



**METRO COUNCIL MEETING**  
Meeting Minutes  
July 21, 2016  
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

Councilors Present: Deputy Council President Craig Dirksen and Councilors Carlotta Collette, Sam Chase, Kathryn Harrington, and Bob Stacey

Councilors Excused: Council President Tom Hughes and Councilor Shirley Craddick

Deputy Council President Craig Dirksen called the regular Council meeting to order at 2:03 pm.

**1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Michael Coff, Hillsboro: Mr. Coff raised concerns about expanding the use of incineration for waste management and urged the Councilors to consider expanding the recycling program before adopting policies regarding waste incineration.

**2. SPECIAL PRESENTATION: DURHAM, ONTARIO REGIONAL COUNCIL ON WASTE-TO-ENERGY FACILITY**

Deputy Council President Dirksen called on Mr. Paul Slyman, Metro's Director of Property and Environmental Services, Ms. Mirka Januszkiewicz, Director of Waste Services from the Region of Durham, and Mr. Gioseph Anello, Manager of Waste Planning and Technical Services from the Region of Durham, for a presentation. Mr. Slyman briefly reviewed Metro's waste management progress, reviewed several options to be considered, and introduced Ms. Januszkiewicz and Mr. Anello. Ms. Januszkiewicz discussed Durham's need to find a sustainable solution to the waste generated by the people of the region, and spoke to the decision to prioritize protecting the environment for future generations in the consideration of waste management options. She emphasized the importance of maintaining an open and transparent process to ensure public trust, and also highlighted the need to educate staff and elected officials about available technology. Mr. Anello briefly reviewed the progress that has been made since the project began in 2005, noting the considerations of safety and fiscal responsibility throughout the process. He briefly discussed the Environmental Assessment that was conducted before completing the project, and highlighted the site-specific human health assessment. He also reviewed the findings of the economic analysis for the Energy-From-Waste (EFW) facility compared to that of a landfill.

***Council discussion:***

Councilor Harrington thanked Ms. Januszkiewicz and Mr. Anello for their presentation, and inquired about the turnover of elected officials throughout the course of the project and the best practices for moving such an ambitious progress forward. Councilor Collette asked clarifying questions about the cost of the Environmental Analysis, the duration of the project's actual

operations, and the lessons learned throughout the project. Councilor Stacey spoke to the passion of Durham's waste management staff, requested advice on gaining public confidence and trust, and inquired about the role of the health minister in the project's success. Deputy Council President Dirksen inquired about other technologies that staff considered before deciding on EFW, and asked about the region of Durham's landfill capacity.

In response to Council questions, Ms. Januszkiewicz noted that the project's success was due in part to the regional chair, who was elected throughout the entirety of the project's journey, and spoke to the importance of having educated and passionate staff. She also emphasized the importance of transparency, and of having municipal staff conducting assessments and overseeing operations separate from Covanta. Mr. Anello spoke to the role of the region's medical officer, who has been engaged in the project throughout its course, but operates independently from the waste management staff.

### **3. METRO FINANCIAL CONDITION PRESENTATION**

Deputy Council President Dirksen called on Mr. Brian Evans, Metro Auditor, to present the Financial Condition of Metro. Mr. Evans briefly reviewed the audit's scope and methodology, noting that the report is intended to give a long term review of Metro's financial history, and that most indicators have remained positive, which indicates that Metro is in good financial health. He discussed the 10-year trends in revenue, expenditures, financial health, and demographics and economics, and noted that while the overall trend is positive, trends in a few indicators had a negative effect, which suggests that caution should be taken. He advised an increased focus on maintaining general fund revenue, and raised concerns about increases in fixed costs and capital expenditures, and spoke to the impact of recovery from the economic recession on Metro's financial health, as measured by demographic and economic indicators.

Mr. Tim Collier, Metro's Director of Finance and Regulatory Services, thanked Mr. Evans for the report. He shared that Metro's financial trends over the last 10 years have been positive, spoke to the agency's AAA rating, and noted several concerns, including fixed costs.

#### ***Council Discussion:***

Councilors raised questions about trends in liquidity, fixed costs relating to bonds recently paid off, and clarifications about the impact of the Oregon Convention Center Hotel project.

### **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

Vote: 

Deputy Council President Dirksen, and Councilors Chase, Collette, Harrington, and Stacey voted in support of the motion. The vote was 5 ayes, the motion <u>passed</u> .
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**5. RESOLUTIONS**

**6.1 Resolution No. 16-4716, For the Purpose of Adopting a Transfer System Configuration Policy**

Motion:	Councilor Bob Stacey moved to approve Resolution No. 16-4716.
Second:	Councilor Carlotta Collette seconded the motion.

Deputy Council President Dirksen called on Mr. Tim Collier, Metro’s Director of Finance and Regulatory Services, for a brief presentation. Mr. Collier provided an overview of the project, noting several observations on the current system. He discussed the proposed improvements, including a simplified allocation process, improved system flexibility, small business opportunities, and increased rate transparency. He also noted the Council’s recommendation to pursue rate transparency improvements at the June 21<sup>st</sup> Council work session.

***Council discussion:***

Councilors and Ms. Alison Kean, Metro Attorney, discussed the letters of testimony received in regarding Resolution No. 16-4716. Councilor Chase expressed his support for the resolution, noting its ability to improve transparency and provide a new tool to local jurisdictions, and Councilor Stacey thanked the jurisdictions for their letters of support.

Vote: 

Deputy Council President Dirksen, and Councilors Chase, Collette, Harrington, and Stacey voted in support of the motion. The vote was 5 ayes, the motion <u>passed</u> .
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**6. ORDINANCES (FIRST READ)**

**7.1 Ordinance No. 16-1377, For the Purpose of Annexing to the Metro District Boundary Approximately 11.84 Acres Located South of SW Friendly Lane in the River Terrace Area of Tigard**

Metro Attorney Alison Kean and Deputy Council President Dirksen read the requirements on holding a quasi-judicial hearing, and Deputy Council President Dirksen introduced Metro staff, Mr. Tim O’Brien, to provide a brief staff report. Mr. O’Brien provided a brief report regarding the annexation request, explained the criteria required and that the request did meet the required criteria for annexation into the Metro District Boundary.

Deputy Council President Dirksen opened up a public hearing on Ordinance No. 16-1377. Seeing no requests to testify, Deputy Council President Dirksen closed the public hearing and noted that the second reading, Council consideration and vote are scheduled for Thursday, July 28, 2016.

***Council discussion:***

Councilors and Mr. Roger Alfred, Office of the Metro Attorney, discussed the letter of testimony received regarding Ordinance No. 16-1377.

**7. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION**

Chief Operating Officer, Ms. Martha Bennett, provided an update on the following events or items: the joint lunch discussion with the Metro Exposition Recreation Committee (MERC) regarding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, the death of Conrad, a polar bear from the Oregon Zoo, and the closure of Blue Lake Swim Park. She also noted that this will be the last Council meeting for Ms. Alexandra Eldridge, Metro's Regional Engagement & Legislative Coordinator. Ms. Bennett, Deputy Council President Dirksen, Councilors, and Metro staff spoke to their appreciation for Ms. Eldridge's hard work.

**8. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION**

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings or events: the most recent Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) meeting, the upcoming Equitable Housing Lunch & Learn, and Oregon City's First City Celebration.

**9. ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Deputy Council President Dirksen adjourned the regular meeting at 3:56 p.m. The Metro Council will convene at the next regular council meeting on Thursday, July 28, 2016 at 2 p.m. in the council chamber at the Metro Regional Center.

Respectfully submitted,



Kyra Schneider, Council Policy Assistant

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JULY 21, 2016**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Doc. Date</b>	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>Doc. Number</b>
3.0	PowerPoint	07/21/2016	Durham's Road to EFW PowerPoint	072116c-01
3.0	Handout	07/21/2016	Waste Management Annual Report 2015	072116c-02
4.0	PowerPoint	07/21/2016	Financial Condition of Metro PowerPoint	072116c-03
5.6	Minutes	07/14/2016	Council Meeting Minutes on June 16, 2016	072116c-04
6.1	PowerPoint	07/21/2016	Resolution No. 16-4716, For the Purpose of Adopting a Transfer System Configuration Policy Power Point	072116c-05
6.1	Testimony, Written	06/29/2016	Letter from City of Gresham Director of Environmental Services	072116c-06
6.1	Testimony, Written	07/01/2016	Letter from City of Hillsboro Mayor Jerry Willey	072116c-07
6.1	Testimony, Written	07/13/2016	Letter from Washington County Board of Commissioners Chair Andy Duyck	072116c-08
6.1	Testimony, Written	07/20/2016	Letter from City of Cornelius Mayor Jeffrey Dalin	072116c-09
6.1	Testimony, Written	07/21/2016	Letter from Republic Services General Manager Jason Jordon	072116c-10
7.1	Testimony, Written	07/05/2016	Letter from John Ransom to Metro Council	072116c-11