



METRO COUNCIL MEETING
Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2016
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

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

Councilors Excused: None

Council President Tom Hughes called the regular council meeting to order at 2:02pm.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Ron Swaren, Portland: Mr. Swaren provided testimony on bicycle and pedestrian-friendly options for the Southwest Corridor Plan, including a double-decker bus to reduce the need for additional bus rapid transit facilities and an elevated bicycle and pedestrian lane.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion:	Councilor Craig Dirksen moved to adopt items on the consent agenda.
Second:	Councilor Bob Stacey seconded the motion.

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

3.1 Resolution No. 15-4670, For the Purpose of Approving the Parks and Nature System Plan

Motion:	Councilor Carlotta Collette moved to approve Resolution 15-4670.
Second:	Councilor Sam Chase seconded the motion.

Council President Hughes called on Ms. Kathleen Brennan-Hunter, Metro's Director of Parks and Nature, to provide a presentation. Ms. Brennan-Hunter provided background on the work that Metro has done on the Parks and Nature System Plan over time and reviewed the plan's mission statement and the six mission-critical strategies identified by the document. Ms. Brennan-Hunter emphasized the importance of partnerships to the success of the program, and highlighted the efforts to make diversity, equity, and inclusion integral to the plan.

Council President Hughes noted that there were several members of the public who had filled out testimony cards relating to Resolution No. 15-4670, and requested that they give their testimony at this time.

Mike Houck, Portland: Mr. Houck urged the Council to adopt the Parks and Nature System plan, spoke to the excellence of the Parks and Nature staff, and shared a brief history of Metro's role in the regional parks system.

Jim Labbe, Portland: Mr. Labbe expressed his support for the Parks and Nature System Plan and thanked the staff for their hard work. He also spoke to the importance of Metro's continued investment in the regional system and highlighted the connection between the Parks and Nature System Plan and the 2040 Natural Resource Plan regarding the conservation of regionally significant habitat.

Gerald Deloney, Portland: Mr. Deloney thanked the Council and spoke to his support for the Parks and Nature System Plan. He emphasized the importance of equity as an aspect of both the plan and day-to-day operations.

Mike Wetter, Portland: Mr. Wetter thanked the Council and Parks and Nature staff for their work in creating an integrated regional network of parks, trails, and natural areas that connect across jurisdictional lines. He expressed his support for the Parks and Nature System Plan, highlighting the mission-critical strategy that addresses building, sustaining and leveraging partnerships.

Mike Abbate, Portland: Mr. Abbate spoke to his support for Parks and Nature System plan and shared some of the goals of the Parks and Recreation Department of the City of Portland. He discussed the importance of a regional trails system, urging Metro to continue promoting trail development through the development of a funding source and continued support of partnerships.

Council Discussion

Councilors thanked those who provided testimony for their partnership and efforts, as well as Metro staff for their work on developing the Parks and Nature System Plan.

Vote:

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

3.2 Resolution No. 16-4684, For the Purpose of Amending the Oregon Zoo Bond Implementation Plan

Motion:	Councilor Shirley Craddick moved to approve Resolution 16-4684.
Second:	Councilor Carlotta Collette seconded the motion.

Council President Hughes called on Ms. Heidi Rahn, Oregon Zoo Bond Program Director, and Ms. Amy Cutting, Oregon Zoo staff, to provide a brief staff presentation. Ms Rahn shared a brief update on the progress made as part of the Oregon Zoo's 20-year master plan, including the recent completion of Elephant Lands and updates on the upcoming polar bear habitat improvements. Ms. Rahn provided an update on the current project budget, noting the cost escalation for construction

is higher than originally estimated in 2011. She noted that some of the additional resources needed can come from the contingency fund that the Council set aside early on and some minor reductions in project scope can be taken, while still fulfilling the commitment to the voters on this project.

Ms. Cutting discussed the upcoming renovation of the polar bear habitat, which will create a larger and more diverse habitat to encourage and promote nature behaviors. She described the research and work behind designing the best habitat possible, including learning from other facilities around the world and providing Zoo visitors with opportunities to learn about the conservation actions that the Oregon Zoo is working on as well as what they can do to help with conservation efforts. Ms. Cutting also discussed some of the work being done with the US Geological Survey and other partners to learn more about polar bear biology and conservation, as well as long-standing relationship that the Zoo has with Polar Bears International and the Zoo's effort to becoming the first zoo facility ever built specifically to facilitate conservation science with the animals that we work with. Ms. Cutting also noted how excited the staff is to be bringing on the new Oregon Zoo Director, Dr. Don Moore, as he is a well known expert in polar bear biology and behavior.

Council Discussion

Councilors asked questions regarding possible design features for the polar bears, including access to ice, dry cool and dry warm areas for resting. Ms. Cutting noted research and options that colleagues around the world have recommended to her, all of which they are looking into as options for the new polar bear habitat project. Councilors inquired about the order of upcoming projects and what contingency funds will be available for each of those, to which Ms. Rahn provided a short timeline and explanation of what funding will be available for each, what to potentially expect for future increases in costs moving forward due to construction increases, as well as which of those upcoming projects have as much major construction or risk involved. Councilors thanked staff for their work to fulfill the bond promises, be fiscally responsible with the taxpayer dollars, and provide exciting new habitats for the animals.

Vote:

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

4. ORDINANCES (SECOND READ)

4.1 Ordinance No. 16-1368, For the Purpose of Responding to the Remand from the Oregon Court of Appeals and the Land Conservation and Development Commission Regarding the Designation of Urban Reserves in Clackamas County

Council President Hughes noted that the first read and public hearing on this ordinance took place on January 14th.

Motion:	Councilor Kathryn Harrington moved to approve Ordinance 16-1368.
Second:	Councilor Bob Stacey seconded the motion.

Council President Hughes called on Mr. Roger Alfred, Metro staff, to provide a brief staff presentation. Mr. Alfred noted that this was the fourth public meeting regarding the remand on the Stafford Urban Reserves designation, following two public hearings (one in October, one in

November) where there was a considerable amount of public testimony, but that most of the testimony was actually related to the Langdon Farms issues in Clackamas County and less about the Stafford remand. He explained that in advance of the January 14th meeting, the Council received a full set of new finding, at which time the Council decided to hold the record open for an additional 8 days for any additional public testimony to be submitted. Mr. Alfred briefly went over the testimony received in that time period, which included a letter from Mr. Jeff Condit and a memo from Mr. Alfred.

Council discussion:

Councilors thanked staff for their work on the findings, noting that they feel that staff has addressed the questions from the remand and the importance to concluding this part of the reserves process in order to move forward with future planning.

Vote:

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

5. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

Ms. Martha Bennett provided an update on the following events or items: thank you to Ms. Jani Iverson from the Oregon Zoo Foundation Board who is resigning in February, update on two aluminum docks installed, upcoming Raptor Road Trip.

6. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings or events: an upcoming OMPOC meeting in Eugene.

7. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the regular meeting at 4:22 p.m. The Metro Council will convene the next regular council meeting on Thursday, February 18, 2016 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 FEB. 4, 2016

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
2.0	Minutes	01/28/2016	Council Meeting Minutes from January 28, 2016	020416c-01