

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONTINUING)	RESOLUTION NO. 93-1811
METRO'S PARTICIPATION IN THE)	
FORUM ON COOPERATIVE URBAN)	Introduced by Governmental
SERVICES (FOCUS))	Affairs Committee

WHEREAS, The Metro Council adopted Resolution No. 91-1536 on December 12, 1991, for the purpose of approving Metro's participation in the Forum on Cooperative Urban Services (FOCUS); and

WHEREAS, Metro's participation in FOCUS was based on the understanding that its principal purpose was to create a long term neutral forum in the region for the discussion and sharing of information on regional issues and development of cooperative efforts; and

WHEREAS, The Metro Council is very supportive of efforts to coordinate local government services and find new and innovative ways to provide those services more efficiently; and

WHEREAS, The Metro Council continues to support the principles of efficiency and cooperation that the FOCUS organization potentially represents, and encourages the organization to concentrate on those principles; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED,

1. That the Metro Council continues Metro's membership in the Forum on Cooperative Urban Services (FOCUS) for fiscal year 1993-94, including the payment of basic dues on a quarterly basis;
2. That the Council Governmental Affairs Committee will review Metro's continued membership in FOCUS by December 31, 1993 and make a recommendation to the full Council.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the Metro Council encourages FOCUS to:

1. Return to its original purpose of providing a forum for the discussion and investigation of potential improvements and efficiencies in local government service provision;
2. Change its meeting times to facilitate attendance at FOCUS meetings by members of the Metro Council;

3. Amend its procedures for selecting members of its steering committee to provide greater opportunity for Metro Council representation on the steering committee.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 10th day of June, 1993.



Judy Wyers, Presiding Officer

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

RESOLUTION NO. 93-1811, CONTINUING METRO'S PARTICIPATION IN THE FORUM ON COOPERATIVE URBAN SERVICES (FOCUS)

Date: June 4, 1993

Presented by: Councilor Gates

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: At its June 3, 1993 meeting the Governmental Affairs Committee voted 3-1 to recommend Council adoption of Resolution No. 93-1811. Voting in favor were Councilors Gates, Gardner, and Wyers. Councilor Hansen was opposed. Councilor Moore was excused.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION/ISSUES: Council Analyst Casey Short presented the staff report. He said the resolution was prepared following Council's decision at its May 27 meeting to return Resolution No. 93-1778C to committee. That resolution contained inconsistencies in language and dealt only with Metro's participation in FOCUS for the short time remaining in FY 1992-93; the Council discussed the need to clean up the language and address Metro's membership in FOCUS for the coming fiscal year. Resolution No. 93-1811 does that, and includes directions for Metro to request FOCUS to revise its meeting times and selection process for its steering committee to promote Metro participation. The earlier resolution will be filed with no further consideration.

Councilor Gates relayed a question from Councilor Moore, who asked whether the payment of dues should be tied to the FOCUS work plan and whether the amount of Metro's dues payment should be specifically limited in the resolution. Councilor Gates said he thought the language in the resolution inferred a limit on the amount of the dues, which he understood to be approximately \$8,000.

Councilor Hansen questioned whether Metro should continue participating in, and paying dues to, a group whose work plan Metro had not approved. She said she would not support the resolution if there remained the possibility that FOCUS would be pursuing projects and directions Metro did not support.

Councilor McLain said she had come to support Metro participation in FOCUS because many smaller jurisdictions don't support FOCUS spending money on projects that Metro is already doing, but there is support for FOCUS to do the sorts of cooperative efforts that Metro also supports. She said she supports participation in FOCUS in order for Metro to remain at the table and be able to point out where this agency is already doing work that FOCUS might otherwise do. She also said FOCUS could provide a forum for Metro officials to meet with representatives of other jurisdictions, and to provide some leadership and a regional perspective.

Councilor Gardner agreed there is value in Metro participating in FOCUS and working to direct it back to its original purposes, but that membership should be somewhat conditional. He proposed adding a requirement in the resolution that the Governmental Affairs Committee review Metro's participation in FOCUS by the end of 1993 and make a recommendation to the full Council. He moved to add such a condition to the resolution, which was approved on a 3-1 vote, with Councilor Hansen dissenting. (That addition is contained as #2 in the first "Be it Resolved" section.)

Councilor Wyers asked if FOCUS has reviewed its goals. Councilor Gates said they had, through a survey sent out to administrators and elected officials. That survey showed very few issues related directly to Metro, and he thinks the focus of FOCUS has narrowed to become concerned with issues of regional cooperation and information sharing rather than Metro issues.

Council Administrator Don Carlson advised the committee that the Council Department's 1993-94 budget included only \$2000 for FOCUS dues, and if the amount is to be \$8000, a budget adjustment would be required.



METRO

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Memorandum

DATE: May 28, 1993
TO: Governmental Affairs Committee
FROM: Casey Short *CS*
RE: Draft Resolution No. 93-1811, Regarding Metro's
Continued Participation in FOCUS

Item #4 on your June 3 agenda is consideration of Draft Resolution No. 93-1811, authorizing Metro's continued participation in the Forum on Cooperative Urban Services (FOCUS) in FY 1993-94. The resolution will be drafted prior to your meeting, but has not yet been written.

The resolution is in response to Council's action at its May 27 meeting, at which it voted to return Resolution No. 93-1778C to the Governmental Affairs Committee for further consideration. That resolution would have authorized Metro's continued participation in FOCUS through the remainder of FY 1992-93. The new resolution will replace 93-1778, which has gone through several changes; 93-1778 would be left in committee and receive no further action.

When presented to you, Draft Resolution No. 93-1810 will contain the following provisions:

- Authorize Metro's participation in FOCUS in Fiscal Year 1993-94, including payment of dues on a quarterly basis.
- Encourage FOCUS to return to its original purpose of providing a forum for the discussion and investigation of potential improvements and efficiencies in local government service provision.
- Encourage FOCUS to change its meeting times, to eliminate the conflict with Governmental Affairs Committee meetings.
- Encourage FOCUS to change its procedures for selecting steering committee members to allow for Metro Councilor participation in the steering committee.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.