



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Meeting Summary

Mar. 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 2:02 p.m.

1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

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

- Professor John A. Powell will present in the Metro Council Chamber on March 24.
- Aziz Ansari will perform at Keller Auditorium March 26-27.
- Cirque de Soleil TOTEM opens March 27 for a limited engagement at Portland Expo Center.
- Portland Expo Center was voted No. 1 mid-sized convention and event center in the United States by the February issue of Trade Show Executive magazine.
- Adie Tomer from The Brookings Institution will give a presentation on global goods trade and regional economics on April 8.
- An anticipated Oregon Consensus Project presentation at JPACT on April 10.

2. 2014 LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Mr. Randy Tucker provided a summary to Council of the 2014 state legislative session, including House Bill 4029 and House Bill 4078.

Mr. Tucker briefed Council on House Bill 4078 concerning urban growth management and provided a corresponding summary by memo. He reminded Council that the urban growth report is due in the year 2014 and the urban growth management decision will be due the following year. Mr. Tucker addressed technical details of the HB 4078 ruling map that will be revised and how the 2014 decision on Metro's urban growth management may affect growth management decisions throughout the state.

Councilor Harrington asked for clarification concerning the outcomes of the Brownfields legislative decision.

Council President Hughes relayed County feedback concerning the Urban Growth Boundary remands. He expressed hope for less contentious UGB decisions in the future.

3. BREAK

Metro Council decided to work through the scheduled break.

4. 2015 GROWTH MANAGEMENT DECISION: REGIONAL POPULATION AND EMPLOYMENT FORECAST: RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT TRENDS

Mr. John Williams introduced Mr. Ted Reid and announced that the presentation on residential development trends would precede the presentation on regional population and employment forecast. Mr. Ted Reid introduced the work currently in progress at Metro and stated that results will be in the urban growth report, which will inform an urban growth management decision in 2015. He provided definitions of development categories: vacant land, infill, redevelopment, and refill for clarity.

The Urban Growth Boundary was first adopted in 1979 and expanded since to accommodate the growing regional population. Metro is mandated to assess the capacity of the region's urban growth boundary (UGB) every five years to determine whether it is adequate to accommodate the next 20 years of residential and employment growth. Metro last completed this analysis in the 2009 Urban Growth Report (UGR), which was the basis for the growth management decision made by the Metro Council in 2011. According to state law, the next UGR must be accepted by the Council by December 2014.

Mr. Reid gave an overview of residential development trends from 1998 to 2012 in the Urban Growth Boundary. Mr. Reid stated that most of the region's growth is occurring in existing urban areas as illustrated by the map illustrating new residential units permitted between 1998 and 2012. Mr. Reid cited development challenges in existing urban areas, but also stated that demand is high enough in some areas that challenges are being overcome.

Mr. Reid provided questions to consider regarding policy for Metro and local jurisdictions.

Council Discussion:

- Council President Hughes discussed the potential to measure community resistance to refill, infill, and redevelopment.
- Council discussed the relationship among redevelopment projects without master plans, community resistance, density objectives in codes and plans, and community engagement.
- Councilor Collette inquired as to the role of annexations in bringing viable employment or residential land into the region.

Mr. Reid introduced Dr. Tom Potiowsky, on the Chair of the Metro Regional Forecast Advisory Panel, who described recent economic conditions and how they influence thoughts on growth. Dr. Potiowsky's presentation included an overview of forecasted job growth, demographics, and immigration, for which the corresponding graphs can be found in the meeting packet. He shared an overview of recommendations from the Regional Forecast Advisory Panel, which have provided guidance to the current draft of the forecast.

Mr. Reid provided an overview of the latest urban growth forecast for the seven-county region surrounding Portland. He gave an overview of past regional forecasts' accuracy.

Council Discussion

- Council and staff discussed the relationship between population and employment in the Portland Metropolitan region.
- In response to questions from Council, Dr. Potiowsky explained that employment forecasts use less predictable assumptions than population forecasts and therefore have a larger range.
- Councilor Harrington sought greater predictability on climate change migration effects. Staff communicated that migration is the driver of uncertainty on population forecasts and climate change may influence future migration patterns.
- Councilor Chase expressed interest in population and employment trends' affects on income levels and housing. Dr. Potiowsky explained that housing will vary based on income levels and types of jobs available. Councilor Chase suggested that staff include more information on housing, income, and poverty in the UGR.
- Councilor Harrington suggested asking Metro Policy Advisory Committee partners how the UGR affects their work. Council identified housing and jobs imbalance alongside infrastructure finance as areas to address with MPAC.
- Councilor Stacey inquired about the possibility of in-migration overwhelming the urban growth boundary.
- Councilor Harrington inquired about family formation expectations.
- Councilor Harrington communicated her impression that LCDC is expanding expectations and demanding proof that plans are realistic.
- Councilor Dirksen advised staff to ask questions that will yield conclusions on whether risk is greater in over estimating or under.
- Councilor Stacey addressed the need for greater balance between jobs and housing.

COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Councilors gave updates on the following meetings and events: the Transportation Policy Group meeting, ID Southwest Advocacy Group meeting, Climate Smart Communities Project, Re-Interment Ceremony at the Oregon Zoo, Intertwine Alliance Summit, Powell-Division Corridor Transit and Development Project, River Island Restoration planning meeting, and upcoming Solid Waste work sessions.

Councilor Harrington presented a memo concerning funding for Hispanic engagement and requested Council feedback on providing \$8,500 to go toward funding minority inclusion and participation on the Council Creek Regional Trail and Climate Smart Communities projects. All Councilors gave thumbs up in support of moving forward with considering a resolution to allocate funding to Hispanic engagement.

5. ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Council work session at 4:54 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jill Schmidt". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the phrase "Respectfully submitted,".

Jill Schmidt, Council Policy Assistant

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

| ITEM | DOCUMENT TYPE | DOC DATE | DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION | DOCUMENT NO. |
|-------------|----------------------|-----------------|---|---------------------|
| 1.0 | Agenda | 3/20/14 | Council Agenda for Mar. 20, 2014 | 31814cw-01 |
| 2.0 | Memo | 3/14/14 | Memo on House Bill 4078 | 31814cw -02 |
| 4.0 | PowerPoint | 3/18/14 | 2015 Regional Urban Growth Management Decision: Draft Regional Population and Employment Forecast | 31814cw -03 |
| 4.0 | PowerPoint | 3/18/14 | 2015 Growth Management Decision: Residential Development Trends | 31814cw -04 |
| 5.0 | Memo | 3/18/14 | Memo on Funding for Hispanic engagement | 31814cw -05 |