



METRO COUNCIL RETREAT
Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2016
Metro Regional Center, Room 401

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

Councilors Excused: None

Staff Present: Martha Bennett, Alison Kean, Ina Zucker, Andy Shaw, Alexandra Eldridge, Colin Deverell, Elissa Gertler, Ted Leybold, Scott Robinson, Randy Tucker, Kathleen Brennan-Hunter, Heather Nelson Kent, Amy Croover, Nikolai Ursin, Hope Whitney, Noah Siegel

Others Present: Lee Anne Fergason, Dave Metz

Council President Hughes noted a quorum was present and called the Council Retreat to order at 1:38p.m.

1. INTRODUCTION, PURPOSE OF MEETING, AND AGENDA REVIEW

Ms. Martha Bennett provided a brief overview of the agenda and explained that the primary purpose of this retreat was to follow up from the last retreat on Parks & Nature items prioritization and discuss transportation funding.

2. FOLLOW UP TO COUNCIL REQUEST TO EXMINE OPTIONS FOR PARKS AND NATURE LOCAL OPTION LEVY RENEWAL

Ms. Bennett introduced Ms. Heather Nelson Kent from Metro's Parks and Nature Department and Mr. Dave Metz from FM3, to provide a brief presentation on results from a Parks & Nature poll. Ms. Nelson Kent explained that staff had received requests from councilors to further research options for parks and natural areas funding, so Mr. Metz would explain the results of a recent poll on funding options. Mr. Metz discussed how the polling was done and key findings of the poll, including demographics, general overall support for a levy renewal option, and ranking of priorities among voters. Councilors asked clarifying questions about the poll and discussed a potential levy renewal and other funding options, as well as timing and voter turnout for various upcoming races.

3. BREAK

4. RFFA NEXT STEPS

Ms. Bennett introduced Ms. Elissa Gertler, Director of Planning and Development, and Mr. Ted Leybold, Metro staff, to provide a presentation on the Regional Flexible Funds Allocation (RFFA) program and discuss next steps with the Metro Council. Ms. Gertler and Mr. Leybold discussed

positions that the Metro Council could take relating to RFFA bonding, which included supporting the current TriMet proposal, supporting a modified TriMet proposal to include ODOT contribution, and opposing bonding for anything other than High Capacity Transit (HCT), as well as upcoming topics to discuss relating to transportation funding. Ms. Gertler and Mr. Leybold discussed principles that could lead to successful transportation funding, such as integrated packages that involve more than one mode of transportation and will improve every part of the transportation system. They provided two primary directions (“State Freight” and “Connect the Region”), explaining the steps for each, funding sources and amounts, as well as timing on each, and provided a recommendation on next steps that could be taken by JPACT. Ms. Gertler and Mr. Leybold noted the primary difference between the two would be that the “Connect the Region” direction would commit money in RFFA to bond for HCT and road projects, while the “State Freight” direction would commit to HCT and highway projects. They also discussed next steps for community partners and ODOT/ACT.

Councilors asked clarifying questions about the funding sources and amounts listed in the presentation, requested copies of the JPACT letter to the ODOT Region 1 ACT as well as the Enhance project application list, and discussed potential options for Safe Routes to Schools allocation within the RFFA process. Councilors also further discussed the current RFFA process, requesting that staff put together a proposal for JPACT which includes input from key partners and stakeholders from the public comment period, and requested that staff check back in with them to get additional feedback and to ensure that they’ve appropriately addresses identified issues.

5. NEXT STEPS AND DEBRIEF

Councilors requested more time for discussion in the future around both funding topics.

6. ADJOURN

Seeing no further discussion, Council President Hughes adjourned the Council retreat at 4:10p.m.

Prepared by,



Alexandra Eldridge, Regional Engagement & Legislative Coordinator

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JAN. 19, 2016

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
2.0	Presentation	1/19/2016	Metro Natural Areas PowerPoint by FM3 Public Opinion Research & Strategy	011916c-01
4.0	Presentation	1/19/2016	RFFA Next Steps PowerPoint	011916c-02