



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Meeting Minutes
July 8, 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 1:59 p.m.

1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

Deputy Chief Operating Officer Scott Robinson updated the Council on the following items:

- Logistics for Thursday's offsite Council meeting.
- Edward Humes' "Garbology" presentation at PSU on Thursday, July 10, and Friday, July 11 at Portland City Club.
- The joint work session with Metro Exposition and Recreation Commission (MERC) will be moved to a later date, at MERC's request.
- Councilor Chase will be attending a MERC session, where they will be discussing Metro's Equity Strategy.
- The Oregon Convention Center is on the front of the United Airlines in-flight magazine, and the Portland's Centers for the Arts received the 2014 Venue of Excellence Award.

2. EDUCATION PROGRAM INTEGRATION AND VISION – INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

Mr. Grant Spickelmier, Education Curator at the Oregon Zoo, provided an update on the zoo's Education Center and environmental literacy framework.

The purpose of this presentation was to provide Council with information and receive their input on the zoo's environmental literacy framework, and to provide Council with an update on development of the new education center.

The presentation's desired outcomes were to inform Council about the joint planning and implementation between the Oregon Zoo and Metro's Sustainability Center, the educational outcomes established to achieve the goals of the Oregon Environmental Literacy Plan, and the opportunities for providing input, while updating them on the progress for developing the future, bond-funded education center. Key elements included:

- An overview of Metro's conservation education program.
- The importance of integrated messaging, achieved through programs like the ZooQuest scavenger hunt.

- The Zoo Animal Presenters (ZAP) program, an internship that works to empower low-income teens from diverse backgrounds across the region
- Lessons and goals developed from conservation education efforts, including a shared commitment to holistic education, strength in diversity, importance in developing community partnerships, and the need for shared outcomes.
- The Environmental Literacy Framework (ELF). The role and goals of the Zoo's new Education Center, as a component of Metro's larger conservation education mission.

Mr. Spickelmier stated that next steps will include external stakeholder review of ELF, an evaluation plan, and a gap analysis of existing programs.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Chase offered his support for ensuring diversity in the Zoo's conservation education programs, and inquired about Metro's mechanisms for evaluating the diversity of those reached by these efforts. Councilors spoke to their roles in sharing the message of Metro's conservation education programs. Councilor Harrington mentioned Council's key role in approving and adopting program outcomes. Councilors expressed concerns about the feasibility of incorporating all of Metro's conservation programs into the new Education Center, to which Mr. Spickelmier suggested that the Education Center would only be a physical representation of Metro's conservation initiatives, and that programs surrounding it would more adequately convey all of Metro's conservation stories.

Following this discussion, Councilor Carlotta Collette was excused from the meeting at 3pm.

3. 2014 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) ORDINANCE NO. 14-1340 – INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

Ms. Elissa Gertler, Director of Metro Planning and Development, and Mr. John Williams, Deputy Director of Metro Planning and Development, requested that Councilor Stacey initiate this discussion, as it pertained to his memo.

Councilor Stacey expressed concern that changes made to the 2014 Draft Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) were not shared with Council, particularly changes regarding the definition and application of pedestrian safety standards. Councilor Stacey suggested restoring the original language regarding safe pedestrian crossings on arterials every 530 feet, as it existed prior to alterations made in response to concerns from Washington County.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Harrington expressed her appreciation for Councilor Stacey highlighting this issue, and expressed concern that staff had altered RTP policy language, at the request of Washington County, without Council's input.

Councilors discussed their concerns regarding the limited timeframe for considering the RTP update.

Council President Hughes raised concerns about this issue's classification as a policy issue.

Councilor Dirksen spoke to differences in cities' philosophies regarding transportation planning.

Council President Hughes invited Washington County Policy Analyst Christina Deffebach, and City of Beaverton Senior Transportation Planner Todd Juhasz to the table. Ms. Deffebach spoke to

ensuring that the RTP accurately characterizes regional policy. Ms. Deffebach summarized the viewpoint of Washington County staff with respect to the 530 feet crossing issue.

Councilors expressed a desire to develop language for the RTP update that includes further safety improvements.

Councilor Stacey motioned to amend the 2014 Draft RTP update, to strike the phrase “regional policy calls for” and replace it with “arterials should include,” in the phrase “regional policy calls for safe crosswalks, spaced no more than 530 feet apart” (see Chapter 2, Page 80 and Appendix 6.1, Comment 215). Councilor Harrington seconded the motion. Councilors asked clarifying questions and discussed presentation of the revised language at the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) meeting on July 10. Council President Hughes called for a vote of thumbs to approve Councilor Stacey’s motion. All Councilors present voted in favor of the motion, and it carried unanimously (6-0-0, with Councilor Collette absent).

Council President Hughes called for more discussion regarding the 2014 Draft RTP update. Councilor Harrington expressed concerns that, at the urging of Washington County staff, Metro staff changed the Draft RTP to include projects for grade-separation at the Cornell-185th and Walker-185th intersections (see Appendix 6.1, Comment 152). Councilor Harrington expressed her discomfort with supporting an RTP that approves grade-separation at these intersections. Councilor Stacey articulated his support for Councilor Harrington’s concerns. Council President Hughes pointed to this issue as one where identifying a consistent regional policy would be difficult without the context of specific projects.

Councilor Harrington shared her other concerns regarding changes made following the public comment period for the Draft 2014 RTP update. She requested assurance that all items agreed to by Council in the TV Highway corridor plan are consistent with the corridor description in the latest version of the Draft 2014 RTP update, and expressed her discomfort with a request by Washington County to change the word “should” to the word “may” in the statement: “Efforts should include...” (see Page 2-37, and Comment 215 of Appendix 6.1).

4. METRO ATTORNEY COMMUNICATIONS

Metro Council agreed to move this agenda item to the July 15 work session agenda.

5. COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Councilor Harrington shared her concerns regarding inconsistencies in the application of Resolution No. 14-4523. She stated that staff has researched methods used by other jurisdictions in implementing similar, bond-funded art programs. Councilor Craddick relayed an announcement regarding the grand opening of the Scouters Mountain Nature Park on Aug. 28.

6. ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Council work session at 4:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Joel Cvetko, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JUL. 8, 2014

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT NO.
1.0	Agenda	7/8/14	Council Agenda for Sep. 10, 2014	7814cw-01
2.0	Handout	7/8/14	ZooQuest Passport	7814cw-02
3.0	Handout	7/8/14	Staff Response to Councilor Stacey	7814cw-03
3.0	Handout	7/8/14	Letter from Mayor Denny Doyle	7814cw-04
3.0	Handout	7/8/14	Washington County Interoffice Memorandum	7814cw-05