

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING

Tuesday, April 5, 2005
Metro Council Chamber

Councilors Present: David Bragdon (Council President), Susan McLain, Carl Hosticka, Rod Park, Robert Liberty, Rex Burkholder, Brian Newman

Councilors Absent:

Council President Bragdon convened the Metro Council Work Session Meeting at 2:05 p.m.

1. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, APRIL 7, 2005/ ADMINISTRATIVE/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER AND CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

Council President Bragdon reviewed the Metro Council Agenda for April 7, 2005.

Michael Jordan, Chief Operating Officer, said that they had been interviewing for the Deputy Planning Director position and asked the councilors if they would like to be involved in the final round of interviews. Andy Cotugno, Planning Director, reviewed the hiring process as it had transpired thus far. He told them that he had narrowed down the finalists to four interviewees. Council President Bragdon, Councilor Brian Newman, said that, schedule permitting, they would like to be involved. There was general discussion about the series of management hires that Mike Jordan had undertaken since starting as Chief Operating Officer. The other councilors expressed satisfaction that several councilors would participate and represent the council in the hiring process.

Mr. Jordan said that Metro was approaching a deadline on the hard edges issues and that Metro was to supply a report to the state in June. He said that he was happy to submit something to meet the obligations of the resolution, but he wanted to know how the councilors wanted to proceed regarding timing and content, and how they wanted to move forward. Council President Bragdon expressed concern about being on time with that reporting. There was some discussion about hard edges, and Councilor Newman suggested that the information-to-date be shared with all the councilors. He said that he would be open to suggestions on how to time it so as not to inflame the state. Council President Bragdon said that Mr. Jordan had the report and the resolution was drafted, and so it was really up to the councilors and staff as to when they wanted to submit it. It was agreed that all the information would be circulated among the councilors and then they would decide later as to the optimal time to submit to the state.

2. CASCADE CANYON TRAIL

Teri Dresler, Assistant Director – Operations, Lee Campbell, Construction Projects Manager, and Brent Shelby, Exhibits Coordinator, gave a brief overview of the Cascade Canyon Trail project. They presented some plans/drawings of the trail and exhibits for the councilors as part of their presentation.

Councilor Newman asked if there would be one directional path that would funnel visitors through the zoo. Mr. Shelby said yes. Ms. Dresler talked about the budget and the bidding process. She said that elements might have to be added in as the trail was developed due to budget constraints. Council President Bragdon asked about funding and wanted to know how much of the budget was part of the bond measure. Councilor McLain said that the original tax levy did not cover the master plan but since then a master plan was created, the bond measure passed, and there had been some refinements to the master plan. Council President Bragdon complimented Mr. Shelby, and those that had worked on the creation of

the plan and presentation, on the look of the trail proposal. Ms. Campbell said they would be contracting construction in August of 2005, and warned the councilors that contracts would be coming across Mr. Jordan's desk around that time. She gave them the tentative schedule for construction. Councilor Burkholder expressed concern about funneling a large number of visitors through the trail and the resulting traffic control problems. Ms. Campbell said that visitors would have two ways to enter the zoo and spread out, but that they hoped to avoid everyone exiting through the Cascade Canyon Trail. Ms. Dresler said that the trail would be planned to have places for people to stop and look at exhibits and that would hopefully slow people down and prevent bottlenecks. There would also be volunteers stationed throughout the trail area. Councilor Newman said it was an important milestone for the zoo as this would be the last piece of the zoo that was promised through the bond measure. He said that at a future meeting he would like to talk about the next phase for the zoo. He asked Tony Vecchio, Zoo Director, if he planned to have the master plan redone at anytime. Mr. Vecchio said he was not planning to as it was a very expensive and difficult process. He said that it was also not very practical to plan 10 years out, as things change so much in that sort of time period. Council President Bragdon said that when they came back to talk about the farm exhibit they might have time to talk about the master plan as well.

3. COUNCILOR NEWSLETTERS

Kate Marx, Cathy Thomas, and Sue Gemmell, Public Affairs Department, talked about changes to staff regarding the exit program and the impact on the councilor newsletters and Metro publications. Cathy Thomas reviewed the process and versions of the newsletters produced for the councilors. She reviewed the regional distribution and the production schedule for 2005. That production schedule is attached and forms part of the record. Ms. Thomas asked the councilors if they wanted to make any changes to the schedule or the process.

Councilor Newman said that his concern had been to know what the schedule was and she had answered that with the distributed schedule. He did wonder if they would be creating a newsletter during the months where the councilors took recess (August and December) and in November due to the holidays. Councilor Liberty said that he also thought the newsletters were important. He expressed a desire to continue mailing newsletters via regular mail. He said that he wanted to write more of the newsletter himself and not use the one that was prepared for all the councilors. He expressed concern about the file size of email newsletters that go out, and the impact on those who do not have computers that can handle such large files. He wondered if they would ever be able to produce newsletters in other languages. Councilor McLain said that balance and variety was important, and she emphasized that the CPOs used almost everything that was sent to them. She stressed that she also thought that hard copy mailings of the newsletters was important. Councilor Liberty asked if there was a budget allotment for the newsletter mailing. Councilor Burkholder said that there should be consistent coverage for all councilors on the content of the newsletters – items that were Metro related and did announce the important issues that were going on at Metro. Councilor Liberty said that 250 words for his column was not enough to address his personal concerns for his district, and he wondered if they could have some sort of balance between consistent content and his personal words. Ms. Gemmell suggested that they could add articles to their webpages if they wanted to do that. Ms. Marx thanked the councilors for their feedback and said that Public Affairs would have to go back and formulate recommendations and then come back to the council with a presentation. It was agreed that the topic needed more discussion and that it would be brought back to them for consideration. Councilor Burkholder suggested that it be part of the communications plan. Councilor Carl Hosticka said that he liked the common content. He said he would hate to see the newsletter go quarterly, and that he did not want to see the council staff crafting the articles for the newsletters due to heavy workloads. Councilor Liberty said that for translation pieces it might be more useful to have general and multi –media use type projects instead of multi-language newsletters. Ms. Marx gave a brief overview of the new Metro directory.

4. NATURE IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

Kate Marx, Public Affairs Director, said that they would discuss this under agenda item #7.

5. BREAK

6. EASEMENT PRESENTATION

Council President Bragdon explained why Mr. Mike Wells, Wells Development Company, LLC, was there to speak to the councilors. He said that for the properties managed by Metro, management was guided by a certain set of principles in terms of easement rebuttals and requests. He said that an easement request had been submitted and staff had rejected the request and then the applicant had requested to speak to the council regarding the easement. Procedurally, he said that if the council didn't agree with what management had decided, then one of the councilors would have to initiate legislation to direct management to reach a different conclusion.

Jim Desmond, Parks and Greenspaces Director, and Mr. Wells, reviewed the property in question and what the easement request entailed. Mr. Desmond said that the property owners needed an ingress/egress to their property through a Metro greenspace. The concern was over the resulting impact to the natural resource. The original request had been rejected due to the significance of the resource. If there was a finding that the road could be built without major impact to the habitat, then it could be allowed, but that had not been the opinion of staff. There was discussion about exactly where the access would be. The councilors were given a map, which is attached and forms part of the record, to refer to in locating those areas. Mr. Wells gave a more in-depth review of the request for easement, and he explained that they had moved the location of the proposed road in order to move it further away from the habitat. There was discussion about the exact placing of the access road within the habitat and how that would impact the floodplain. Mr. Desmond said that staff did not want to revisit their findings with the new suggestions unless the Council was open to giving them that direction. Mr. Wells said that the process was good, but that there were some facts that needed to be clarified. Councilor McLain said that it was important to be true to the criteria and the promise of the bond measure while weighing the request. She asked staff and Mr. Wells to address more closely the criteria with the new parts of the request.

Councilor Hosticka asked if there was a formal process that they would have to go through if they were to allow the easement. Council President Bragdon said that only if they decided to go against the staff findings/recommendation on the original application which was rejected. He said that the Mayor of Tigard asked that the councilors leave their decision open so that he could pursue some other issues, such as a possible property swap. Councilor Hosticka suggested that the Mayor of Tigard should be present at the next discussion. Council President Bragdon said that he had a meeting with the mayor next week and could talk to him about the easement at that time. Councilor Liberty expressed concern about the process for making a decision and the legalities related to easements and the Metro council. Councilor Newman said that he was inclined to support the staff decision and cautioned the Councilors and Metro staff about the amount of time that they put into the process given that statement. Councilor Park said he was actually interested in seeing what they could do with the Mayor of Tigard, Metro staff, and Mr. Wells regarding protecting the habitat and still attaining their goals. Mr. Jordan said that he would be having a discussion with the legal staff about establishing a process which might include applications to appeal.

7. NATURE IN NEIGHBORHOODS/MODEL ORDINANCE

Kate Marx, Public Affairs Director, Janice Larson, Creative Services Manager, and Gina Whitehill-Baziuk, Office of Citizen Involvement Manager, talked about how the Nature in Neighborhoods theme would be a new identifier that would encompass many projects, branding, and creating a logo for that brand. Ms. Larson presented the logo to the Council. She spoke about the changes applied to the logo and the testing of the logo that had been very successful. She also passed around the mockups of key messages incorporated with the new logo. There was discussion about how the brand could soften the approach to other ventures such as the zoo, Goal 5, and others.

Ms. Whitehill-Baziuk distributed a packet of information, which included the target dates for Goal 5, Nature in Neighborhoods. She said that the packet was essentially for staff and councilors for information purposes and for staff to deal with incoming calls and queries on the program. It has been attached and forms part of the record. There was discussion on some of the key dates for the schedule, especially the May dates for public input or outreach and the resolution. There was also discussion about the Measure 56 notice mailing. Ms. Whitehill-Baziuk explained the difference between the two mailings: 1) more generic with lots of information on upcoming events and public input opportunities for public and property owners, and 2) the official/legal mailing that must go to property owners. Ms. Marx distributed the Nature in Neighborhoods Task List for the Councilors so that they would know who in Public Affairs would be working on what part of the outreach efforts.

Chris Deffebach, Planning Department, and Malu Wilkinson, Associate Regional Planner, gave a brief review of the model ordinance. Ms. Wilkinson distributed the Draft Habitat Conservation Areas Model Ordinance and outline, which are attached and form part of the record. Ms. Deffebach asked the councilors how in-depth they wanted the review to be. The councilors agreed that they would like it to be a very in-depth review. It was agreed that they would have to have a deeper discussion and review of the draft at a later date, but the councilors asked Ms. Wilkinson to start with a brief overview of the outline.

8. COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

There being no further business to come before the Metro Council, Council President Bragdon adjourned the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Prepared by,



Kim Bardes
Clerk

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF APRIL 5, 2005

Item	Topic	Doc Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1	Council Newsletters	April 2005	Proposed production schedule for Metro Council newsletters for 2005	040505cw-01
6	Easement Presentation	April 2005	Metro Open Spaces, Parks & Streams Bond Measure: Fields Property map	040505cw-02
4 & 7	Nature in Neighborhoods	4/5/05	Nature in Neighborhoods key dates	040505cw-03
4 & 7	Nature in Neighborhoods	4/5/05	Nature in Neighborhoods Task List	040505cw-04
7	Habitat Conservation	3/24/05	Draft Habitat Conservation Areas Model Ordinance Outline	040505cw-05
7	Habitat Conservation	3/24/05	Draft Habitat Conservation Areas Model Ordinance –full draft	040505cw-06