



**METRO COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
June 26, 2014  
Metro, Council Chamber

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

Councilors Excused: All present. No excused.

Council President Hughes noted a quorum was present and called the council meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**1. INTRODUCTIONS**

Council President Hughes outlined the agenda and related logistics.

**2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS**

Les Poole, Gladstone, OR, spoke to the Council about the scope of Metro's work including land use and the Urban Growth Boundary, density, the zoo, and grants provided to parks and open space.

Ellen Ino, Portland, OR, spoke to the Metro Council regarding zoo employee's hours and notified the Council that she is going to increase her outreach regarding zoo employees and related issues.

Dana Carstensen, Hillsboro, OR, also spoke to the Council about investing in zoo employees including hourly wage, work hours, and employee relations.

**3. NORTH PORTLAND ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE 2014 CAPACITY BUILDING GRANT AWARDS**

Council President Hughes invited Metro staff Heather Kent to come forward and introduce Councilor Chase's invited guests. As Ms. Kent and guests were making their way to the testimonial desk, Council President Hughes asked Councilor Chase to make a few opening remarks. Councilor Chase spoke to Metro's investments in equality and how the North Portland Enhancement Committee 2014 Capacity Building Grants Program is an example of Metro's equality goals being moved

forward. He highlighted the grant programs history, allocation of funds, the hard work of the committee members, and then introduced Steve Joiner from the Kenton Neighborhood and Sean DeCarlo from the St. John Neighborhood.

Mr. Joiner briefed the Council on the North Portland Enhancement Committee's grant process and evaluation criteria. Mr. Decarlo did the same for the St. John's Neighborhood. He also identified the committee members and recognized their work. Ms. Kent showed a three minute video profiling one recipient's story from Momentum Alliance who applied for and received a grant.

Councilors expressed their appreciation for the committee's work and the real life stories of the grant recipients. They also noted other similar committee's look to the North Portland Enhancement Committee for leadership.

**4. FINANCIAL CONDITION OF METRO AUDIT REPORT**

Council President Hughes called on Metro Auditor Suzanne Flynn and her staff, Brian Evans, to present the audit report. Mr. Evans presented a PowerPoint. He noted that the June 26 presentation is the fourth in a series that provides a long term look at Metro's finances and trends.

Mr. Evans highlighted budget indicators including revenue trends, expenditure trends, general financial health, and trends in economic and demographics. He noted negative trends as being increased fixed costs, total debt, decreased liquidity, capital assets, and the value of new construction. Mr. Evans clarified that even with the negative trends Metro is in sound financial health with no recommendations in this report. He continued and spoke to revenue growth including the diversity of revenue sources, charges for services, taxes, and grants. Mr. Evans continued by highlighting expenditures including salary/wages and benefits, bond measures, liquidity as a comparison measure of short-term cash and short-term liabilities, and capital assets. Mr. Evans concluded with a summary of improving economic trends as they relate to per capita income and a lower unemployment rate.

Council spoke to such issues as setting aside reserves to safe guard assets, the importance of a management response, the importance of public accessibility and publishing information on the new Metro website, the value of new construction, and property value trends. Council President Hughes noted Metro's Director of Finance and Regulatory Services Tim Collier is in the audience and could provide answers to Council questions and comments. Mr. Collier responded to the points each councilor raised.

**5. SPONSORSHIP EXPENDITURE AUDIT REPORT**

Council President Hughes called on Metro Auditor Suzanne Flynn to present the Sponsorship Expenditure Audit Report. Auditor Flynn highlighted the purpose of the audit report, its process, criteria used, scope of work, and findings. The findings are formalized procedures to increase accountability and transparency including reporting of sponsorships that are awarded and how administrative resources are assigned, so the program can be monitored to ensure procedures are being followed and provide guidance to employees about proper coding and process.

After Auditor Flynn's brief overview, Council President Hughes called on Metro Council Policy Manager Ina Zucker to provide the management response. Ms. Zucker noted complete support for Auditor Flynn's finding regarding greater transparency and accountability and stated that there will be increased measures taken to do so. She highlighted the creation of an interdepartmental team to increase representation from every Metro department, a standardized application form, and the need for a method to publicize all materials related to sponsorships including application deadlines and criteria to name a few. Ms. Zucker also called for more staff education to achieve clear interface with the public and clear instructions for staff on how to handle sponsorship requests.

Council President asked his Council colleagues if there were any questions or comments after Ms. Zucker's management response.

Council spoke to their appreciation for both Auditor Flynn's work and that of Ms. Zucker. Other issues they spoke to include the need for Metro Council involvement and/or review of sponsorship requests, making sure there is sufficient oversight as to how well public funds are spent, process, and the need for clear and equitable criteria required by applicants.

**6. CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FOR JUNE 19, 2014**

**Council President Hughes introduced agenda item number five and asked for a motion. Councilor Harrington moved the meeting minutes for June 19. Councilor Stacey seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 7/0/0.**

**7. RESOLUTIONS**

**7.1 Resolution No. 14-4540, For the Purpose of Adopting the Southwest Corridor High Capacity Transit Alignment Options, Complementary Multimodal Projects and Potential Station Locations for Further Study.**

Council President Hughes asked the Council Administrator to read into the record the resolution by title only. Resolution No. 14-4540 was read into the record by title only.

Council President Hughes called for a motion and second. Councilor Stacey moved the resolution. Councilor Dirksen seconded.

Council President Hughes then asked Councilor Stacey and Councilor Dirksen if they had any introductory comments. Councilor Stacey noted that Councilor Dirksen and he were co-chairs of the Southwest Coordinator High Capacity Transit Project Steering Committee and provided a brief history of the project. He highlighted the Steering Committee's recommendations and project options. Councilor Dirksen commented on the wise investment of limited public dollars, memorization of the process the Steering Committee made in narrowing the high capacity transit options, and the certainty it provides regional partners. Councilor Stacey noted a letter from City of Portland Commissioner Steve Novick stating his support for the project.

Council President Hughes then called on Mayor John Cook of the City of Tigard, Mayor Lou Ogden of the City of Tualatin, and Dr. Neil McFarlane from TriMet for comments. All three gentlemen spoke in favor of the project.

Council President Hughes called Metro staff Malu Wilkinson to provide the staff report. Ms. Wilkinson presented a PowerPoint presentation and spoke to the projects purpose, history, process, regional partners, design options, and current status.

Council President Hughes asked if his fellow councilors had any questions or comments. Councilors spoke to their appreciation for the hard work from all of the regional partners and staff.

**Council President Hughes then called for a vote and directed the Council Administrator to call the roll. The motion passed unanimously 7/0/0.**

7.2 **Resolution No. 14-4537**, For the Purpose of Approving a Contract Amendment for Outside Legal Counsel.

Council President Hughes asked the Council Administrator to read into the record the resolution by title only. Resolution No. 14-4537 was read into the record by title only.

Council President Hughes called for a motion and a second. Councilor Harrington moved Resolution No. 14-4537. Councilor Collette seconded.

Council President Hughes called on Metro Attorney Allison Kean to present a brief staff report. Ms. Kean noted the resolution is the result of the Metro Public Contracting Code to amend and extend Metro's Bond Council Contract. She also noted associated timelines.

**Council President Hughes asked his Metro Colleagues if they had any questions or comments for Ms. Kean. Seeing none, he asked the Council Administrator to call the roll. The motion passed unanimously, 7/0/0.**

7.3 **Resolution No. 14-4531**, For the Purpose of Revenue Bond Issuance Authority for the Hotel Convention Center.

Council President Hughes asked the Council Administrator to read into the record the resolution by title only. Resolution No. 14-4531 was read into the record by title only.

Council President Hughes called for a motion and a second. Councilor Harrington moved Resolution No. 14-4531. Councilor Collette seconded.

Council President Hughes called on Metro staff Tim Collier to present the staff report. Mr. Collier noted the purpose of the resolution is to authorize the sale of bonds to assist with the funding and construction of the Convention Center Hotel, limits to amount, and repayment structure.

Council President Hughes asked the Metro Council if there were any questions or comments. Councilor Chase inquired about use of net proceeds. Mr. Collier answered his question.

**Seeing no further questions, Council President called for a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously, 7/0/0.**

7.4 **Resolution No. 14-4520**, For the Purpose of Authorizing Execution of Development and Finance agreement with Oregon Convention Center Hotel Project Developer.

Council President Hughes asked the Council Administrator to read into the record the resolution by title only. Resolution No. 14-4520 was read into the record by title only.

Council President Hughes called for a motion and a second. Councilor Chase moved Resolution No. 14-4520. Councilor Harrington seconded.

Council President Hughes then opened a public hearing on Resolution No. 14-4520 and called on members of the audience to testify. The Metro Council heard from four citizens including Michael Lewellen with the Portland Trail Blazers, Roy Jay with the Oregon Convention Services, private citizen Mary Ann Schwab, and private citizen Les Poole.

Council President Hughes called on Metro staff Tim Collier and Hillary Wilton to present the staff report. Mr. Collier and Ms. Wilton briefed Council on negotiations with Mortenson Development and Hyatt Hotel, type of agreements involved including the Room Block Agreement and Development and Finance Agreement, associated history and timelines, and next steps.

Council President Hughes asked the Councilors if they had questions and/or comments. Councilors spoke to protection of taxpayer dollars, investment made and return on investment, benefits to the region, investments in the local economy, a tool that will bring people to the Convention Center and the region, the project's history, job generator, benefits to local tax base, minimized risk of the public, allocation of funds and management of the Visitors Development Fund Board, and the Convention Center Hotel's role in attracting more and larger conventions to the region.

**Council President Hughes called for a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously 7/0/0.**

**8. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION**

Chief Operating Officer Martha Bennett spoke to her appreciation for all of the staff's focus and hard work relating to the Oregon Convention Center Hotel. She noted Metro was the recipient of the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 22<sup>nd</sup> year in a row by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. Ms. Bennett also commented on the addition of the Regional Transportation Plan to the July 8 Council work session. She also reminded the Council that it will be in recess the week of Monday, June 30 through Friday, July 4 and work session and Council meeting are cancelled. Ms. Bennett expressed her appreciation for those Metro departments that will not be closed for Independence Day, including the Oregon Zoo and all of Metro's parks. She highlighted the July 4 celebration at Blue Lake Park. Ms. Bennett concluded with reminding Council that she will be out the following week at the Oregon City County Manager's Summer Conference in Bend, OR and Deputy Chief Operating Officer Scott Robinson will be stepping in while she was away at the conference.

**9. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS**

Councilor Chase updated the Council on MPAC's meeting actions the night before. Councilor Craddick briefed the Council on two events around the region including the opening of the I-84 Bridge that crosses the Sandy River and the ground breaking ceremony for the Legacy Health Center in Gresham. Councilor Collette noted her upcoming attendance at an Oregon Motion Picture Association function in Clackamas County.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the regular meeting at approximately 5:00 PM. The Metro Council will convene in next regular council meeting on Thursday, July 10, at 2 p.m. at Mt. Hood Community College in the Town and Gown Room.

Respectfully submitted,



Troy Rayburn  
Council Administrator

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JUNE 26, 2014**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Doc. Date</b>	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>Doc. Number</b>
4.	Handout	6/26/2014	Copy of PowerPoint Presentation	62614c-01
6.	Handout	9/19/2014	Copy of June 19 Council Meeting Minutes	62614c-02
7.1	Testimonial Desk Display	6/13/2014	Hard copy of Steering Committee Recommendations on HCT Options, Multimodal Projects, and Potential Station Area for Further Study	62614c-03
7.4	Testimonial Desk Display	6/16/2014	Exhibit A DRAFT Development and Financing Agreement for the Oregon Convention Center Hotel	62614c-04