



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Meeting Minutes
April 19, 2016
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

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

Councilors Excused: None

Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:02 p.m.

1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

Chief Operating Officer Martha Bennett distributed the new Metro Regional Snapshot focused on transportation and spoke to new bilingual advertisements on TriMet vehicles. Ms. Bennett noted that Mr. Al Mowbray, Metro staff, won first place in cartographic design at the Annual GIS in Action conference and added that Mr. Patrick McLaughlin joined the Metro Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Program team. Ms. Bennett discussed Metro Council Office staff reassignments, noting Mr. Andy Shaw as the new Regional Affairs Manager and Ms. Stephanie Soden as the new Chief of Staff for President Hughes.

2. NORTH TUALATIN MOUNTAINS ACCESS PLAN DISCUSSION

Mr. Dan Moeller, Metro program director, Mr. Jonathan Soll, Metro manager, and Ms. Olena Turula, Metro planner, provided Council with a discussion regarding the North Tualatin Mountains Access Master Plan, responded to Council questions brought forward by citizen testimony, and sought Council direction on any changes needed before consideration at the April 21st Metro Council meeting. Mr. Moeller thanked Council for their availability, time, and energy in the project, noting that the process has been valuable and appreciated. Mr. Moeller spoke to how the Access Master Plan fulfills the three aspects of the Metro Parks and Nature mission, which are supporting clean water, healthy fish and wildlife habitat, and creating opportunities for the community to connect with nature. Mr. Moeller added that upon Council approval, staff will begin land use applications and permitting designs.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Craddick thanked staff for discussion opportunity and inquired how Metro will ensure no off-trail cycling and what the bond states about cyclists. Mr. Moeller noted that studies showed that bicycles cause less of a disturbance than hikers, as hikers can alarm animals for a longer period of time. Mr. Moeller discussed reducing off-trail cycling with well-designed trails and close monitoring, and noted that immediate adjustments or trail closures can take place based on usage patterns. Mr. Moeller added that the bond refers to bicycling as an appropriate, passive, and desired

recreation. Councilor Collette asked to review a specific citizen testimony regarding inconsistencies in planning and noted challenges associated with closing trails. Mr. Moeller clarified the differences between Burlington Creek and Burlington Creek Forest and discussed how Ms. Katy Weil, Metro staff, has been working with the frog shuttle program to track and exchange amphibian data. Mr. Moeller spoke to adaptive trail management, noting that work is done up front to ensure trails are successful and that there is a methodology to trail decommission. Councilor Harrington reviewed the acreage of natural space that is protected, noting that the message was positively impactful to community members. Councilor Harrington spoke to concerns relating to community horse access and shoulder parking access points in Forest Park. Councilor Dirksen spoke to the plan being well-thought out and asked if staff heard anything during the public hearing that was new information or an observation that would lead staff to rethink recommendations. Mr. Moeller spoke to his appreciation for all public testimony, noting that it was done respectfully and showed great community engagement. Mr. Moeller added that he did not hear testimony that revealed new information and that no recommendations are changing. Councilor Craddick inquired about an elk crossing where a parking lot will be located. Mr. Moeller discussed watching elk movement and hiring a consultant. Mr. Moeller noted that there was no data to indicate that development would not allow elk to migrate through the area. Councilor Craddick expressed concern about litter and garbage left on trails. Mr. Moeller spoke to Metro's long track record of opening developed access properties and the many layers of monitoring and managing sites. Councilor Stacey spoke to reassuring the public. Mr. Moeller expressed that conversations with the public will not stop if the plan is approved and staff will work closely with those who have concern while continuing to learn and adapt. Councilor Chase commented on the thorough process and spoke to the importance of easy access to nature in higher developed urban areas. President Hughes spoke to his intrigue on how science can be applied to a policy issue and how we make nature accessible to everyone in the community.

3. BUDGET DISCUSSION

Mr. Collier, Metro Director of Finance and Regulatory Services, and Ms. Kathy Kutkowski, Metro staff, discussed the Fiscal Year 2016-15 Proposed Budget and provided additional information on specific aspects of the budget proposal. Mr. Collier spoke to a few important changes, including the Expo Center's funding, the Oregon Zoo's enterprise fund, major capital projects at the Metro Regional Center, continued housing program funding, and the additional of another Regional Illegal Dumping (RID) patrol. Ms. Rutkowski discussed next steps, briefly highlighted important upcoming budget dates, and spoke to an updated history of the opportunity fund.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Craddick inquired about Greater Portland Inc. and the Metro export initiative. President Hughes discussed Oregon's Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) expenses. Councilor Harrington thanked staff for a straightforward, well written budget and asked if there should be a technical charter change with the construction excise tax. Councilor Craddick noted that she was impressed with budget messaging and presentation.

4. METRO ATTORNEY COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Alison Kean, Metro Attorney, provided Council with her regularly scheduled Metro Attorney Communications. Topics discussed included:

- Court dismissed the Portland Business Alliance's challenge on the Portland State University payroll tax
- New equity contact language is being drafted with Metro procurement staff
- Staff is negotiating marketing with Travel Oregon for the Oregon Convention Center
- Metro public transfer stations are working with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to comply with asbestos rules and enforcing the rules properly to ensure safety
- Continuing to work with material recovery facility (MRF) source-separated recyclable committee to determine whether to impose regulatory standards
- Ongoing natural areas grants for the bond measure
- Updated Council on the Metro timber trespass lawsuit against four Gresham homeowners

5. COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATES AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Councilor Craddick noted that the Oregon Zoo's Elephant Lands project is nominated for the top award at the Daily Journal of Commerce (DJC) awards dinner next week. Councilor Craddick spoke to the Oregon Zoo Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee meeting and tour of the Oregon Zoo Education Center currently under construction. Councilor Harrington inquired if this was an opportunity to use American made solar panels on the Education Center. Mr. Scott Robinson, Metro Deputy Chief Operating Officer, noted that staff is working with Portland General Electric (PGE) and the solar panel grant program will be using an American based solar panel manufacturer. Councilor Collette discussed scheduling a Council tour of the Willamette Falls Locks and the possibility of a tribal advisory committee. Additionally, Councilor Collette highlighted the screening of Sista in the Brotherhood at the Portland Art Museum. Councilor Harrington noted that Councilor Chase will attend the Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization (RDPO) meeting in her place and highlighted a lecture she attended last night with President Hughes about elephants in Borneo. President Hughes discussed a meeting with stakeholders regarding updates to the Arlene Schnitzer Auditorium.

6. ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the Metro Council work session at 3:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kate Giraud, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF APRIL 19, 2016

| ITEM | DOCUMENT TYPE | DOC DATE | DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION | DOCUMENT No. |
|-------------|----------------------|-----------------|--|---------------------|
| 1.0 | Flyer | 04/19/2016 | Regional Snapshot Series: Transportation | 041916cw-01 |
| 2.0 | Handout | 04/19/2016 | North Tualatin Mountains Access Master Plan Responses | 041916cw-02 |
| 3.0 | Handout | 04/13/2016 | FY 2016-17 Council Budget Review Key Dates and Deadlines | 041916cw-03 |
| 3.0 | Handout | 04/19/2016 | Special Appropriations | 041916cw-04 |
| 3.0 | Handout | 04/19/2016 | History of Opportunity Account | 041916cw-05 |