



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Meeting Minutes
October 7, 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 2:02 p.m.

1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

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

- Vice President Joe Biden will be campaigning for Oregon Senator Jeff Merkley at the Oregon Convention Center on October 8th.
- Update on the naming process for the new lion cubs at the Oregon Zoo.
- Update on the Free Community Day at the Oregon Zoo on October 4.

2. REVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES FOR CONSTRUCTION EXCISE TAX THAT FUND COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

Ms. Bennett, along with Mr. John Williams, Metro Deputy Director of Planning and Development, and Mr. Gerry Uba, Metro Principal Planner, discussed and sought direction from Council on revisions to the administrative rules for the Construction Excise Tax (CET) that funds the Community Planning and Development Grants (CPDG). The purpose of the item was to explain how the revision of CET Administrative Rules would be conducted, prior to Council reviewing and approving the revised 2014 rules.

Council adopted Ordinance No. 14-1328 in June 2014, which extended the CET through December 2020, and directed the Chief Operating Officer (COO) “to seek direction from the Metro Council prior to developing revised administrative rules, and to return to the Metro Council for its approval of those administrative rules by resolution prior to promulgating them.” The COO and Stakeholder Advisory Group recommendations to the Council in June included modification to the CPDG program to ensure that the purpose of the CET is achieved. Recommended modifications include:

- Clarification of types of planning that should be eligible for CPDG, and explaining desired goals and outcomes that could be achieved.
- Refining the criteria in the Administrative Rules for evaluating grant applications.

Mr. Williams explained the COO's proposed approach for revision of the Administrative Rules, which includes gathering stakeholder input on the revision of CET Administrative Rules through the Metro Technical Advisory Committee (MTAC), instead of creating another stakeholder advisory group for this project. Mr. Uba provided details on the grant cycle schedule.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Stacey inquired about development proposals for specific projects. Councilor Harrington expressed her concerns regarding the capacity of local staff to take advantage of the Administrative Rules amendments, and suggested that Metro staff firm-up estimates of the number of future grant cycles. Councilor Craddick inquired about the Administrative Rules amendment that recommends criteria for likelihood of grant implementation. Councilor Chase suggested that Metro link more resources to the social equity component outlined in the Administrative Rules amendment, and relate this issue to long-term affordable housing needs through existing projects like Metro's Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) program. Councilor Dirksen inquired about the flexibility of the amendment that addresses the allocative split between projects within urban reserves and urban areas, and those within the existing Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). He also suggested that jurisdictions with smaller staff could partner with larger jurisdictions to enhance grant effectiveness. Councilor Collette suggested that a fund could be set up to assist smaller jurisdictions with grant implementation, and that grants could be awarded in conjunction with implementation of existing Metro projects. Councilor Stacey stated that, in terms of recommended amendments to the Administrative Rules, Metro should be more direct about its expectations of grant recipients, and that the Council's policy objectives should be reflected in its grant measures. Councilor Harrington spoke to the importance of making MTAC aware of Metro's latest work surrounding the Equitable Housing Development Work Plan. Council President Hughes suggested that CET funds work towards supporting a maximum breadth of planning and development opportunities. He also highlighted the significance of maintaining a fund that can supplement planning and development during economically difficult times.

3. CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES SCENARIOS PROJECT: DRAFT METRO POLICIES AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS IDENTIFIED TO ADVANCE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DRAFT APPROACH

Ms. Kim Ellis, Metro Principal Planner, joined Mr. John Williams to present the Climate Smart Communities Scenarios Project Draft Metro Policies and Possible Actions Identified to Advance Implementation of the Draft Approach. The purpose of the presentation was to initiate Council discussion on draft policies and possible actions identified by staff, which will guide Metro in moving forward with implementation of the draft approach. The desired outcome was for Council to provide direction to staff on priority toolbox actions to advance draft approach implementation. Ms. Ellis outlined the structure of the discussion, which included a mixture of Council and staff discussion. Key elements included:

- Purpose and outcomes.
- Staff updates regarding CSC.
 - Ms. Ellis informed Council that the public comment period for the Climate Smart Communities Draft Approach is underway.
 - Metro's public engagement committees identified two key topics for their technical advisory committees to address, including mechanisms for demonstrating the regional commitment to move forward with implementation of the CSC Draft

Approach, and identifying a short list of actions deemed to be the region's most pressing priorities, requiring collaborative action to address in the near term.

Council Discussion:

- Councilor updates regarding the Climate Smart Communities (CSC) project.
 - Council liaison update on the CSC meeting with the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC).
 - Councilors Dirksen and Collette presented the CSC Draft Approach to the Metro Subcommittee of the Clackamas County Coordinating Committee (C4).
 - Councilor Chase mentioned his work on bringing a group together for a fact-finding mission to Seattle to learn about their reduced public transit fare program for low-income individuals.
 - Councilor Craddick provided an update on the CSC Draft Approach discussion at the last meeting of the East Multnomah County Transportation Committee (EMCTC), which focused on equity in implementation of the CSC project.
 - Councilor Harrington addressed her concerns regarding guiding CSC project messaging during discussions with local jurisdictions.
- Council direction on Metro's toolbox actions, specifically regarding the addition or removal of items from the list of Metro's possible actions in the immediate and near-term, as well as the prioritization of actions under consideration in the immediate term.
 - Councilor Harrington indicated that no Metro toolbox actions should be added or removed. In terms of prioritization, she suggested that advocating for state legislative changes, adopting policy and program changes at the state, regional, and local levels, and continuing to build a diverse transportation funding coalition, should be top priorities for Metro in the immediate term.
 - Councilor Dirksen spoke to the importance of accounting for the timelines of other jurisdictions in prioritizing actions for implementation.

4. MY PLACE IN THE REGION: PLANNING DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Ms. Elissa Gertler, Director of Metro's Planning and Development Department, presented her My Place in the Region Planning Department Update. Key elements included:

- As the region is nearing the halfway mark of its 2040 Growth Concept, Ms. Gertler spoke to shifting the department's focus from describing a policy vision, to implementing, evaluating, and recalibrating the growth concept plan.
- Fostering an integrated work program for implementation of the 2040 Growth Concept, encompassing key components of Council leadership and community engagement.
- Structural change and next steps for the Planning Department in moving forward with this vision.

5. COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Council President Hughes and Councilor Harrington mentioned that they had attended a dinner at the Oregon Zoo on October 3, where they welcomed delegates from Malaysia interested in joining the Portland Sister City Association. Councilor Collette shared her attendance of a kick-off event for a University of Oregon graduate student program, which will focus on creating visions for development of the Blue Heron site.

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6. ADIURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Council work session at 4:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel Cvetko", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joel Cvetko, Council Policy Assistant

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

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1.0	Agenda	10/9/14	Council Agenda for Oct. 9, 2014	10714cw-01
3.0	Handout	10/7/14	Straw Proposal for Technical Work Group Discussion: Key Shared Actions for 2015 & 2016	10714cw-02