

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, June 15, 2004
Metro Council Chamber

Councilors Present: Brian Newman (Deputy Council President), Carl Hosticka, Rod Park, Rod Monroe

Councilors Absent: Susan McLain (excused), Rex Burkholder (excused) David Bragdon (excused)

Deputy Council President Newman convened the Metro Council Work Session Meeting at 1:07 p.m.

1. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, JUNE 17, 2004.

Deputy Council President Newman reviewed the June 17th Council agenda. Casey Short and Karen Feher, Financial Planning Department, gave an overview of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Mr. Short noted the other two pieces of legislation that concerned finances, FY 2004-05 Budget and Financial policies. Mr. Short noted several amendments, which added a couple of CIP projects. Exhibits A & B provided a list of the CIPs. Councilor Monroe asked what were some of the projects. Mr. Scott responded there were several projects at MERC, the biggest single project was land acquisition for the regional parks program. He also noted the Great Northwest project at the Zoo. This was not a year for big projects. Councilor Park asked about the bridges for Springwater. Wasn't it being done by City of Portland? Mr. Short explained that once the project was done, we would have deed to it.

2. CARBON MONOXIDE AIR QUALITY PLAN

Dave Nordberg, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), and Mark Turpel, Planning Department, presented the topic. Mr. Turpel explained that DEQ did this every two years. There were some of the aspects that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) must do. He would be discussing control measures. Mr. Nordberg provided a power point presentation (a copy of which is included in the record). He said there were some items that they were seeking Council approval on. He spoke to the history of air quality in the region. In the early 90s we were out of compliance, since then air quality has improved. Councilor Monroe asked when we began testing carbons. Mr. Nordberg said he thought around 1975. Our air quality had improved significantly. He spoke to air quality readings. He then spoke to the plan that they were currently developing. He said the biggest issue was whether they should continue to wintertime-oxygenated fuel. They were writing their program now. He sought Council's guidance and opinions on the plan. He said Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) said they would like to take up the issue of wintertime-oxygenated fuel. They had yet to do this. Mr. Turpel spoke to the transportation control measures, which the MPO was responsible for. He said they were recommending a reduction control measures. He spoke to issues and concerns with the link to transportation. He noted that we might still be close on ozone even if we wouldn't have increasing carbon monoxide. He said transportation measure would help with the ozone standards. He explained the three transportation control measure, bike paths, pedestrian paths, and continuing increasing the amount of transit hours for increased capacity. Additionally they had contingent control measures. He detailed those additional measures, which included such things

as Westside rail project and light rail. Both Transportation Policy Alternative Committee (TPAC) and JPACT recommended these for Council's consideration.

Deputy Council President Newman said he thought since we were already doing light rail and the Westside rail project he didn't think of them as contingent. Mr. Turpel said they had not been funded. When the last plan was done in 1996, they were confident that the Westside light rail would be complete. There had been some bumps in the road. The idea was to include these in the current plan to remind that these were funding priorities. Councilors added some ideas of other contingency projects such as new light rail projects, car-pooling, transit ridership.

Mr. Nordberg talked about contingency measures. Transportation control measures weren't meant to be contingency measures, which gave a layer of insulation. He spoke to where we were at in terms of carbon monoxide. He said the project carbon monoxide emission would continue to go down. Councilor Monroe suggested, by 2020 alternative vehicles might be half the auto population? Mr. Nordberg said they couldn't project this. One of the other features was setting the emission budgets, a function of the transportation conformity rules. Councilor Monroe stated that they had very conservative projections. Mr. Nordberg explained the formula for projecting those figures. He talked about the Regional Transportation Plan and what we might have to project. He noted a minor change, which was to deal with sub-regions, downtown Portland and 82nd Avenue.

Mr. Nordberg then spoke to oxygenated fuels. He talked about the history of the fuel and what this type of fuel did for the environment. He noted benefits of these fuels and concerns. Councilor Monroe asked if we decided to continue oxygenated fuels could we ban MTEs? Mr. Nordberg said the last time they asked the attorney general about banning MTE, we didn't have laws to support banning. They now have an opinion that Oregon could do this. Councilor Monroe asked where ethanol was produced. Ethanol was primarily produced in the mid-west. It was also being produced in Washington. There were several areas in Oregon that were potential for producing ethanol. It was huge economic opportunity for this State. A lot of these projects have been in the development stage providing there was a market for them. Last time the Council voted unanimously to continue it. Councilor Monroe said producing a project that helped us to not be dependent on foreign oil was a good idea. Mr. Nordberg reviewed their plan. Their effort was focused on carbon monoxide. They recognized the other aspects of oxygenated fuel. Councilor Hosticka asked what the role of the Metro Council would be. Mr. Turpel responded that it was to support the plan. Councilor Hosticka asked where this plan applied. Mr. Nordberg said the five counties area. He added that there were some fuel suppliers that provided it year round. Councilor Monroe asked if was a way of boosting octane? Mr. Nordberg said yes.

3. METRO'S TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES APPROVAL

Ted Leybold, Planning Department, said this wouldn't go through the JPACT and TPAC process. This was a list of Metro's approved programs. Mr. Leybold summarized the process. The solicitation packets for the transportation packets were out in the communities. We were one of these. They required they go to their agency for approval. We were doing Metro applications and regional applications. They were submitting these to Council for their approval of the list of applications. He spoke to the specific applications (a copy of these projects are included in the work session packet). Attachment A was Metro applications, Attachment B were regional applications. He detailed the specifics of attachment A. These included in the MPO required planning: existing planning, regional freight planning, engineering review of transportation applications, in the Corridor Planning: next corridor, in the Transit Oriented Development: station area TOD programs, Centers transportation improvement program, Livable Streets Program:

policy and guidebook update, bike model and interactive map upgrade U-bike? Councilors asked questions about the Livable Streets program, was this part of Green Streets? Mr. Leybold said, yes this was the next step, which would look at the aspects of using recycle materials in their construction. Deputy Council President Newman concluded that these were all of the direct Metro applications. He noted it was an increase from the last go around.

Mr. Leybold reviewed Attachment B, which was Potential Regional Applications where we were a partner with one or more regional partners. These applications included: Corridor Planning category – Milwaukie LRT, Highway 43 – Willamette Shoreline corridor alternative analysis and Multi-use trail planning. In the Transit category it included Existing commitment and I-205 LRT supplemental. In the Transit Oriented Development category it included the TOD project. In the RTO program category it included RTO program (formerly core program), RTO program preferred, RTO program backfill FY 05-06, RTO backfill FY 06-07, RTO backfill FY 07-08, Regional TMA program, Regional TMA program preferred, Regional 2040 Initiatives. Mel Huie, Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department, handed out Trail Master Planning details on four projects (a copy of which is included in the record). Deputy Council President Newman asked why Sullivan Gulch trail was so much more expensive. Heather Kent, Regional Parks and Greenspaces program, explained some of the issues of the trail. A boundary survey would be one of the key components, which added cost to the master plan. Deputy Council President Newman urged flexibility. Mr. Leybold detailed components of the transit projects. Councilor Hosticka asked if the south water front project included the tram? Mr. Leybold said no, it would go towards the streetcar extension. Mr. Leybold talked about the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) project, which would be the Westgate Theater site acquisition in conjunction with the Beaverton Round. Mr. Leybold spoke to the RTO program, which focuses on the collaborative marketing program. Councilor Park asked about the backfill for Metro was on the RTO program. What was the local match? Kelley Webb, Planning Department, said the match would come from the local partners. Metro's piece would be a small percentage. Councilor Hosticka asked who decided the allocation. Ms. Webb responded that the RTO subcommittee makes that determination. The difference between the base RTO program and the preferred represented the SMART program. Mr. Leybold spoke to the total costs. Deputy Council President Newman talked about two years ago and whether we were going through the same process. Mr. Leybold said under the Metro applications we were about where we were last time. On the regional applications it had gone up a bit. Deputy Council President Newman asked about the streetcar study. Mr. Leybold said that was still being worked out. Deputy Council President Newman asked if these were upper end figures. Ross Roberts, Planning Director, said it was the upper end.

4. CEMETERY POLICIES

Michael Jordan, Chief Operating Officer (COO), introduced the topic. This agency had never had policies on how to operate cemeteries until we had a specific issue come up. He thanked Jim Desmond, Dan Kromer and Susan Bousha for the work they have put in over the last few months. Jim Desmond, Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department, said there had been shift in our thinking. Cemeteries were not a distraction in the Parks mission. He spoke to the families who dealt with this agency in that particular capacity. He felt we needed to redouble our efforts in this area. This ordinance reflected the shift. We were not the only public operator of cemeteries. There had been a lot of experience and operators out there by public operators. He also talked about the Eastside Jewish Cemetery Section resolution. Councilor Monroe asked if this ordinance would prevent this type of incident again? Mr. Desmond said since there wasn't a policy before hand. They now will have a framework to operate under. They felt they had reached a settlement. Mr. Jordan said one of the critical issues was the issue of the option on future burial purchases. That would be under the preview of the Council.

Dan Kromer, Regional Parks and Greenspaces Program, noted two things in the ordinance: it allowed the COO the opportunity to have formal work rules and procedures. They had had a set of work rules and procedures but they weren't enforceable. It would also repeal a current Metro Code policy, which had to do with setting of grave fees. This ordinance would allow the COO to make the decision. They were looking at a number of different cemeteries and different fees for those cemeteries. Mr. Desmond said the goal was to make these cemeteries self-sustaining. They had had a turn around primarily from the marketing that had been done. Councilor Hosticka asked about enforcement. Councilor Park expressed concern that the Code now required Council to set fees. Mr. Jordan said there were a lot of administrative issues in the Code. He was trying to get fees listed in the budget so that Council could review these every year. Councilor Park thought this was a good idea. Mr. Jordan said he was happy to let Council set these fees. Councilor Park said he didn't think that was necessary. Mr. Jordan suggested a 10-day letter when fees were changing. Councilor Hosticka asked about policy and the three goals that were listed. Were these goals equal? Mr. Jordan said they had not inferred any priority. None of these goals superseded any other goal. They would be happy to add some language that said none other goals superseded other goals. Dan Cooper, Metro Attorney, thought the idea was a good idea. Mr. Desmond said they would add the language. Councilor Park asked about the policy in 10.04.020. He said it seemed that you were trying to comply with state law by maximizing financial benefit and long term stability, maintaining community asset and protect and preserve in keeping with their historically significant nature.

5. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

There were none.

6. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

Mr. Jordan, COO, reminded the Council that they had Strategic Planning retreat on June 23rd in the afternoon. They had tentatively scheduled a budget debrief in the retreat. Councilor Park suggested having Councilor Burkholder there. Mr. Jordan understood this and said they could debrief with Councilor Burkholder when he got back. He reminded them of the Employees Service Luncheon this Thursday.

7. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION

There were none.

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Deputy Council President Newman adjourned the meeting at 2:51 p.m.

Prepared by,

Chris Billington
Clerk of the Council

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JUNE 15, 2004

Item	Topic	Doc Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1	Agenda	June 17, 2004	Metro Council Agenda for June 17, 2004 meeting	061504c-01
1	Exhibit B	6/3/04	To: Metro Council From: Karen Feher, Financial Planning Department Re: Exhibit B to Resolution 04-3454 (CIP)	061504c-02
2	Power Point Presentation	6/15/04	To: Metro Council From: Dave Nordberg, DEQ Re: Portland Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan	061504c-03
3	Trail Master Plans	6/15/04	To: Metro Council From: Mel Huie, Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department Re: four trail master plans proposed for funding	061504c-04