



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Meeting Minutes
September 23, 2014
Metro Council Chamber

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

Councilors Excused: Councilors Shirley Craddick and Bob Stacey

Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:05 p.m.

1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

Chief Operating Officer Martha Bennett updated the Council on the following items:

- The cancellation of the Thursday, September 25th Metro Council meeting.
- Planned improvements in the process for distributing supplemental meeting materials to Councilors.
- A Metro Regional Center lunch event on Wednesday, October 1st from 11:30am to 1pm, to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month.
- The Portland Expo Center's will unveiling of its Stormwater Green Wall on Wednesday, October 1st at 2pm.
- Ms. Bennett, Mr. Ted Reid, and Mr. John Williams met with a variety of city managers from across the region earlier in the day. They discussed the region's urban growth management decision process.

2. 2015 GROWTH MANAGEMENT DECISION: DRAFT 2014 URBAN GROWTH REPORT ASSESSMENT OF RESIDENTIAL NEEDS

Mr. Ted Reid, Metro Senior Regional Planner, and Mr. John Williams, Metro Deputy Director of Planning and Development, presented their 2015 Growth Management Decision: Residential Component of the Draft 2014 Urban Growth Report presentation. The purpose of the presentation was to provide Council with the opportunity to discuss possible policy implications of the residential analysis found in the draft 2014 Urban Growth Report (UGR). The desired outcome was for Council to identify topics related to the residential analysis on which they would like policy advice from the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC). Key elements of the presentation included:

- The Metro Council urban growth management decision timeline.
- Results of the UGR's residential analysis component.

- Residential analysis in the context of statewide policy, as it relates to the facilitation of urbanization and protection of landscape.
- Residential analysis in the context of regional policy, with specific reference to development of the Metro 2040 Growth Concept.
- Revisiting the 2040 Growth Concept development process, which considered 3 distinct growth concept proposals:
 - Concept A: “Growing Out”
 - Concept B: “Growing Up”
 - Concept C: “Neighboring Cities”
- The recommended alternative, eventually adopted as the 2040 Growth Concept, which acted as a compromise between the three proposals, encouraging growth “in centers and corridors with increased emphasis on redevelopment within the urban growth boundary”.
- Residential analysis in the context of local policy, including assessment of residential land zoning reflected in the buildable land inventory.
- Policy considerations.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Harrington inquired about specific appendices in the UGR that are affected by the residential land data corrections. Councilors asked clarifying questions about the intricacies of the urban growth management decision process, with specific reference to timing and the public engagement process. Councilor Harrington inquired about the changing nature of the split between single and multi-family development in the region, and about related demographic shifts. Councilor Harrington also stressed the importance of developing family-friendly housing, and expressed her concerns about the lack of sufficient development in Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) expansion areas. Councilor Harrington expressed her desire to receive advisement from MPAC on a number of policy considerations identified in the UGR, and also to enhance the public engagement process for the Council’s growth management decision. Councilor Collette expressed her concerns surrounding the regional impacts of climate refugees, and also spoke to the importance of using regional land efficiently, with specific reference to the importance of addressing concerns revealed in the Residential Preference Survey. Councilor Chase spoke to the importance of fulfilling regional demand for “walkable” communities, while enhancing housing affordability. Councilors expressed interest in hearing more information on the successes and challenges of development that expanding communities are coping with in the region. Councilor Dirksen spoke to the challenges of addressing housing desires expressed in the Residential Preference Survey, and to the importance of merging regional partner engagement with public outreach efforts. Councilor Harrington spoke to the importance of ensuring that the Land Conservation Development Commission (LCDC) deems any future UGB expansions acceptable.

3. 2015 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Mr. Randy Tucker, Metro Legislative Affairs Manager, presented the 2015 State Legislative Agenda. This was the first work session opportunity for the Council to discuss its objectives for the 2015 legislative session, so Mr. Tucker presented relevant proposed legislative principles and concepts. Key elements included:

- Metro Council Legislative Principles
- Brownfield redevelopment, including potential elements of a brownfield legislative agenda.

- Metro Auditor Statement of Economic Interest to the Oregon Government Ethics Commission.
- Sunset of the Vertical Housing Development Program
- Rehabilitation Tax Credit (RTC)

Council Discussion:

Councilor Chase mentioned that his work with the Housing Alliance aligns with segments of Metro's Legislative Agenda. Councilor Harrington suggested that the Council's legislative principle on Oregon's land use system include reference to the Oregon Values and Beliefs Survey. She also expressed a desire to include a Council legislative principle on resiliency. Councilor Collette suggested mentioning Council's support of safety and health enhancements in the legislative principle on transportation funding. Councilor Dirksen spoke to the importance of ensuring adequate enforcement of Metro's land use decisions, and to allowing sufficient flexibility for Metro to assess the balance of jobs and housing on a sub-regional level as a transportation issue. Council President Hughes and Councilor Chase also spoke to this latter issue in terms of equity. Councilors asked a number of questions about the Vertical Housing Tax Credit, with regards to eligibility requirements and reasons for the tax credit's sunset. Councilor Harrington expressed a desire to receive advisement from MPAC on the RTC issue.

4. COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Councilor Collette stated that the Oregon City Planning Commission had unanimously passed the zone change for the Blue Heron site. She also mentioned her attendance of the Area Commissions on Transportation (ACT) Task Force meeting, where she defended a two-ACT system. Councilors then discussed the intricacies of the one-ACT versus two-ACT debate.

5. ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Council work session at 3:59pm

Respectfully submitted,



Joel Cvetko, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF SEPT. 23, 2014

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
2.0	Memo	8/15/14	Memo to MPAC from Ted Reid RE: 2015 Growth Management Decision Policy Considerations	92314cw-01
3.0	Handout	9/23/14	Metro Legislative Principles and Issue Statements	92314cw-02