



METRO POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MPAC)

Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2016

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

MEMBERS PRESENT

Sam Chase
Tim Clark, *Chair*
Carlotta Collette
Betty Dominguez
Andy Duyck
Mark Gamba, *1st Vice Chair*
Jeff Gudman
Gordon Hovies
Dick Jones
Keith Mays, *2nd Vice Chair*
Ty Stober
Tootie Smith
Bob Stacey

AFFILIATION

Metro Council
City of Wood Village, Other Cities in Multnomah Co.
Metro Council
Citizen of Clackamas County
Washington County
City of Milwaukie, Other Cities in Clackamas Co.
City of Lake Oswego, Largest City in Clackamas Co.
Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue, Special Districts in Washington Co.
Oak Lodge Water District, Special Districts in Clackamas Co.
Metro Council
City of Vancouver
Clackamas County
Metro Council

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Denny Doyle

AFFILIATION

City of Beaverton, 2nd Largest City in Washington Co.

ALTERNATES PRESENT

Steve Callaway
Carrie MacLaren

AFFILIATION

City of Hillsboro, Largest City in Washington Co.
Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development

OTHERS PRESENT: Martha Fritze, Bobby Lee, Brenda Perry, Jonathan Schlueter

STAFF: Alexandra Eldridge, Scotty Ellis, Shaina Hobbs, Juan Carlos Ocaña-Chíu, Ramona Perrault, Patty Unfred

1. CALL TO ORDER, SELF INTRODUCTIONS, CHAIR COMMUNICATIONS

MPAC Chair Tim Clark called the meeting to order at 5:07p.m. All attendees introduced themselves.

Councilor Ty Stober introduced himself to MPAC members and informed MPAC of his history in business and civic engagement. He shared that after several decades in the private sector he chose to become politically involved in the City of Vancouver.

Chair Clark asked MPAC members to submit ideas for items on the 2016 MPAC work program. Councilor Bob Stacey recommended that MPAC visit the City of Vancouver, and Councilor Carlotta Collette added that the City of Vancouver has an innovative water treatment center that would serve as a great model for MPAC. Commissioner Tootie Smith informed MPAC that Clackamas County had discussed the possibility of a tiny homes pilot project and added that she would like to learn from tiny house projects located in Washington.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

3. COUNCIL UPDATE

- Councilor Carlotta Collette shared that the Nature in Neighborhoods grant program is open for applications and will provide \$200,000 to restore fish & wildlife habitat. She added that basic applications were due by May 16th.
- Councilor Collette informed MPAC that the North Tualatin Mountains Master Plan was approved by Council and included plans for two of four Metro-owned parcels would be opened for official public access, and two of four sites would not receive site improvements, but one will receive a Pacific Greenway trail to connect to Forest Park. The plan will provide access while keeping a majority of the property protected to preserve habitat and water quality.
- Councilor Collette shared that Metro staff has recommended light rail as a transit option to serve the Southwest Corridor. The light rail would connect Portland to Tigard and Tualatin. Staff also recommended the study of ways to serve PCC Sylvania that do not include tunnel. She informed MPAC that there was a public hearing on April 14th and that the next steering committee meeting would be on May 9th to determine the mode of transportation.
- Councilor Collette informed MPAC that the Equitable Housing Planning and Development grant program was open for applications, and would provide approximately \$500,000 to explore innovative ways to provide affordable housing. Councilor Sam Chase added that the funds are intended to help 8 to 10 jurisdictions explore their capacity for affordable housing, and explained that the program would include technical assistance.
- Ms. Betty Dominguez congratulated Mayor Gamba and the City of Milwaukie's declaration of a housing emergency and the adoption of a no cause eviction ordinance, which increases protections for renters.

4. MPAC MEMBER COMMUNICATION

- Councilor Ty Stober informed MPAC that the City of Vancouver adopted a 60-day notification period for no cause evictions and a 45-day notification period for 10% rent increases. Councilor Stober explained that the City of Vancouver was finding it difficult to track the effect of the legislation with background data, and welcomed input from MPAC members. Mayor Gamba agreed that housing background data was difficult to track, and explained that there must be ways to slow down rent increases in order to avoid displacing the region's workforce.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- **MTAC Member Nomination**
- **Consideration of April 13, 2016 Minutes**

MOTION: Council President Steve Callaway moved, and Councilor Jeff Gudman seconded, to adopt the consent agenda.

ACTION: With all in favor, the motion passed.

6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 Governor's Regional Solutions Team

Chair Clark introduced Mr. Bobby Lee to give an update on the Governor's Regional Solutions Team (RST).

Key elements of the presentation included:

Mr. Lee informed MPAC members that the Regional Solutions Team (RST) specialized in coordinating efforts between the 146 state agencies in Oregon in order to expedite projects and increase the efficiency of permitting processes. He explained that the RST has six centers throughout Oregon, and added that the team was created in an effort to decentralize the governor's office to effectively help state agencies.

Mr. Lee informed the committee of RST's ongoing efforts in the region, which included projects such as Troutdale Reynolds Industrial Park, the Cully Neighborhood Revitalization, and the Willamette Falls Legacy Project. Mr. Lee added that the poverty level in east Multnomah County was a major factor in RST's selection of the Troutdale Reynolds Industrial Park site.

Mr. Lee noted that RST worked with workforce development organizations to ensure that residents in areas of RST projects were eligible for the jobs created in order to avoid displacement. He added that the RST has received positive feedback from smaller communities because of its integration of smaller communities' priorities into its work plans.

Member discussion included:

- Commissioner Tootie Smith inquired about the budget of the team, and Mr. Lee answered that the RST budget is comprised of \$2 million of gap funding, in addition to smaller amounts from various state agencies.
- Council President Steve Callaway thanked Mr. Lee for RST's work in North Hillsboro.
- Mr. Keith Mays thanked Mr. Lee for RST's work throughout the state, and expressed that the governor's office might recognize the opportunity to consolidate some of the state's agencies.
- Ms. Dominguez expressed that RST has been very effective in the past at promoting the state's balance between jobs, transportation, and housing.

6.2 Metro's Draft Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Chair Clark informed MPAC that Metro staff had released a draft equity strategy in February for public comment, and would be presenting the draft plan in order to ask for the committee's feedback. He added that after the presentation, MPAC members would break into small work groups.

Chair Clark proposed that MPAC send a letter or memo of support to the Metro Council indicating its support following a review of the final draft of the plan in June. Chair Clark introduced Ms. Patty Unfred, Mr. Juan Carlos Ocaña-Chíu and Mr. Scotty Ellis from Metro's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) program.

Key elements of the update included:

Ms. Patty Unfred explained that DEI is focused on making government better. She noted that the region is changing and explained that in order to be a stronger region, inequality must be reduced. She noted that many other jurisdictions around the region are undertaking similar work to increase equity.

Ms. Betty Dominguez informed MPAC that the Equity Strategy Advisory Committee (ESAC) is comprised of members with a diverse backgrounds and experiences and added Metro has been very receptive to the work and suggestions of the committee.

Mr. Ocaña Chíu explained that the traditional "equality" approach in government has yielded less-than-desirable results for many communities. He explained that data regarding income, employment, commute times, and health outcomes reveals that people of color experience worse outcomes. He noted that regions with lower racial disparities are better primed for economic growth and prosperity. Mr. Ocaña Chíu explained that the Draft Strategic Plan includes department-specific equity action plans and an equity analysis and decision-support tool. He added that the plan includes five major long-term goals.

Mr. Ellis identified the five long-term strategic goals in the plan:

- A. Metro Convenes and Supports Regional Partners to Advance Racial Equity
- B. Metro Meaningfully Engages Communities of Color
- C. Metro Hires, Trains and Promotes a Racially Diverse Workforce
- D. Metro Creates Safe and Welcoming Services, Programs and Destinations
- E. Metro's Resource Allocation Advances Racial Equity

He explained that Metro is in a position to provide data and technical support to partners in the region, and has the opportunity to increase the partnerships with Minority, Women and Emerging Small Business (MWESB) contractors to increase equity in the trades. Mr. Ellis explained that the majority of Metro's diversity is concentrated in its "front lines," whereas higher management levels are much less racially diverse. He noted that Metro is nearing end of the public comment and discussion period and added that the final plan would soon be presented to the Metro Council for adoption. MPAC separated into small groups and answered four discussion questions.

- **How is your organization incorporating equity into your work?**

Committee members discussed efforts to increase digital equity by providing more access to online services for improved educational and social outcomes. Several members discussed

their jurisdictions' efforts to make their hiring practices more inclusive in order to increase the diversity of their workforce. Internships, entry-level jobs were described as a key tool to increase opportunities for communities of color.

- **How can Metro best support advancing equity within your organization?**

Some members indicated that Metro should serve as a role model in diverse hiring and procurement practices, and should provide trainings and seminars on equity within various fields such as transportation and parks. Several members recommended that Metro provide resources for jurisdictions to conduct similar work, while others added that Metro should focus in internal diversity practices.

One group identified a high percentage of soon-to-rotate employees as opportunities for organizations in the region to increase the diversity of their workforces. They also recommended that Metro utilize national organizations such as the National League of Cities for resources.

- **Do you have any recommendations for Metro's strategic plan?**

Several members recommended that Metro increase its efforts in breaking down cultural barriers in order to make government efforts more accessible to communities of color. Some members indicated that Metro should explicitly allocate resources for external diversity programs.

- **Is your group in favor of sending a letter to the Metro Council indicating our support following review of the final draft of the plan in June?**

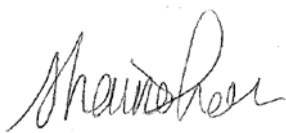
Two of the three groups indicated support of sending a letter, and the third group recommended that MPAC vote on the draft plan.

Ms. Dominguez shared information about Home Forward's efforts to increase digital equity and noted that disparities in digital access can make access to opportunities very difficult for some communities. She noted that Home Forward is working to further the reach of "Ban the Box," in addition to looking into the expungement of minor criminal records. Mr. Ocaña Chiu informed MPAC that his discussion group recommended that stakeholders should be involved in designs of resource programs in order to best fit their needs.

ADJOURN

MPAC Chair Tim Clark adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Shaina Hobbs
Recording Secretary

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF APRIL 27, 2016

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1.0	Flyer	N/A	Event: 12 Lessons from the Vision Zero Cities Conference	042716m-01