

## MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, May 18, 2004  
Metro Council Chamber

Councilors Present: David Bragdon (Council President), Susan McLain, Carl Hosticka, Rod Park, Rod Monroe, Rex Burkholder, Brian Newman

Councilors Absent:

Council President Bragdon convened the Metro Council Work Session Meeting at 1:06 p.m.

### **1. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, MAY 20, 2004.**

Council President Bragdon reviewed the May 20, 2004 Council agenda. He noted the amendment packet for Goal 5 (a copy of which is included in the meeting record). He noted Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) amendments, which would have to be moved by one of the councilors. Councilor McLain asked about Councilor Newman's amendment on noxious weeds. Councilor Newman explained that his amendment was a list of noxious plants. Councilor Hosticka noted that some of the amendments were cross over amendments. Council President Bragdon and Councilor Hosticka spoke to their amendments, which were similar. Councilor McLain expressed concerns about site specifics. Paul Garrahan, Metro Assistant Attorney, spoke to Councilor Hosticka's amendment and felt it was OK. He thought the language gave the direction, as it would direct staff to look at that category. Council President Bragdon clarified that the example was just that, an example. Mr. Garrahan shared his concern about site-specific decisions. Councilor Park asked about Councilor Newman's amendment and suggested that there may already be a list to start with. Councilor Newman said if a list was already developed they didn't have to start from the beginning.

Councilor McLain asked about the MPAC amendment and the word "recognizing". The word "recognize" was bothering her. Mr. Garrahan said there were a number of different comments received. City of Portland had raised similar issues about using a baseline of local Goal 5 programs. Councilor McLain said they had this discussion when they addressed the inventory. Mr. Garrahan clarified that when we developed a program, staff should keep in mind what was included in the local programs. Councilor McLain suggested language, "as the program was developed". Mr. Garrahan said he didn't think anything in the language was legally binding. He said MPAC's concern was to recognize the local programs. Councilor Park asked was it recognizing existing local Goal 5 and their acknowledgement or was it recognizing local Goal 5, which haven't been acknowledged? Andy Cotugno, Planning Director, said he felt MPAC's comment had to do with recognizing how to integrate local Goal 5 programs with Metro's Goal 5 program. MPAC was asking Metro to recognize that there was currently some protection. Finally, they may need to be specific about what happened if a program was already exceeding our Goal 5 minimums. Chris Deffebach, Planning Department, said Eric Sten brought this issue up at MPAC. They had also received a letter from the City of Portland that might clarify the issue. Councilor McLain said she felt Mr. Cotugno's clarified the issues well. Councilor Hosticka said he felt that they wanted to remain vague.

Council President Bragdon explained his amendment concerning vesting. His second amendment had to do with town centers being moved into the regional centers category. He said Amendments 4 and 5 were technical amendments. Ms. Deffebach explained Amendments 4 and 5. Councilor

McLain said she felt Bragdon Amendment #2 might be controversial. If you put the town centers in with other economic development areas, will we have a mess? Council President Bragdon said there was still a three-tier level.

Councilor Burkholder asked about MPAC amendments. Ms. Deffebach clarified her memo concerning MPAC's recommendations. Most of their comments were already in an exhibit. There was no need to create an amendment. Councilor Hosticka said the Goal5tac/WRPAC were similar. He felt it was good procedure to go through each one individually. Council President Bragdon asked if he was supportive of Goal5tac/WRPAC amendments. Councilor Hosticka said he felt he would support all of them. Council President Bragdon asked if he would move these as a block. Councilor Hosticka said he had to think about it. Council President Bragdon suggested that they do them one at a time. Councilor Park noted that this would be a minimum program. Were there some programs that had a higher standard? Ms. Deffebach said some of the city's t-zones were close. Councilor Park said when this was presented will it be stated that this was a minimum program? Mr. Cotugno said they were getting more letters in so they would be analyzing them. Ms. Deffebach said they would continue to address any issues that came up. Councilor McLain said she felt this discussion was very fruitful.

## **2. DOWNTOWN MALL ALIGNMENT RECOMMENDATION**

Richard Brandman, Planning Department, said Ross Roberts and he had spent most of the week with federal officials. They were doing a reorganization of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). He then spoke to Resolution No. 04-3434, which endorsed the Mayor's recommendation concerning the downtown mall alignment. This would reinforce the local alternative. It selected the tracks to the right side. He spoke to the benefits of the right side. It would also allow for a continuous auto lane. The resolution came unanimously from the Mayor's committee and was endorsed unanimously by Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (TPAC) and Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT). Councilor Newman asked if the map was the most up to date. Dave Unsworth, Planning Department, said the program continued to evolve and was in the engineering phase. Mr. Brandman talked about the gap in funding for I-205. They were working on reducing project costs. They were going back to Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and asking for an additional \$5 million. Council President Bragdon asked if Councilors concurred with the recommendation. Councilors agreed with the recommendation. Councilor Monroe said all of the players agreed.

## **3. REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS PROGRESS REPORT**

Lydia Neill, Planning Department, introduced Doug Rux, Regional Economic Development Partners Chair. Mr. Rux provided a power point presentation (a copy of which is included in the meeting record). He spoke to the findings of the task force. They needed a regional strategy. He spoke to industry clusters. They needed to have broad public/private partnership. They needed to tie this into industry needs. They hadn't proactively marketed this region. He talked about benchmarking, where we were going and how successful we had been. They needed to look at other regions as well. The strategy in place was the "what", six areas of economic focus. In the six-month work plan they were looking at four categories. He spoke to their accomplishments, detailed in the power point presentation. He noted their mission and guiding principles such as collaboration. He said success of one community was success of all. They needed to think globally. He talked about the economic structural shift. A common theme was work force and educational issues. Each cluster had a unique set of needs. Keeping the presence of Research & Development was an indication that that company would stay in the area. He talked about industrial land issues such as sites that were ready to go, brown field constraints, and

infrastructure. They brought in site selectors. He talked about the regional marketing efforts, which was the six county area. He talked about regionalism and the Partnership group as the convener.

Charlie Allcock updated the Council on what had been going on in the market place. They saw a tremendous increase in activities last year, which was continuing this year. Companies were doing their research on their own and moving quickly. He said it was a global competition. They strived to make sure the Portland region was on the list. They were providing a lot of data to these companies to make a decision in support of Portland. The companies looked at the fundamentals first and then quality of life issues. They polled companies about Portland. Portland was not high on the radar screen. He talked about certified acres for industrial use in the Portland. There were only three, two of which were only for lease. He then spoke to work force issues. He said our rule making was more detailed. He then spoke to their action plan. They wanted to continue to provide this Council and other groups with regular market updates. Councilor Burkholder asked Mr. Allcock about education and site readiness. He saw these were missing. He thought it was an issue of equal opportunity as well. What kind of level of discussion had they had about education? What were some initiatives that they might need to consider? Mr. Allcock responded that federal resources were addressing the work force training piece. He talked about private sector training. He felt they were making progress on the work force training. The Partners had all bought into this effort. They were part of the community. Marty Harrison Portland Development Commission said they targeted the metals industry. They had been working with both high school and community colleges to support preparedness for this area. They were educating both the students and the parents. She spoke to the partnership between the industry and the education system. It was not a perfectly orchestrated effort but it was getting done in big chunks. Councilor Monroe asked about perception of this state and region in terms of our business climate and that it was not very good. Mr. Allcock said they didn't hear the tax issue much. It came down to a perception on how easy was it to get from here to there. It came down to their confidence level as to getting a project up and running, done on time and hopefully under budget. Councilor Monroe summarized that if we could streamline rules, regulations, processes, and licensing, they might be more perceptive to coming to Portland. Councilor Park talked about Portland Oregon Visitors Association's surveys concerning perception of Portland. He talked about the trading sector. The general public had no idea what we were talking about. He said Oregon had a trade deficit. People didn't understand this. There was a disconnect. Councilor McLain asked about business looking at it an easier way. What does that system mean? She didn't think detail or the lack of it caused business concerns. They needed to have a process to make the system refined and understandable. The policy and administrative processes needed to be clear. Councilor McLain suggested giving them details about how they could do it in a different way. She then spoke as a teacher and said what did it mean to be a world worker? Business needed to figure out how to make folks aware internationally.

#### **4. STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATION AGENDA**

Randy Tucker, Public Affairs and Government Relations Department, briefed Council on the legislative plan process. He spoke to the elements of the climate such as land use. He talked about the House Land Use Review Committee. They have had a couple of hearings. They were having a series of hearings around the State. The Chair of the Committee was Rep. Bill Girard. There will be a public hearing in the region. Councilor Park had testified before the Committee. It wasn't clear where this committee was going. The Speaker of the House announced a special session. The Senate had not announced their participation yet. The focus was tax reform. Things were divided between the two houses. Councilor Burkholder asked if this committee was friendly to the existing land use system. Mr. Tucker said no, he felt they weren't supportive of the existing

land use system. In the absence of a statutorily created committee, this committee was formed. Land Conservation Development Commission (LCDC) had also been asked by the governor to take a look at the land use system. Councilor Hosticka asked if they had a rough timeframe when the committee would hold a hearing on the region. Mr. Tucker said the schedule was not available yet. Councilor Hosticka hoped that we would have a response to these questions before the hearing. Mr. Tucker said creating a set of principles would be a good opportunity to provide a framework for land use issues. He also noted Oregonians in Action petitioning to create a pay requirement for land use, farm practice, and forest practice regulations to pay landowners.

He talked about his beginning processes, which were to interview many of the directors. He felt this hadn't been fruitful. He was hopeful to develop a legislative agenda with input from the Council. He addressed the stages he was going through, identifying a set of people who would be contacts for specific legislation that might appear. He also planned to do outreach within the region and outside the region to pull together a list of options to present to the Council. He would ask Council to prioritize those issues. He suggested Council adopt formally positions on bills and their own initiatives as well as a set of principles. Council President Bragdon asked about the mechanism to embrace Council's issues. Mr. Tucker said he had already sat down once with Councilors. He would be doing this again. He would compile a legislative list for Councilors to rank. Councilor Burkholder suggested that staff build up their staff skill levels. He also suggested looking at a regional agenda that Metro could take a lead on. It was a two way street. He added that they needed to look for opportunities to work with state agencies on proposed legislation. He felt we needed to do these early. Mr. Tucker said the state agencies had already been asked to submit their primary legislative issues.

Councilor McLain said Metro always had a hard time being proactive. It was a challenge for this year. She wanted to have an opportunity to answer those questions as a Council. She also suggested that we were lucky to have a governor that wanted to look at overhauling land use rules. This agency should have a regional effort on this. Councilor Newman suggested that when he met with elected officials in their districts that he let the Councilor know as a courtesy. Second, he asked about the revenue picture at the state level. Mr. Tucker said his vague impression was that it was slightly improving. Councilor Park suggested looking for advantages were Metro could be additive rather than duplicative. He gave an example on Title 3. He felt this would show value to locals and to the legislature. Councilor Monroe said they had been successful in stopping bad legislation in the past. He felt we would continue to be successful. A much greater threat was Son of 7. This would be a real battle and difficult for us to win. He had some suggestions on some proactive approaches. In a split legislature they would have to work with other groups to get legislation through. Council President Bragdon asked at what point did we partner with other groups about a legislative agenda. Mr. Tucker responded that he would be happy to sit down with the lobbyists at any point. Dan Cooper, Metro Attorney, said some of these alliances needed to be forged at the Council level. Councilor Burkholder reminded Council about the summit on June 4<sup>th</sup> to get together to identify issues and shared energies. Council President Bragdon suggested being involved in the League of Cites conference in November 2004. He asked if we should send a delegation to the League of Cities forum. Mr. Cooper thought it was a good idea.

**5. EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD PURSUANT TO ORS 192.660 (1) (d) FOR THE PURPOSE OF DELIBERATING WITH PERSONS DESIGNATED TO CONDUCT LABOR NEGOTIATIONS.**

Kevin Dull spoke in open session about health insurance plans that had been selected for employees at Metro. The Joint Labor Management Committee (JLMC) had recommended two

plans, ODS and Kaiser. The Kaiser plan was under the cap by \$1.00. The ODS was over the cap. . The *Lets Talk* piece about health care plans had been distributed to staff. Kerry Gilbreth, Benefits Manager, talked about why we were experiencing increases in health insurance. They had looked at what was driving up costs (a copy of the Providence Health Plan Employer Forum). Council President Bragdon asked about the trends. Ms. Gilbreth said Medicare and Medicaid would not continue to increase. Charity and bad debt had steadily increased. Councilor Hosticka said those that didn't pay or underpay, forced the rest of us to pay more. He suggested this might be part of our legislative agenda. Council President Bragdon asked if our plan was different than other entities. Ms. Gilbreth talked about charity dollars that the hospitals had spent which was increasing. It was going up incrementally. Ms. Gilbreth said there had been a 300% increase in advertising. She then addressed the bad debt increases. Many of these increases were indicative of our unemployment. Councilor Park asked about the correlation between unemployment rates and health care cost increases. Ms. Gilbreth said she would check into this. Council President Bragdon asked about the increase in workers compensation. Mr. Dull responded that we had an aging nursing work force and more patients that they were lifting. They were working on the wellness committee to keep employees healthy.

Members Present: Kevin Dull, Dan Cooper, Bill Stringer, Ruth Scott and Reed Wagner

Time began: 3:18pm

Time ended: 3:26 pm

#### **6. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

There were none.

#### **7. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION**

There were none.

#### **8. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION**

Councilor Monroe spoke to two budget amendments he wanted to propose, one on the regional system fee and one on the neighborhood clean-up grants. He provided details for these amendments. He asked Council to consider both amendments. Council President Bragdon asked about neighborhoods charging for the neighborhood clean-up grants. Councilor Monroe said he assumed that this was still being done. Councilor Burkholder asked if this would effect our revenue legislation being consider this Thursday. Councilor Monroe responded to his question. Council President Bragdon asked if the regional system fee would have to be amended. Councilor Monroe said he would send copies of all of the data to each councilor.

Councilor McLain asked about item 4.3 on the May 20<sup>th</sup> Council agenda, Ordinance No. 04-1052. She indicated that they hadn't had an opportunity to discuss this issue. Council President Bragdon said this was all part of the budget process. Councilor McLain said they hadn't discussed the issue thoroughly. Councilor Newman said the biggest concern he had was what the criterion was for spending the money. He was going to say that he wouldn't vote for this until they determined what the money was going to be spent for and how it would be spent. Councilor McLain talked about the management issue. She suggested creating an opportunity to be proactive. Councilor Burkholder said this was a way to get them to come to the table. Councilor Newman said he wouldn't vote to spend a dime before criterion was established.

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There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 3: 40 p.m.

Prepared by,

Chris Billington  
Clerk of the Council

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 18, 2004**

Item	Topic	Doc Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1	Agenda	5/20/04	Metro Council Agenda for May 20, 2004 Council meeting	051804c-01
1	Amendments	5/18/04	To: Metro Council From: Chris Deffebach, Planning Department Re: Resolution No. 04-3440, Goal 5 proposed amendments	051804c-02
3	Power Point Presentation	May 18, 2004	To: Metro Council From: Doug Rux, Regional Economic Development Partners Chair Re: Update to the Metro Council on Regional Economic Development Partners Activities	051804c-03
2	Public Discussion Draft	March 1, 2004	To: Metro Council From: Richard Brandman, Planning Department Re: Portland Mall Revitalization Concept Design Report	051804c-04
2	Resolution	5/20/04	Resolution No. 04-3434, For the Purpose of Endorsing the Final Conceptual Design Report for the Portland Mall Segment of the South Corridor Project	051804c-05
4	Press Release	5/11/04	To: Metro Council From: Randy Tucker, Public Affairs and Government Relations Department Re: Press release on House Land Use Review Committee to Field Public Responses on Friday, May 14, 2004 in Klamath Falls	051804c-06
5	Employer Forum handout	1/14/04	To: Metro Council From: Kerry Gilbreth, Benefits Manager Re: Providence Health Plan Employer Forum	051804c-07