Council will convene the next regular council meeting on Thursday, Jan. 9, 2014 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 DEC. 19, 2013

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
3.1	Minutes	12/12/13	Council minutes for Dec. 12, 2013	121913c-01
4.3	PowerPoint	N/A	Proposed change to the Transit TCM: Better reflecting the region's commitment to improved air quality through transit investment	121213c-03