



METRO COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting Minutes

July 23, 2015

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

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

Councilors Excused: None

Council President Tom Hughes called the regular council meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

Ellen Ino, Portland: Ms. Ino invited the Metro Council and the public to attend the upcoming Willamette River Revival event on August 2nd, providing information about some of the activities at the event and a poster to share with the public.

2. STATE OF BLACK OREGON 2015 REPORT

Council President Hughes introduced Ms. Nkenge Harmon Johnson, CEO, and Tameka Taylor, Policy Associate, both of Urban League of Portland, to provide a presentation on the State of Black Oregon 2015 report. Council President Hughes shared some background information on Ms. Harmon Johnson, noting that she is the 14th CEO of the Urban League of Portland and first to be from Oregon. He also provided information about her educational background and work experience in communications and politics, including serving as President Obama's Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative with international public affairs responsibility in the Americas and China. He added that she also served briefly for former Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber as Communications Director before joining the Urban League in April of 2015.

Ms. Harmon Johnson thanked Metro Chief Operating Officer, Martha Bennett, for being invited to speak with the Metro Council and present the State of Black Oregon 2015 report. She provided a brief background of what was looked at in the previous report in 2009, stating that it exposed racial inequities in every key social, economic area. Ms. Harmon Johnson explained that the Urban League of Portland looked at issues like housing, employment, health, education, and the silos that policy makers typically put these into, so as they began to work on the next report (the 2015 report), Urban League staff learned that they couldn't really look at or talk about one area without linking it to another (employment without looking also at education, healthcare without looking at stable housing, etc.). She added that her experience in government showed her that it can be challenging for agencies to think about each of these issues in connection to each other, but explained how critical it is that we start doing that. She noted that the report has done this in how they approached the data, analysis, and an action plan, which is different from their past efforts. She also noted that the framework in the report looks at the entire individual, the family, and the full community, and used information from African-Americans across the state (not just in metropolitan areas). Ms. Harmon Johnson also pointed out that one new aspect of the report was

that there were eighteen essays included from national experts in health, housing, education, etc., to provide a narrative to the report, in order to put the data and research in context. Ms. Taylor gave several key examples of findings, including that high school graduation rates are pretty terrible for Latinos and African-Americans but also for White middle class students, commenting that the issues in our state are common issues for people of color as well as people with lower incomes (regardless of race or ethnicity), how poverty, food insecurity, and incarceration impact the health of a mother and her babies 10-30 years into their lives, and factors that affect overall economic and housing security. Ms. Harmon Johnson discussed barriers relating to employment, noting that the action plans in the report outlined specific strategies to overcoming the barriers. They closed the presentation, thanking the Council again and thanking all of the partners around the region who helped compile the report.

Council discussion

Councilors thanked Ms. Harmon Johnson and Ms. Taylor for their presentation and noted that the information in the report is critically important and the work to be done is long overdue. In response to councilor inquiry, Ms. Harmon Johnson clarified that the data in the 2015 report did not look better since the last report, explaining that the inequalities that came up aren't about race but about finance and economics, that areas that were previously middle class are now upper and that housing isn't just an issue for people with lower incomes but middle as well. She clarified though that conversations around equity should still begin and lead with communities of color, not communities of poverty, as those are the folks that need to be lifted the most and otherwise they may not be part of the conversation as it moves forward. In response to councilor inquiry, Ms. Harmon Johnson explained that one of the best ways for Metro to engage the most vulnerable populations is through Urban League of Portland and other similar organizations, noting that Urban League recently opened an office in areas where their target communities are now living (due to displacement) so they would still be very physically connected to them and in the neighborhood. Councilors discussed changes happening and work being done at Metro, including the creation of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion program, progress on hiring practices, work with MWESB, changes to First Opportunity Target Area plans, as well as new grants available to communities and local organizations like Metro's Community Planning and Development Grants.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion:	Councilor Carlotta Collette moved to adopt the items on the consent agenda.
Second:	Councilor Shirley Craddick seconded the motion.

Vote: Council President Hughes, and Councilors Stacey, Chase, Collette, Craddick, and Harrington voted in support of the motion. The vote was 6 ayes, the motion passed. Councilor Dirksen abstained due to his absence at the previous meeting.

4. ORDINANCES (FIRST READ)

4.1 Ordinance No. 15-1358, For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Chapter 4.01 to Update Oregon Zoo Regulations

Council President Hughes introduced Caleb Ford, Metro Finance Manager for the Oregon Zoo, and Craig Stroud, Deputy Director of Operations at the Oregon Zoo, for a brief staff report. Mr. Ford explained the key points to the ordinance, including that this would provide general clean-up (example: update the parking transition from the Oregon Zoo to the City of Portland who now owns/operates the parking lot for guests), clarifying language on commercial use of video or images, removal of an admissions fee schedule from the code, and the removal of code requirement for one discounted day per month allowing greater flexibility in offering additional discounted days or seasonal pricing.

Council discussion

In response to councilor inquiry regarding the word “news” in Exhibit A, page 8, paragraph L, dealing with expanding from photos to videography, Deputy Metro Attorney Nathan Sykes responded that this was not intended to regulate news media and their access to the Zoo and that the word “news” could be removed to avoid confusion. He noted that the intended purpose was to limit photography/videography taken for commercial purposes or other uses (not news/media). The amendment was made and noted that the next reading and vote would be for an “A” version which would include this change.

Council President Hughes opened up a public hearing on Ordinance No. 15-1358. Seeing no one wishing to testify, he closed the public hearing and noted that the second reading, Council consideration, and vote would be scheduled for Thursday, August 6th.

5. ORDINANCES (SECOND READ)

5.1 Ordinance No. 15-1355, For the Purpose of Annexing to the Metro District Boundary Approximately 27.9 Acres Located North and South of NW Brugger Road in the North Bethany Area of Washington County

Motion:	Councilor Kathryn Harrington moved to approve Ordinance No. 15-1355.
Second:	Councilor Craig Dirksen seconded the motion.

Council discussion

There was none.

Vote:	Council President Hughes, and Councilors Stacey, Chase, Collette, Craddick, Dirksen, Harrington voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 ayes, the motion <u>passed</u> .
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5.2 Ordinance No. 15-1356, For the Purpose of Approving Tonnage Cap Adjustments and Authorizing the Chief Operating Officer to Issue Modified Franchises for Privately-Owned Transfer Stations

Motion:	Councilor Craig Dirksen moved to approve Ordinance No. 15-1356.
Second:	Councilor Kathryn Harrington seconded the motion.

Council discussion

There was none.

Vote: Council President Hughes, and Councilors Stacey, Chase, Collette, Craddick, Dirksen, Harrington voted in support of the motion. The vote was 7 ayes, the motion passed.

6. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

Ms. Martha Bennett provided an update on the following events or items: Urban Growth Management Decision recommendation from COO being released this afternoon, Equitable Housing workgroup meeting on Tuesday from noon – 2pm, and Oregon Zoo requests feedback/voting on the naming of rescued baby river otter.

7. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings or events: Quarterly Trails Forum, joint JPACT/MPAC tour of Milwaukie and first speaker event in series, First City Festival in Oregon City on Saturday from 11 – 8 featuring music, tours of Blue Heron site and Willamette Falls site, and other activities, OMPOC meeting in Bend, retirement of long-time City of Hillsboro Parks and Recreation employee Mary Ordal, Portland Symphony event in Cathedral Park over the weekend, the Big Float on the Willamette River starting at 11am, Day In Damascus event, Tualatin Hills Parks & Recreation District’s Party in the Park on Saturday featuring a classic car show, and a North Portland Greenway forum on Saturday.

8. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the regular meeting at 3:33 p.m. The Metro Council will convene the next regular council meeting on Thursday, August 6, 2015 at 2 p.m. at the Metro Regional Center in the council chamber.

Respectfully submitted,



Alexandra Eldridge, Regional Engagement & Legislative Coordinator

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JULY 23, 2015

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1.0	Handout	07/23/2015	Poster for Willamette River Revival event	072315c-01
2.0	Handout	7/23/2015	State of Black Oregon 2015 Report: Executive Summary	072315c-02
3.0	Minutes	07/16/2015	Council Meeting Minutes from July 16, 2015	071615c-03