



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2016
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

Councilors Present: Council President Tom Hughes and Councilors Craig Dirksen, Bob Stacey, Shirley Craddick, Sam Chase, Carlotta Collette, 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 (COO) Martha Bennett spoke to members of Metro Council on several items:

- Ina Zucker, Metro Council Policy Manager, issued a reminder email regarding a support letter for City of Portland's request to People for Bikes grant program called The Big Jump. The city's application is for improving bicycling in the Gateway District.
- A highlight on the Portland Tribune article on the Sunset Transit Center's pedestrian bridge being named in honor of Terry Moore, who served as a Metro Councilor from 1992-1995.
- Acknowledgement of the Oregon Zoo in attendance at the annual Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), where they received AZA's North American Conservation Award for their work with western pond turtles. In addition, Oregon Zoo programs with polar bear research and condor recovery were highlighted for Oregon Zoo's focus towards effective conservation and education of at risk species.
- January 5th, 2017 is slated for the inauguration of Councilor Dirksen, Chase and Stacey.

2. SPACE EFFICIENT HOUSING UPDATE

Elissa Gertler, Metro's Director of Planning and Development, started by mentioning the goal of discussion is to provide recommendations for the equitable housing report by using land as a resource for space-efficient housing. Emily Lieb, Metro, continued the discussion by stating the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has been leading the work group in order to increase supply and demand for space-efficient housing such as cottage clusters and duplexes. DEQ took the initiative in order to drive forward the environmental benefits in transitioning towards more affordable housing. Jordan, a DEQ representative, spoke about successes with Accessory Dwelling Units (AUD) and spoke about the potential for Metro involvement in zoning codes. He then mentioned that homeowners need to play a larger role in the program and that expansion of zoning will allow for more opportunity for homeowners to build AUD's on lots.

Emily then spoke on the preliminary work plan in order to identify stakeholders in government, finance, and home builders in order to increase the opportunity to expand discussions, and to support local governments through code changes and to connect with local jurisdictions.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Craig Dirksen began Council Discussion by remarking that this is important work and that the transition from environmental goals to include home owner affordability is a great advancement. He went on that due to development codes, prices are pushing people into more affordable areas and that there is a need to provide more affordable options. Councilor Shirley Craddick spoke next, concurring with Councilor Dirksen that this is an excellent opportunity for Metro involvement. She asked clarifying questions on the influence Metro has on zoning codes in the region. Ms. Gertler responded that the approach will be through offering initiatives with an ability to use regulatory tools if necessary. Council President Tom Hughes remarked on the issue from a consumer standpoint reflecting on Hillsboro and the lack of requests for ADU's with rising costs. Ms. Lieb answered that homeowners are not natural developers and that access to knowledge may be a barrier from marketing ADU's. Jordan also mentioned that there are workgroups looking to identify pathways for legalization of tiny homes as another tool. Councilor Carlotta Collette then spoke on her excitement over the work and recommended that youth be involved in advisory committees and that by doing so will offer a more holistic approach and will provide an opportunity for youth to instill trust in their community. Councilor Collette also mentions the involvement of seniors as a opportunity to incorporate social goals in space efficient housing. Ms. Lieb responded that the AARP is interested in this, particularly multi-generational housing. Councilor Kathryn Harrington mentioned concern over the development of model code language, and the need to ensure feedback and resources are developed in a timeframe that will ensure resources are available. Councilor Sam Chase spoke about the importance over the next few years in the transition is focused on equity housing choice. He spoke about the involvement of Metro's Solid Waste department in order to reduce the amount of waste produced from the construction of smaller homes. He then spoke about a need to highlight barriers and to focus on ways to get elected officials excited about the program. Councilor Bob Stacey stated he supports the proposal without reservation with unanimous agreement from the Council.

3. URBAN GROWTH READINESS TASK FORCE: UPDATE

Council President Tom Hughes began the discussion by stating the third Urban Growth Task Force meeting went well. Approached that need to be taken were identified as well as flexibility needs in making adjustments to the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). He stated that there is agreement to swap no more than 900 acres at each midpoint cycle and that having Damascus agree to swap out land was a good idea but could not be implemented quickly. Councilor Carlotta Collette discussed an issue that the 900 acre limit was not enough, but if there was a logical reasoning for a different number then it will be considered. Councilor Craig Dirksen mentioned appreciation on the update and is glad discussions are moving forward. Councilor Bob Stacey mentioned other points towards requirements and determination of need over land swaps. He expressed caution and care as

discussion move forward. He further mentioned that homeowners disposed in Damascus need special consideration. He then continued by stating cities should have greater ability to meet needs based on their readiness and capacity to serve. John Williams, Metro's Deputy Director of Planning and Development, mentioned that Council lacks the flexibility to consider these areas should there be a need to. He mentioned the possibility to add some standard to the Metro code for information required from cities where planning must be done upfront on achieving local and regional goals. Councilor Shirley Craddick asked if this will artificially inflate expansion over time, and what will happen in a cycle if there is no need to expand. Mr. Williams mentions that at three year cycles Metro reviews the population and employment forecast, the progress of recovery from recession, and that these considerations will set the basis for discussion at mid point cycles on achieving regional outcomes. Councilor Kathryn Harrington mentioned working with jurisdictions on UGB related matters and that there is discrepancies over the region on understanding of how the system works. She highlighted on how land use and community planning are delicate subjects. She then asked that in moving forward, if planning staff would create a summary sheet on how the system works and how it will work with new adoptions. Council President Tom Hughes concluded the discussion by stating the strongest tool in maintaining the UGB is having a multi-modal and undivided community. He states that if jurisdictions can justify small expansions based on other criteria, then Metro can be flexible enough that it will not violate the goal of having a tight UGB.

4. COUNCILOR LIAISON UPDATES AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Councilor Craig Dirksen spoke about the latest regional leader's forum and asked Council if they felt it went well. Councilor Shirley Craddick mentioned appreciation for Councilor Kathryn Harrington for mentioning the notion of a sales tax for funding goals. Councilor Dirksen mentioned there was some issue from some jurisdictions over the focus over Portland rather than the Portland Metropolitan Area. Council President Tom Hughes mentioned some disappointment over a lack of business representation at the meeting. Councilor Dirksen highlighted some of the positive aspects of the meeting, and mentioned discussions on replacing the gas tax in the future for fuel efficient vehicles. Councilor Craddick mentioned Powell-Division community outreach in the development of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) in the Gresham area and the concern over not having BRT reach to Mount Hood Community College. Councilor Bob Stacey concurred with Councilor Craddick in the disappointment reflected by the local community members but mentioned there may be possible solutions. Councilor Craddick mentioned there are two meetings scheduled and that a decision will be reached at the November 2016 meeting. Councilor Kathryn Harrington asked if it will be possible to get metrics on ridership in the Gresham area to Mount Hood Community College. Councilor Stacey mentioned that current ridership is 55% to Downtown Portland, 45% to Gresham, and 1 out of 48 is the proportion of riders who go to Mount Hood Community College. Councilor Stacey then shared two draft letters in support of Vision Zero which will adopt language protecting low income and racial households. Council unanimously agreed that the second draft letter is the one that should be sent. Councilor Sam Chase mentioned that he met with City of Portland Commissioner Steve Novick in support of Vision Zero. Councilor Carlotta Collette discussed her first visit to a Metro Nature and Capital Grants site at North Clackamas Park, and mentioned that investment in the area has greatly improved the land and usability. She then mentioned work with

the Clackamas County Coordinating Committee (C4) on having bylaw language change. Alison Kean, Metro Attorney, mentioned that she does not believe Metro has taken action to formally have C4 as a Metro advisory committee. Councilor Kathryn Harrington concluded the discussion by mentioning a Regional Disaster Preparedness (RDP) meeting to advise Metro on disaster preparedness in our region.

5. ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Metro Council work session at 4:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher Spencer, Council Policy Assistant

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

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1.0	Letter	09/27/2016	Metro Council to People for Bikes	092716cw-01
4.0	Letter	09/27/2016	Draft Letter 1: Vision Zero	092716cw-02
4.0	Letter	09/27/2016	Draft Letter 2: Vision Zero	092716cw-03