



METRO COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting Minutes

Aug. 7, 2014

Metro, Council Chamber

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

Councilors Excused: Councilor Sam Chase

Council President Tom Hughes called the regular council meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

There were none.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

Ellen Ino, Portland: Ms. Ino discussed employment status at the Oregon Zoo and her five-year long campaign advocating for the creation of permanent positions. She proposed a guarantee of a minimum number of hours per week for year-round and seasonal employees with augmentations for operational needs. She argued that permanent employment status would reduce costs for Metro and shared the response from Zoo's management team as heard by employees.

Dana Carstensen, Hillsboro: Mr. Carstensen shared frustrations in his experience as an employee at the Oregon Zoo regarding livability of current wages. He addressed Metro's investments in planning and economic policies relative to the wage ceiling that employees at the zoo face. He shared a recent report from S&P arguing that inequitable employee-employer relationships undermine future generations and markets.

Les Poole, Gladstone: Mr. Poole discussed regional angst due to infill imposed upon communities. He addressed Council's political agenda and shortcomings in planning for the future. Mr. Gladstone stated that Metro Council is responsible for too much land-use planning and needs reform relative to ORS 268 authorizations.

Ron Swaren, Portland: Mr. Swaren spoke to Council on his past and current involvement in planning the Columbia River Crossing. He stated his support for a new bridge West of Interstate-5, generally referred to as the Northwestern Arterial Route, and the possible modes of transportation that it could serve. In response to Councilor Craddick, Mr. Swaren stated that he is seeking to know if University of California – Berkeley could do an evaluation on the bridge project.

Roxanne Ross, Gresham: Ms. Ross discussed the Powell-Division high-capacity transit corridor project and the effects of the project that she anticipates on arterials between Gresham and Portland. She shared her understanding of the proposed plans and stated that Metro's 2040 Growth Concept is not taking into account the economic restraints and individuals' need to use arterials to

commute to and from work in the region. Ms. Ross stated that cities like Gresham could not afford the transit projects that support Metro's high-capacity transit focus. She argued that the use of light-rail in every recent transit corridor project indicates light-rail will be used on Powell-Division.

Councilors Craddick and Stacey responded to Ms. Ross' concerns with assurance that a timeframe for determining the mode of transit to use had not been determined and that there is not an operating assumption that space will be eliminated as part of the process.

Sharon Nasset, Portland: Ms. Nasset shared options to address congestion in absence of the Columbia River Crossing (CRC) project. She proposed updating the Burlington Northern Rail Bridge; shortening bridge lift times, a bicycle-pedestrian promenade connecting Vancouver and Jantzen Beach, seismically retrofitting the bridge, and opening high-occupancy vehicle lanes.

Nadine Zimmer, Portland: Ms. Zimmer stated she was appalled by the Council's stoicism over the past year in response to citizen concerns for elephant conditions at the Oregon Zoo. She identified and discussed four issues: lack of transparency, failure to carry out elected duties, gross mismanagement, and resisting public participation in decision-making.

Sandy Miller, Portland: Ms. Miller argued that captive breeding programs of mammals should end. She shared an article on elephants and chimpanzees that described their relationship behavior. She stated that elephants are distinguished and threatened as mammals by their immense size.

Courtney Scott, Portland: Ms. Scott discussed the elephants at the Oregon Zoo and intent to increase the herd from eight to 19 through forced mating practices. She expressed concern for the elephants' health despite the Zoo's promotion of Elephant Lands.

Sundari Sitaram, Washougal: Ms. Sitaram stated that she stands in solidarity with Free the Oregon Zoo Elephants and expressed disappointment in the zoo's breeding program. She proposed shifting the dialogue and the legacy for future generations.

Bette Steruk, Portland: Ms. Steruk provided examples of historical leaders in movements they were not initially proponents of. She read a quote from Martin Luther King Jr., urging a radical revolution of values and stated that Metro and the public could accomplish a revolution.

Shan Gupta, Portland: Mr. Gupta discussed the status of Portland as a progressive city to be modeled after and identified freeing elephants of the Oregon Zoo as an opportunity to stand as a leader. He stated that he is a member of Idealists.Org, a group that supports freeing the elephants from the zoo.

3. GLEAN RECYCLED ART PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Councilor Collette introduced the GLEAN recycled arts program, an environmental arts and education program Metro helped launch four years ago to prompt people to think about their consumption habits, inspire creative reuse, and initiate larger conversations about waste generation. A jury of arts and environmental professionals select five local artists to participate in the show. The artists are given a stipend and six months of scavenging privileges and access to the region's discards dropped off at Metro Central Transfer Station. Each artist creates 10 pieces to exhibit and sell. The exhibition opens Friday, August 8 at Disjecta Contemporary Art Center in North Portland at 6 pm.

Mr. Paul Slyman, Director of Parks and Environmental Services, discussed the work entailed in processing waste and the human side of waste habits as captured in Natalie Sept's Waste Not series. Waste Not is a collection of portraits of employees at Metro's transfer stations displayed alongside the GLEAN pieces. He also discussed Metro's Let's Talk Trash Series and Metro's partnership with Recology.

Mike Sangiacomo, President and CEO of Recology, discussed Recology, the region's recovery goals, and the inspiration for GLEAN.

Amy Wilson, CrackedPots and GLEAN Program Manager, shared information about the artists and their work displayed at the GLEAN exhibit.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion:	Councilor Shirley Craddick moved to approve Aug. 7 Consent Agenda, which consisted of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consideration of the Council Minutes for Jul. 31, 2014; and• Resolution No. 14-4551, For the Purpose of Designating Lone Fir Cemetery as a Park Area in which Alcoholic Beverages may be Consumed Subject to a Speak Use Permit.
Second:	Councilor Craig Dirksen seconded the motion.

Vote: Council President Hughes, and Councilors Craddick, Harrington, Dirksen, Collette and Stacey voted in support of the motion. The vote was 6 ayes, the motion passed unanimously.

5. **RESOLUTIONS**

5.1 **Resolution No. 14-4543**, For the Purpose of Accepting the May 20, 2014 Primary Election Abstract of Votes for Metro.

Resolution No. 14-4543, if approved, would accept the official Abstract of Votes of the May 20, 2014 Primary Election held in the State of Oregon. The following candidates appeared on the Primary Election ballot in accordance with ORS Chapter 249:

1. Metro Council President;
2. Metro Councilor, Sub District 1;
3. Metro Councilor, Sub District 2;
4. Metro Councilor, Sub District 4; and
5. Metro Auditor

Motion:	Councilor Kathryn Harrington moved to approve Resolution No. 14-4543.
Second:	Councilor Carlotta Collette seconded the motion.

Vote:

Council President Hughes, and Councilors Craddick, Harrington, Dirksen, Collette and Stacey voted in support of the motion. The vote was 6 ayes, the motion <u>passed</u> unanimously.
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The Multnomah County Elections Division will send certificates of election to the successful Metro candidates, who will take office and start their terms in January, 2015.

5.2 **Resolution No. 14-4552**, Authorizing Refunding of General Obligation Bonds for Present Value Savings.

Council President Hughes introduced Resolution No. 14-4552, which if approved would authorize Metro to issue tax-exempt general obligation bonds to refinance the callable portion of the outstanding 2007 series Natural Areas bonds.

Motion:	Councilor Kathryn Harrington moved to approve Resolution No. 14-4552.
Second:	Councilor Bob Stacey seconded the motion.

Mr. Tim Collier, Director of Finance and Regulatory Services, provided a brief staff report. Mr. Collier stated that the refunding of the Natural Areas series 2007 general obligation bonds would restructure terms of the bond, shorten the maturity date of the bond from June 2026 to the current proposed date of June 2020. The authorization would allow Metro to better manage the rate pledge and general rates. He stated that the restructuring is anticipated to save approximately \$12.2 million in gross savings over the life of the bond or about \$8.9 million in net present value savings. The final structure of the bond will be determined at a later date to provide the maximum benefit to Metro.

Council discussion

Council complimented staff for being cognitive of market fluctuations. In response to Council inquiry, Mr. Collier stated that he could provide total reduction amounts in borrowing costs at a later date. He stated that the rate would be changing from 12 cents per thousand to 16 centers per thousand, but the payments will end six years earlier.

Vote:

Council President Hughes, and Councilors Craddick, Harrington, Dirksen, Collette and Stacey voted in support of the motion. The vote was 6 ayes, the motion <u>passed</u> unanimously.
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6. **CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION**

Ms. Martha Bennett provided updates on the following items:

- Metro received a grant from Oregon Parks and Recreation Department for \$287,500 for the Tualatin River Boat Launch project. Construction is anticipated to begin and end in 2016.
- The launch of an Opt-In survey as part of the planning effort for the Conservation Education Center. The survey accessible through the Oregon Zoo website's main page.

- Lloyd district MAX and bus services will be disrupted from Aug. 11 and 15 between the Convention Center and Lloyd Center due to construction improvements on NE 11th street.

7. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings or events: Visitor Development Fund Task Force, Oregon Zoo Foundation Board of Directors meeting, quarterly exchanges, Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) Finance Subcommittee, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) pertaining to Willamette Falls Legacy Project approved by Clackamas County, C4, Eagle Landing project, and the Yurok Tribe MOU with United States Fish and Wildlife Service regarding release of condors.


Council President Hughes provided an update on the Convention Center Hotel.

Council President Hughes sought Council approval for Council and Metro Exposition Recreation Commission (MERC) to accept an invitation to a local “familiarization tour” later in August. All six Councilors present approved Council and MERC’s participation in the tour.

8. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the regular meeting at 3:28 p.m. The Metro Council will convene the next regular Council meeting on Thursday, Aug. 14 at 2 p.m. at Metro’s Council Chamber.

Respectfully submitted,



Jill Schmidt, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF AUG. 7, 2014

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
2.0	Testimony; Handout	7/2/2013	Better Alternatives to CRC: Third Bridge	80714c-01
2.0	Testimony; Handout	N/A	Immediate Congestion Relief	80714c -02
2.0	Handout	3/1/2014	Free the Elephants and Orcas in Captivity	80714c -03
2.0	Testimony; Handout	8/7/2014	From Courtney Scott	80714c -04
4.1	Minutes	7/31/2014	Council Minutes for July 31, 2014	80714c -05
5.1	Legislation	6/9/2014	Exhibit B to Resolution No. 14-4543	80714c -06