



## **METRO COUNCIL MEETING**

Meeting Summary

Jan. 16, 2014

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**

Shellea Allen, UNITE HERE, Local 8: Ms. Allen addressed the Metro Council on concerns related negotiations between UNITE HERE and Aramark, the concessions provider currently contracted at the Oregon Convention Center. She stated that the negotiations are moving slowly, and that the union is waiting for Aramark's proposal. She was concerned with the difference in wages, gratuity, and healthcare benefits union workers at Aramark receive verses other union positions in the Pacific Northwest. She stated that she looked forward for connecting with councilors on this issue in the near future.

Dave Moore, UNITED HERE, Local 8: Mr. Moore stated that he has worked at the OCC since the early 1990s, and has been part of the different union contracts. He stated that over the last 20 years his pay and gratuity have not significantly increased. He did state, however, that he does now receive healthcare benefits. He discussed the financial impacts to his family, and emphasized the need for fair wages. Mr. Moore stated that the OCC receives repeat business in part due to the high quality service provided. He stated that union workers expect to be fairly compensated for their work.

Ben Marston, UNITE HERE, Local 8: Mr. Marston stated that the standards have dropped since Aramark was awarded the contract at the OCC. He stated that an important component of Aramark's obligation to Metro is to provide a high level of service. He stated that Portland is a culinary city and the labor pool is highly trained that therefore can demand a decent wage. In order to keep dedicated people in the city, Mr. Marston emphasize that Aramark must do better and raises its standards. He stated that he has been proud to work on union issues at the OCC and with the proposed OCC hotel project, but sees this as a critical contract fight that may set the stage for what happens next with the hotel project. He stated that the union is prepared to do what it takes to significantly raise the standards at the OCC.

Councilors ask legal counsel for clarification on Aramark and the OCC's contract limitations, and if the Aramark contract is scheduled for renewal and the timeframe for doing so. Legal

counsel confirmed that the OCC's contract with Aramark explicitly prohibits Metro from interfering or being involved in Aramark's labor issues. Metro is prohibited from entering into trade relations and union negotiations that have to do with Aramark. That stated, the Aramark contract is up for consideration for a five-year renewal within the next 12 months. When Metro evaluates the contract on who to procure with moving forward – whether Aramark or another provider, Metro is open for every consideration.

Councilors also asked clarifying questions on if accepting a meeting with one of the above testifiers would violate the current contract. Legal counsel clarified that any citizen, including any Aramark employee, has the opportunity to petition government. However, counsel cautioned that Councilors should be careful not to inadvertently violate the current contract. Counsel stated that Councilors could listen to the testifiers, but not take a position that would interfere with Aramark relations. Councilors were encouraged to connect with legal counsel offline with more specific questions.

Art Lewellan, Portland: Mr. Lewellan distributed renderings of transportation services in Seattle, Washington. He stated that while the renderings did not pertain to Portland, he has come to distrust Washington State's Highway Department on projects in Seattle and the Columbia River Crossing project. Mr. Lewellan asked the Metro Council to send the renderings to the Secretary of Washington state. He also addressed the CRC project, expressing his support for the single-deck alternative, Concept #1 interchange, and simplifying the tolls system to be financially competitive with transit service. (Written handouts included as part of the meeting record.)

Councilor Bob Stacey stated that he would forward Mr. Lewellan's submitted material to the Secretary of Washington state.

Les Poole, Gladstone: Mr. Poole stated that he has been active in Clackamas County and Milwaukie for several years. He stated that the region's residents need to have a better understanding of what Metro is doing. Mr. Poole stated that while Metro operates a lot of things and is a large agency, there are a limited number of decision-makers. He believed that a limited number tends to invite in-the-box thinking. He highlighted examples regarding the City of Damascus, the CRC project, and concerns related to population and planning forecasts that impact TriMet. He stated that he is not opposed to TriMet or Metro, but wanted to ensure citizens were included in the dialog.

### 3. CONSENT AGENDA

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| Motion: | Councilor Kathryn Harrington moved to approve Jan. 16 consent agenda, which consisted of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consideration of the Council Minutes for Jan. 9, 2014; and</li><li>• <b>Resolution No. 14-4493</b>, For the Purpose of Approving the Use of Federal Streamlining Provisions for Regional Air Quality Conformity Determinations.</li></ul> |
| Second: | Councilor 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. 14-4496, For the Purpose of Creating and Appointing Members of a Steering Committee for the Powell-Division Transit and Development Project.**

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| Motion: | Councilor Shirley Craddick moved to approve Resolution No. 14-4496. |
| Second: | Councilor Stacey seconded the motion.                               |

Mr. Brian Monberg of Metro provided a presentation on the Powell-Division Transit and Development Project. The project is focused on identifying ways to better connect downtown Portland, through southeast and east Portland, to downtown Gresham along the Division and Powell corridors. The project seeks to define a new transit line connecting the two cities – including defining vehicle mode, route and station areas – and to design a development strategy for key places along the corridor such as creating connections between education and employment institutions. Mr. Monberg’s presentation included information on the project timeline, transit, community development and diversity and equity components, partnerships, public engagement and project planning and implementation. The Powell-Division Transit and Development Project was identified as one of the top priority projects through East Metro Connections Plan.

Resolution No. 14-4496, if adopted, would confirm the appointment of members to the project steering committee. The committee, composed of 22 members, includes representation from the Metro Council, Portland and Gresham neighborhood associations, TriMet and ODOT, the public health sector, higher education institutions, the local business communities, and environmental justice groups.

***Council discussion***

Councilors were pleased with the diverse representation on the steering committee, and were particularly excited by the seat for student users of the system. Councilors discussed the project’s regional significance, and the increased job and education opportunities and better living conditions for those living and traveling through the corridor. Councilors discussed how the project could support Mt. Hood Community College, Portland Community College, OHSU, the cities of Portland and Gresham, and so on. Councilors emphasized the significant ridership throughout the corridor, and stated that the project aims to develop a community-supported project that can bring federal and regional funds to the corridor, and build high-capacity transit within the next five years. Additionally, councilors noted that Portland and Gresham will work to establish a community-supported vision for the corridor, and TriMet will develop a bus service enhancement plan for the entire east side.

Additional discussion addressed some concern expressed by local jurisdictions about completing the Powell-Division corridor study concurrent with the Southwest Corridor study. Councilors believed that beginning the Powell-Division project would not detract from the work on the Southwest Corridor project.

Vote:

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| 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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4.2 **Resolution No. 14-4498**, For the Purpose of Adding the Powell Boulevard: I-205 to SE 176<sup>th</sup> Project to the 2012-15 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) and the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

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| Motion: | Councilor Carlotta Collette moved to approve Resolution No. 14-4498. |
| Second: | Councilor Craddick seconded the motion.                              |

Mr. Ted Leybold of Metro provided a brief staff report for Resolution No. 14-4498. During the last legislative session, the Oregon Legislature awarded \$4.9 million to the Oregon Department of Transportation for project development of the outer Powell Boulevard project, a project from I-205 east to southeast 176<sup>th</sup>. The project funds have been divided into two phases. The first phase, funded at \$2 million, will be used to plan a preferred street design. The second phase, which allocates the remaining balance, will be used for engineering, drawing, construction, and contract development work for the preferred alternative to be selected during the development planning process. In order to utilize the project funds, the project must be amended into the region's Unified Planning Work Program and that Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program maintained by Metro.

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| 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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4.3 **Resolution No. 14-4500**, For the Purpose of Providing Direction to Metro Concerning Bills Before the 2014 Oregon Legislature

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| Motion: | Council President Hughes moved to approve Resolution No. 14-4500. |
| Second: | Councilor Sam Chase seconded the motion.                          |

Council President Hughes introduced Resolution No. 14-4500. Every year, in advance of each session of the Oregon Legislature, the Metro Council reviews its legislative principles and priorities that guide Metro staff in their work at the state capital. The 2014 priorities, included as Exhibit A to the resolution, address a variety of topics from the I-5 Replacement Bridge project to urban growth management to industrial site readiness and toxics. Exhibit B to the resolution, the Council's 2014 principles, address categories of potential state legislation that may impact areas such as local authority, land use and urban growth management, and transportation.

Council President Hughes stated that present challenges prompted the Council to spend additional time discussing Metro's land use priorities. He highlighted two primary changes since the Council's last work session discussion:

- A new principle has been added to Exhibit B, *Oregon's Land Use System*, which highlights the importance of the region's land use system; and
- New language in both Exhibit A and Exhibit B that underscores Metro's desire for the Oregon Legislature to "affirm" the agency's local authority to make specific land use decisions within the process and policy framework set by the state.

Council President Hughes highlighted next steps which will include, for example, a letter from Metro to the Oregon Legislature expressing support for the region's last urban growth boundary decision, frustration with the long process, interest in maintaining state and local decision-making roles, and the agency's interest and support for pursuing legislative changes that shorten the administration and judicial timeframes for land use decisions. (Full priorities and principles included as part of the meeting record.)

### ***Council discussion***

After further discussions with legal counsel regarding the term "affirm," Councilor Dirksen recommended that Exhibit A and Exhibit B be updated to reflect:

- Exhibit A, *Urban growth management*, is amended to "...local land use decisions ~~affirms~~ **supports** the authority of local governments..."
- Exhibit B, *Land use and Urban growth management – Local Land Use Decisions*, is amended to "...local land use decisions and should ~~affirm~~ **support** the authority of local governments..."

The Metro Council supported the request and considered the edits to be friendly amendments.

Councilor Chase stated that while he is enthusiastic about the legislative agenda and would vote in favor of Resolution No. 14-4500, he did not support the legislative priorities that address the I-5 Replacement Bridge over the Columbia River or gain share. Councilor Stacey echoed Councilor Chase's comments about the I-5 Replacement Bridge and stated that he did not support the current design of the project. Councilor Stacey was, however, satisfied with the additional language in the second paragraph of the item in Exhibit A, and therefore expressed support for the resolution.

Vote:

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| 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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## **5. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION**

Ms. Martha Bennett provided updates on the following items:

- She thanked Metro Councilors who attended the Jan. 16 employee service award luncheon. Ms. Bennett stated that councilor attendance at the anniversary luncheon means a lot to staff.
- The Metro Regional Center will be closed on Monday, Jan. 20 in observance of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. day.
- The Convention Industries Council, in collaboration with the Green Meeting Industry Council, has named Portland and the OCC among the top destination for green meetings in 2014.

**6. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION**

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings or events: the City of Beaverton's state of the city address, Washington County Visitor Association board meeting regarding the OCC hotel project, and the committee charged with selecting art for the Scouter Mountain Nature Park. Highlighted upcoming meetings included the mid-January state of the county address in Washington County, and Feb. 20 state of the city address in Forest Grove.

**7. ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the regular meeting at 3:06 p.m. The Metro Council will convene the next regular council meeting on Thursday, Jan. 23 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 JAN. 16, 2014**

| <b>Item</b> | <b>Topic</b> | <b>Doc. Date</b> | <b>Document Description</b>                               | <b>Doc. Number</b> |
|-------------|--------------|------------------|---|--------------------|
| 2.0         | Handouts     | N/A              | Handouts distributed by citizen Art Lewellan              | 11614c-01          |
| 3.1         | Minutes      | 1/9/14           | Council minutes for Jan. 9, 2014                          | 11614c-02          |
| 4.1         | PowerPoint   | 1/16/14          | Powell-Division Transit and Development Project           | 11614c-03          |
| 4.1         | Legislation  | 1/15/14          | Revised Exhibit B to Resolution No. 14-4496               | 11614c-04          |
| 4.3         | Legislation  | N/A              | Revised Exhibit A and Exhibit B to Resolution No. 14-4500 | 11614c-05          |