



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2016
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

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

Councilors Excused: Councilor Bob Stacey

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:

- Kathleen Brennan-Hunter, Metro Director of Parks and Nature, will be leaving Metro to pursue other opportunities
- Expressed appreciation that a recent storm event missed the region but offered an opportunity to test out incidence response ability.
- A biannual regional meeting with 25 out of 27 city managers attending for discussions on Urban Growth Boundary (UGB), transportation funding, and solid waste.
- A reminder of an upcoming all staff meeting, focuses of successes of Metro's adoption of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) at Metro and venues.
- An upcoming charitable giving campaign with chili lunch.

2. REVIEW RECOMMENDATION OF WILLAMETTE FALLS TASK FORCE

Andy Cotugno discussed the Willamette Falls Locks milestones and significance to our region. He went through a brief background, where roughly a decade ago was the start of new involvement in Willamette Locks, where congressional legislation ran the program. He stated that Willamette Locks has been closed for the last five years due to safety issues and the potential for vessel damage within the locks. He stated it was clear the Army Corp of Engineers (ACE) would need to transfer responsibility for maintenance to another party as they no longer serve a national benefit as in the past with the transfer of agricultural products. He continued that there is recreational benefit but not enough to justify ACE cause. This led to an evaluation period on potential agencies who can assume responsibility, findings for funding, and an examination over decommissioning to gradually disintegrate ACE role over time.

Mr. Cotugno continued that there is a shift on how to go through the process with the ACE to arrive at a final disposition. He continued that the Willamette Falls Task Force is chaired by Barbara Roberts and Councilor Collette, with involvement from Clackamas County. This includes members from legislatures, state departments, community advocates, and tribal representatives. He stated that there was a general conclusion to find a strategy to complete necessary repairs and to re-open Willamette Locks, but that it is not central to any single agencies mission. He remarked that the Marine Board will help for grants and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) for transit. He noted that the proposal is to ask the state legislature to form a commission and charge the commission with the responsibility to negotiate with the ACE, as well as to provide a budget for a two year period to eventually be transferred when there is a budget slated for long-term maintenance with state contribution. He mentioned the multiple parties expected to benefit from the project: Metro, Clackamas County, West Linn, Confederate Tribes, and tourism and river-user organizations. He stated that all are expected to contribute to the budget with a seat on the decision-making process used as incentive, including a seat for state agencies to recognize their contribution.

Mr. Cotugno continued that there is still a need to determine the agency that will provide the staff report. He stated that they were successful at the last legislature in January is achieving preliminary funding for \$500,000 and that there is a need to perform an economic benefit study. He stated that the ACE will perform such a study but only towards national benefits and that it is important to also determine local and state benefits. He highlighted that \$400,000 will be used to provide for interim repairs. He then shared that Wilsonville Concrete has done the work on the locks for over 75 years and that they are the only company with the appropriate barge size to go through the locks, and that this will help to reduce the number of trucks that would be required to transport materials on roadways. He went further to discuss that the legacy project and locks are a part of the heritage area designation. He stated that the application for national heritage designation will through in 30 days and it intended to create a bigger story on the settlement of the west. He reiterated his point for discussion is to see if Metro Council can support the heritage site designation, and that the financial consequence requires a small budgetary increase.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Collette stated that Mr. Cotugno conveyed his discussion well on the national benefits of the project and applauded him for spearheading important issues. She mentioned that we are now at the point where greater funding is necessary to continue working with the ACE. Mr. Cotugno added that asking the state legislature to form a commission is one that requires lay time compared to the timeline for the ACE. He mentioned that the ACE is usually slow-paced as they work with the president's budget, but since they have the green light to move forward to create a final disposition they are moving more quickly than local agencies which requires spending of funds sooner than later. Councilor Collette responded that the ability to meet the purpose and need influences how the ACE will perceive local actions.

Councilor Harrington spoke on how the layout for the budget seems vague, with some parts of the materials discussing fiscal year 2016 and others using calendar year 2017-2018. She asked clarification on the budget. Mr. Cotugno answered that the budget is for calendar years 2017-2018 and that 27,000 from 60,000 is coming from the second half of the fiscal year.

Councilor Craddick then asked what the chances is that there will be an ability to prove regional and state value as well as determining a responsible agency. Mr. Cotugno answered that the commercial value is easy to demonstrate but it is speculative in the heritage message. He stated that this is significant on a local level but benefits will mainly be from tourism and not commerce. He mentioned that there is language that requires the ACE to consider recreational significance for local and state benefits and that matching funds will help determine the operating agency in the future, through it will need grassroots support.

Councilor Chase mentioned he is pleased on the direction the task force is taking and that small budgetary increases seem reasonable. Councilor Dirksen stated he wants to ensure engagement and to place Metro in a position to shape decision making. Councilor Craddick concurred in the promising aspect of the designation and sees an opportunity for regional park management. Council President Hughes recapped on the 1950's where the locks were mainly used for river transit and stated it would be desirable to design boats that can go through the locks for tourism. Mr. Cotugno responded that the tourism aspect is a recent inclusion in the project and it was determined that Congress will need to act to take Willamette Locks off ACE inventory and concurred that it is desirable to see channel navigation as a future opportunity.

3. OCC EXTERIOR PLAZA AND ENTRIES RE-DESIGN AKTERNATIVE PROCUREMENT

Scott Cruickshank, Metro, led the discussion by going through background information on the project. He stated that exterior re-design concepts were shared a year ago with the plaza designed to wrap around the Oregon Convention Center (OCC) with a hotel on the north end. This was designed in order to have visitors come in through the Oregon Ballroom Lobby. He continued that work was done with LMN architects on interior design to modernize the building. It was determined that entrance access needed improvement in conjunction with plaza re-design.

Gabriele Schuster, Metro, continued the discussion on procurement. She stated that the project is considered by the State as a public improvement project and that alternate procurement methods are viable if approved by the Local Contract Review Board and that the goal is to gain the best value for Metro and OCC. She continued to discuss opportunities for diversity and placing criteria on contractors and subcontractors to meet diversity requirements while maintaining a competitive project as required by law. She added that the project is highly visible and that it is important to allow the construction contractor and design team to work together early rather than later in project development. This allows for a reduction of risk while saving on costs and limiting the potential for changes to the design. Mr. Cruickshank then discussed updates on the hotel and that the opening date is slated for December 2019 with most of the construction to be completed in

early 2018. He stated that he hopes to have the re-design completed in advance on the hotel opening.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Collette mentioned that this is a good approach due to the placement of the light-rail station off entrance that seems to direct visitors in the wrong direction and asked if this can be better modified. Mr. Cruickshank stated that the redesign is looking at the entrance direction and that the public will walk up to the sidewalk to the corner to cross the street at Holladay. Councilor Craddick stated she appreciates the information presented and also gets confused with the primary entrance given the current plaza design. She continued that she believes the current plaza design is beautiful but that the re-design will be more appropriate. Mr. Cruickshank responded that the new design will create an amphitheater-like feel that will direct visitors to the Oregon Ballroom Lobby and that there is potential for outdoor seating.

Councilor Harrington remarked that she appreciated the outdoor environment of the current design and stated her belief that the procurement used here be consistent across applications with project factors being considered after. Ms. Schuster noted her comment and answered that the language is being improved based on feedback with special consideration taken towards factors of accessibility and diversity. Councilor Dirksen stated that he sees the value of the re-design project but wonders if standard contracting procedures are appropriate as many Metro construction projects do not fit in this category. Ms. Schuster responded that she is not aware of any state law that defines a standard design project but that Metro has the ability to change procurement and contract administration rules for procurement approval. She remarked that the current code requires going before the Local Contract Review Board. Councilor Chase spoke on how there is a flaw in the existing plaza that makes it difficult to identify the entrance and asked more on if the budget will address integration with the OCC Hotel. Mr. Cruickshank answered that the design did not consider this at first but what added in as a component to address issues with flow.

Councilor Craddick asked what in this contract meets DEI goals. Ms. Schuster answered that the current rules allow DEI criteria to be added but that more work can be done to require greater diversity. She stated that contractors can write proposals, through Metro cannot ask them to define goals without policies, but can ask to track numbers to measure how well OCC is able to increase diversity through contracts. Council President Hughes added that this is in the right direction but questions of the preliminary design review is not necessarily a neutral topic as this is not a 'normal' project.

4. STATUS OF WEB-BASED "DASHBOARD" FOR THE SIX REGIONAL OUTCOMES

Jeff Frkonja, Metro, let the discussion on the Greater Portland Pulse System spearheaded by the Metro Research Center. He stated that this presentation will be interactive and will showcase lessons learned in getting the product to the draft-form it is now. He stated that this will be web accessible and will show how well we are meeting the six desired outcomes for the region using

constructed performance measures. He stated that he is asking Metro Council to give feedback on identifying ways to convene support and to facilitate decision making processes. He remarked that this was based off the Metro Compass. He reiterated the importance of the act is to create transparency and to build public trust.

Rob Kirkman, Metro, continued the discussion by mentioning his role in developing the project management techniques used to make the process. He expressed appreciation for the work offered by Metro Property and Environmental Services, Parks and Nature, and Planning and Development departments. He stated that the focus on the Six Desired Outcomes came from peers across the region and discussions with Metro staff. He went over the PowerPoint slides depicting concepts for procession in a pyramid-like depiction. He then went over topics of transit system connections, employment, and breaking down parties into groups based off their concerns. He noted a lesson learned that it is best to use an incremental approach to provide details on carefully selected topics though vertical integration to cover a comprehensive set of Metro framework for the public.

Mr. Kirkman then ran through a demo utilizing the live site. He stated that the design and layout is similar to Metro Pulse as it uses the same infrastructure to expedite the process, but is overlaid with the Six Desired Outcomes. He stated that by selecting any one of the desired outcomes will bring them to the theme page. He continued that there are several indicators that were chosen on topics, such as transportation. He shared that below are topics addressed at looking at goals for future advancement. He added that there were many possible indicators but only several are chosen based on the availability of data, and that links to Metro resources are also provided. He stated that a value is given for each indicator along with the source and date of collection as a vital part to showcase transparency. Next is importance, which was chosen by the steering committee. He proceeded to the tab on geography where it showed metropolitan statistical data.

Mr. Frkonja continued to highlight the large scale geography. He noted that only concepts are shown, not decisions. He focused on transportation as a part of the discussion and an interactive map that can be used so users can select areas of concern where key metrics are provided. He stated that the goal is to capture data that already exists and to summarize data to be more useful. He then ran through the next steps in the project through a conceptual calendar based on costs and the collection of additional information. He concluded by asking Metro Council for questions and the need for their involvement

Council Discussion:

Councilor Harrington began by stating she is the only current Metro Councilor who was on the Metro Council when the Six Desired Outcomes were adopted. She continued that many of the Councilors at the time wanted to use the outcomes to measure how well goals are met. She noted that the information is good but a key part is missing in that Council worked to get to the current set because the region will continue to make decisions within the 50 year vision. She added that she does not see how this will help her with policy choices in reaching desired regional outcomes. She expressed a need to be careful with wording as they were deliberated selected to be objective and

exact. She also stated she would like to see if areas within the region are reaching goals on different timelines. She remarked that she understood that this is a halfway point to a draft version and would like to see how indicators will satisfy the need for decision making. Mr. Frkonja stated that this is a geographic element and they have the potential to relate to data providers to use their information to carefully refine the data. Council President Hughes gave an example where if the data focus point is on housing cost burdens, would it be shown by county on percentage of household spending of income. He stated that this is problematic as there are multiple real estate markets within each county. He gave another option where data is selected and superimposed to a map of job availability and transportation links to identify problem areas and the potential causes of problems. He added that he is supportive of additional resources that will refine specificity.

Councilor Chase stated that he liked the project but agrees with others on Metro Council to focus on decision making in select areas on a community level to shape the regional agenda. He continued that this will allow for the regional agenda to coordinate with jurisdictions on data resources to make specific choices. Council President reflected on this point in relation to the construction of Keller Auditorium and the disposition of low-income residents in the area at the time. Councilor Harrington added that she appreciated Councilor Chases' point on focus areas and that she believes in the slow incremental process. She continued that she does not believe the current version is able to satisfy the needs of Metro Council and that it will take time to get to a usable version as a decision making tool, but is hopeful that updated versions will continually offer a greater ability to meet the needs of future Metro Councilors. Councilor Dirksen added that he likes where the project is headed but agrees that it needs more detail, and that he would strive to identify local areas and is willing to expand resources to improve the usefulness of the tool.

5. METRO ATTORNEY COMMUNICATIONS

Alison Kean, Metro Attorney, discussed several ongoing legal projects. First was a snapshot of non-privileged attorney work and election related matters. She stated that there are ongoing questions on ballot items from Parks and Nature, Southwest Corridor, and education of staff to ensure compliance. She continued that Parks and Nature is a grey area and that a lot of work has been done in relation to Oxbow Park and drafting an agreement with Oregon State over county lands. She added that there is an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with Portland Water Bureau and river enhancement projects. She concluded with a recent case focused on rights of tree cutting as trespass that was recently settled in favor of Metro. Councilor Harrington inquired into lessons learned to which Ms. Kean responded that there is a trend for public entities to protect park lands as a part of a city's commitment to natural areas, and that the value is in view enhancement with heavy financial penalties to violations.

Ms. Kean continued with updates with funding for the National Historic Preservation Act, a memorandum of understanding with Johnson Creek Watershed, natural area bond transactions, DEI contracts with non-profit organizations, developments in government public contracts, conservation contracts with Oregon Zoo, Solid Waste consultations with CH2MHill, negotiations with State Department of Justice to close the St. Johns landfill, developing a IGA with ODOT for air

quality, expansions of the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB), equitable housing grants, Transit Oriented Development (TOD) projects to storefronts, and a settlement of the Clark boat ramp case.

Councilor Craddick asked if there were any updates on acceptable discussion points regarding the levee ballot. Ms. Kean answered that restrictions on government activity does not apply to elected official but staff only.

6. COUNCILOR LIAISON UPDATES AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Councilor Craddick mentioned upcoming meetings with the Powell-Division Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) steering committee with a consensus style vote planned. She mentioned challenges are working with TriMet and Mount Hood Community College (MHCC) to improve transit ridership to MHCC, as well as coming to an agreement to increase services to East Portland. She stated that there is an issue TriMet had determined BRT would catch up to regular bus services in the current proposal. She continued to discuss transit ridership from Gateway Transfer Station to Columbia Gorge as a success in attracting individuals who rarely venture to the Columbia Gorge. She stated that there will need to be a decision made on how this ridership will affect Rooster Rock State Park fees to support park maintenance. She went further to talk on Levee Ready Columbia being ready to work on the legislative agenda on what goals are in the package. She mentioned a Intertwine Alliance Summit at Oregon Zoo, and Mel Huie, Metro, being awarded for preservation and advancement of urban greenspaces.

Councilor Harrington touched on topics of regional earthquake preparedness, with an event hosted by Amina Miller, who travelled to Japan after the Tohoku Earthquake and heard stories focused on regret over choosing to help others than themselves, encouragement to have uncomfortable discussions on their experiences, and concern over preparedness of employees to continue care and training. Council President Hughes mentioned that the disaster preparedness program for first responders is important and that efficiency increases when responders are sure that their families are safe.

7. ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Metro Council work session at 4:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher Spencer, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 18, 2016

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
3.2	PowerPoint	10/18/2016	PowerPoint: OCC Plaza Construction	101816cw-01
3.3	PowerPoint	10/18/2016	PowerPoint: Desired Outcomes "Dashboard" Status & Next Steps	101816cw-02
3.3	Handout	10/18/2016	MetroPulse – Desired Outcomes Dashboard Handout	101816cw-03