



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Meeting Minutes
November 4, 2014
Metro Council Chamber

Councilors Present: Deputy Council President Sam Chase, and Councilors Shirley Craddick, Kathryn Harrington, Bob Stacey, Carlotta Collette, and Craig Dirksen

Councilors Excused: Council President Tom Hughes

Deputy Council President Sam Chase called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:03 p.m.

1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

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

- The deadline to sign-up for the Metro Pie Auction is November 7.
- Nature in Neighborhoods Conservation Education Grants will be having a workshop on November 5. The grant application deadline is January 13.
- The “Let’s Talk Trash” Film Gala will occur on November 10 at the Portland Art Museum.
- The November 25 Council work session will be offsite at the Oregon Zoo. Councilors will receive a tour beforehand, and are invited to attend the Metro employee-only ZooLights preview after the meeting.
- The November 6 Council meeting has been replaced by an additional Council work session.

2. METRO PARKS AND NATURAL AREAS SYSTEM PLAN

Ms. Kathleen Brennan-Hunter, Metro Natural Areas Program Director, and Mr. Justin Patterson, Metro Parks and Property Stewardship Program Director, presented the Metro Parks and Natural Areas System Plan. Ms. Brennan-Hunter began by characterizing the Parks and Natural Areas System Plan as a comprehensive mechanism for organizing Metro’s parks and natural areas work, framing Council policymaking, guiding Metro’s future parks and natural areas efforts, and protecting nature in the region. The System Plan is broken down into three distinct tiers, varying in scope and development timeline:

- Values: What we are about and what is important to us; the mission and policy direction that defines the role of Metro parks and natural areas (March 2014 – November 2014).
- Strategies: Crafted from the foundation provided by Metro parks and natural areas values; will provide direction in setting our course for the future (November 2014 – July 2015).

- Actions: Steps for developing Metro parks and natural areas, informed by the values and strategies with prioritized action plans covering mission critical areas (July 2015 – January 2016).

One purpose of the presentation was to receive Council feedback on the System Plan draft values. The six draft values are: nature, recreation, connections, strong and resilient communities, equity, and stewardship.

Other key elements of the presentation included:

- Background of the history of Metro's parks and natural areas.
- Staff's work to analyze baseline information and initial public input on the regional parks and natural areas system.
- Current system plan development status.
- Next steps.

Ms. Brennan-Hunter and Mr. Patterson sought Council input on three key questions:

- Are the draft values consistent with the Metro Council's vision?
- How can these values serve as a foundation for Metro's parks and natural areas system plan?
- How does Council want to be engaged during the next phase of the project; from now until the presentation of the system plan to Council in July 2015?

Council Discussion:

Councilor Collette spoke to including a draft value that explicitly addresses climate change preparedness and resilience. Councilor Stacey spoke to developing specific strategies within the Parks and Natural Areas System Plan that seek to address climate change. Councilor Harrington suggested that Council's role as stewards of the Parks and Natural Areas System is called out in the preliminary engagement summary. She also requested further information on engagement by local jurisdictions, and a clearer distinction of the system plan's design. Councilor Craddick suggested that Metro staff present the system plan to the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC), and expressed her desire for continued Council involvement with system plan development. Councilor Dirksen suggested emphasizing the economic and ecological value of parks and natural areas under the "stewardship" and "nature" values. Councilor Stacey suggested emphasizing the equitable accessibility of parks and natural areas under the "equity" value. Councilor Chase suggested that the "equity" and "stewardship" values emphasize engaging current and future generations to be active stewards of the parks and natural areas system, and suggested that these values reflect an active commitment to engaging all regional communities in caring about, participating in, and shaping the system. Councilor Craddick spoke to the importance of securing regional support and funding mechanisms for implementing the system plan.

3. 2014 SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

Ms. Molly Chidsey, Metro Sustainability Coordinator, presented the Metro 2014 Sustainability Report. The purpose of the presentation was to share progress towards Metro's Sustainability Plan goals, highlight key sustainability projects completed in fiscal year 2013-14, provide an opportunity to answer Council's questions about priorities for the fiscal year 2014-15 plan, and discuss opportunities to further advance sustainability in Metro's internal operations. Desired outcomes

included enhancing Council understanding of Metro Sustainability Plan goals and progress, while gaining feedback from Councilors on strategic priorities for achieving further progress.

The Metro Council has formally adopted five key sustainability goals. Progress toward these goals is measured annually by six indicators. The goals, along with their 2015 targets and current scorecard grades, include:

- Goal 1: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions: Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 80 percent below 2008 levels by 2050.
 - 2015 target: 15 percent reduction in GHG emissions from 2008 levels. (on track)
- Goal 2: Choose nontoxic: Eliminate the use or emissions of persistent bioaccumulative toxics (PBTs) and other priority toxic and hazardous substances by 2025.
 - 2015 target: 45 percent reduction from 2008 levels of chemical products in use at Metro which are persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic or have a high human health or environmental toxicity hazard. (caution)
- Goal 3: Reduce waste: Reduce overall generation of waste, and recycle or compost all remaining waste by 2025.
 - 2015 targets:
 - Recycle or compost 75 percent of waste (average); parks goal 25 percent recovery. (caution)
 - Reduce waste generation 10 percent from 2008 levels by 2015. (off track)
- Conserve water: Use 50 percent less water from 2008 levels by 2025.
 - 2015 target: 30 percent decrease in water consumption from 2008 levels. (caution)
- Enhance habitat and reduce stormwater: Ensure that Metro's parks, trails, natural areas and developed properties positively contribute to healthy, functioning ecosystems and watershed health by 2025.
 - 2015 target: Reduce effective total impervious area on developed properties 50 percent from 2008 levels. Identify habitat-friendly improvement opportunities for developed properties. (off track)

Other key presentation elements included:

- The Metro Council's sustainability vision.
- The history of the Metro Sustainability Plan.
- Metro's fiscal year 2013-14 Sustainability Scorecard.
- Key sustainability accomplishments at Metro and its venues.
- Efforts of the Metro Sustainability Steering Committee.
- Strategic actions to address transformational change.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Dirksen inquired about the measurement of the effective impervious area metric. Councilor Harrington spoke to the timing and context of discussions regarding transformational change. She also inquired about future challenges with pest control operations, and their effects on toxic reduction goals. Councilor Harrington inquired about the Regional Sustainability Coordinators Working Group.

4. COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATES AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

There were none.

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5. ADIURN

Seeing no further business, Deputy Council President Sam Chase adjourned the Council work session at 3:44 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 NOV. 4, 2014

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1.0	Agenda	11/6/14	Council Work Session Agenda for Nov. 6, 2014	110414cw-01
2.0	Handout	11/4/14	Natural Areas System Plan Update	110414cw-02
2.0	Handout	11/4/14	System Plan Draft Values	110414cw-03