



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Meeting Summary

Feb. 18, 2014

Metro Council Chamber

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

Councilors Excused: None

Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:01 p.m.

1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

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

- The volume of solid waste to process at Metro's solid waste facility sites.
- The Oregon Convention Center Hotel.
- Former Governor of Oregon, Barbara Roberts, will be presenting at a lunch and learn event on Thursday, March 9 at the Metro Regional Center for women's history month.
- The Oregon State Legislative Session. Councilors asked questions to clarify one another's understanding of their position as a Council and agreed that they neither support nor oppose House Bill 4078. Ms. Bennett provided a draft editorial letter from the Metro Council to interested media. Councilors gave feedback on language and clarity of message until all Councilors agreed to move forward with a further revised draft.

2. DISTRICT REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

Ms. Elissa Gertler and Ms. Megan Gibb provided a review of the draft work plan for Metro's District Revitalization Program and proposed activities.

The District Revitalization Program is part of the Development Center's work to help build vibrant, walkable neighborhoods and centers envisioned in the 2040 Growth Concept. Based on stakeholder feedback from community partners and lessons learned from pilot phase activities, staff has developed a work plan to describe the strategic focus of ongoing program activities, and to set forth the proposed governance structure for administration of the program and approval of program grants. Matching grants will be competitively awarded to qualifying private property owners and businesses that are willing to invest in their storefronts and demonstrate best practices for commercial district revitalization and redevelopment.

Ms. Gibb provided an overview of the program's pilot phase during 2013 including four main activities:

1. Outreach and education program
2. Get Street Smart workshops
3. Redevelopment feasibility analysis and design assistance
4. Storefront improvement grants

Ms. Gertler stated that the program will be expanding beyond the pilot cities and through the entire region. Staff shared maps of a preliminary assessment of eligible areas for the program, but stated that Metro will work with the City of Portland to establish a joint assessment.

Ms. Gertler shared with Council the ongoing program mission:

- Directly engage with small businesses, property owners, lenders and community groups to make great places
- Invest in transformational physical improvements that will revitalize emerging commercial districts
- Demonstrate best practices for redevelopment
- Stimulate and leverage future private sector investment

The work plan presentation identified the purpose, key elements, allocation of program resources, and what differentiates the program. Staff concluded the presentation with a preview of the anticipated timeline for the work plan and activities.

Council Discussion:

- Councilors expressed support for the program objectives and work plan.
- Council gave staff direction to include Council in overseeing amendments to the work plan, receiving regular updates, and approving development of a strategic plan.
- Councilor Dirksen encouraged staff to provide an annual reminder to partner groups so that small businesses are aware the program is available.
- Councilor Collette urged staff to recognize and market Metro's role in the program.
- Council discussed economic partnership opportunities through the program, scale of investments, and equality of access to opportunities.
- Council addressed potential obstacles for small business owners who rent their business space and shared possible mechanisms to involve the community and overcome funding limitations.

3. BREAK

Metro Council worked through the scheduled break.

4. SECOND QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Tim Collier provided a summary to Council of the second quarter financial report. The summary included general funds, solid waste, MERC and Construction Excise Taxes. Mr. Collier stated that expenditures are tracking below budget.

Mr. Collier directed Council's attention to a formula error on page 35 of the report which incorrectly totaled contracts at \$4.2 million.

Council Discussion:

- Council clarified that the local improvement assessment has been post-poned.
- Council and staff clarified that money out of the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program as well as Transit-Oriented Development funds are filed under Tri Met.
- Council requested follow up on the difference between the Regional Travel Plan and Regional Travel Options.
- Staff clarified that local shares of the regional acquisition program are allocated to specific governments.

5. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Jim Middaugh delivered a revised draft of the editorial letter discussed during Chief Operating Officer Communications

Metro Council shared updates on congestion pricing discussions, Climate Smart Communities Scenarios Project, 2015 Legislative session package from Metro, Gateway Green, and PCC Southeast Campus and the Powell-Division Project.

6. ADIURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Council work session at 3:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jill Schmidt".

Jill Schmidt, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF FEB. 18, 2014

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT NO.
1.0	Agenda	2/20/14	Council Agenda for Feb. 20, 2014	21814cw-01
1.0	Agenda	2/20/14	Council Work Session Agenda for Feb. 20, 2014	21814cw-02
1.0	Handout	2/18/14	Draft Letter from Metro Council	21814cw -03
1.0	PowerPoint	2/18/14	Revised Draft Letter from Metro Council	21814cw -04
2.0	PowerPoint	2/18/14	District Revitalization Presentation	21814cw-05