

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING ) RESOLUTION NO 97-2552-~~F~~  
COMMUNICATION WITH CITIZENS )  
THROUGHOUT THE METRO REGION ) Introduced by the Government Affairs  
AND INCREASING EFFECTIVENESS ) Committee  
OF ADVISORY BODIES IN THE METRO )  
ORGANIZATION )

WHEREAS, Metro has won recognition in many areas of policy and management, and desires to continue to bring all activities to the highest standards; and

WHEREAS, Metro desires to encourage maximum public involvement; and

WHEREAS, Metro advisory groups should be utilized to the fullest extent, and recognized for their effort; and

WHEREAS, the Government Affairs Committee has held public hearings on these matters and received written and verbal communication from the public, citizens advisory committees and elected officials; and

WHEREAS, Metro desires to communicate as clearly and effectively with its citizens as possible; and

WHEREAS, the public are invited to testify before the Metro Council at all Council meetings; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Metro Council directs that the principles and recommendations in attachment A to this resolution will be put into effect throughout the Metro organization.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 1997.



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Jon Kvistad, Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



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Daniel B. Cooper, General Counsel

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Exhibit A to Resolution 97-2552A

- Council Evening Meetings  
The Council shall hold periodic evening council meetings so that people who work during the day are able to participate in council deliberations. The frequency of evenings meetings will be quarterly--the fourth Thursday of February, May, July and September--and they will commence at 7:00PM.
- Council Meetings in Councilor's Districts  
The Council shall hold one council meeting in each Metro Council district per year, upon request of the councilor for that district. This will increase citizen awareness of Metro's responsibilities and increase each Councilor's understanding of issues outside their own district.
- Recognition of Volunteers' Contribution  
An annual recognition event will be scheduled to honor all members of Metro's advisory committees.
- Meetings with Metro Boards Advisory Groups  
The Council will hold annual joint meetings with each of the following advisory committees:
  - \* Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) and Water Resources Policy Advisory Committee (WRPAC),
  - \* Metro Committee for Citizen Involvement (MCCI),
  - \* Friends of the Zoo (FOZ),
  - \* Greenspaces Policy Advisory Committee,
  - \* Solid Waste Policy Advisory Committee and Rate Review Committee (Regional Environmental Management),
  - \* Metro Exposition-Recreation Commission.
- Metro Council Agenda  
A standing time slot on the Metro Council agenda will be available for the MPAC. Other advisory committees are welcome to reserve a time slot on request.
- Elected Officials Orientation  
An elected officials orientation will be held following each election year.

**GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORT**

**CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 97-2552, FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING COMMUNICATION WITH CITIZENS THROUGHOUT THE METRO REGION AND INCREASING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ADVISORY BODIES IN THE METRO ORGANIZATION.**

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Date: August 20, 1997

Presented by Councilor Naito

**Background:** Committee work began on this item in spring of 1997. Two public hearings were held, and many individuals gave testimony including citizens, local government representatives and members of MCCI. The ideas from that testimony were included with those from the committee and other council members, and were fashioned into a draft resolution which was considered on July 22, 1997.

**Committee Recommendation:** At the July 22, 1997 meeting the Government Affairs Committee voted unanimously to recommend that this draft resolution be formalized, and moved to the Council for adoption. Voting in favor: Councilors McCaig and Naito.

**Committee Issues/Discussion:** The committee discussed both the issue of Council evening meetings and that of having one Council meeting in each councilor's district, during the course of a year, at the request of the councilor from that district. The chair stated that her belief was that evening meetings and meetings in councilor's districts were not mutually exclusive, which seemed to match with informal communication she had received from Councilor Morissette. After hearing public testimony, the committee agreed to state that the evening meetings identified in Exhibit A should commence at 7:00 PM.

Finally, there was agreement that relative to the Council having an annual meeting with specified Metro advisory groups, that this might take place as one meeting, with several groups combined, at the discretion of the Presiding Officer.

Exhibit A to Resolution 97-2552

- Council Evening Meetings  
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