



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Meeting Minutes
November 29, 2016
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

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

Councilors Excused: Councilor Carlotta Collette

Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:04 p.m.

1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

Ms. Martha Bennett, Chief Operating Officer, provided the following updates and announcements:

- A Metro Regional Center (MRC) flood update. Over Thanksgiving weekend, 3,000 gallons of water flooded the third floor and leaked onto the second and first floors of the MRC. She informed the Council of temporary staff relocations while impacted work stations were cleaned and dried. She also informed the Council that she had signed an emergency contract restoration, and that money moved out of the contingency fund would impact the 2016 and 2017 budgets.
- General Manager recruitment closed Friday, December 2. A small screening panel would be held on December 14.

2. FIRST QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT (UNAUDITED)

Mr. Tim Collier, Director of Finance and Regulatory Affairs (FRS), provided first quarter highlights. He stated that the 15-16 fiscal year ended with \$600,000 in the general fund. He also shared the following with the Council: revenues were positive; transient lodging taxes continued to grow; excise tax collections had increased from previous years; and Oregon Zoo attendance had also increased. He informed the Council that expenditures were tracking with budget, but that the Thanksgiving flood would impact expenditures.

Mr. Collier noted that construction excise taxes (CET) were at an all-time high; this was the highest first quarter Metro had ever experienced. Excise taxes from solid waste and venues were also strong. Mr. Collier discussed how excise taxes could potentially be an issue, and how Metro might have to hold back payments to local governments.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Harrington commented that the Community Planning and Development Grant program (CPDG) offered deadline extensions and thought that delaying payments was an acceptable option. Councilor Stacey stated that since Metro was incurring expenses late in the year, delaying payments seemed like a logical choice.

3. 2016 SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

Ms. Jenna Garmon, Metro's Sustainability Program Coordinator, provided the sixth annual progress report since Metro's 2010 adoption of the Sustainability Plan. She stated that Metro needed to make larger investments and take transformative actions.

Mr. Matt Korot, Metro staff, explained that a 2003 Metro Council resolution established a sustainable business model, set a vision and a timeline, and set five goals consistent with that vision. The five goals were to: reduce carbon, prevent waste, choose nontoxic, conserve water, and enhance habitat.

Ms. Garmon informed the Council that six indicators were tracked to evaluate sustainability:

1. Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The goal was to reduce these emissions to 80 percent below 2008 levels by the year 2050. Ms. Garmon informed the Council that half of non-supply chain emissions came from natural gas and electricity use. She went on to say that electricity use was down 15 percent and natural gas use was down 33 percent.
2. Toxic inventory. Foundational work had been done to determine which products in use at Metro facilities were toxic. This work had been critical to reducing the number of toxic products in Metro's inventory.
3. Waste generation. While the MRC had experienced a decrease in waste generation, overall Metro waste generation was 37 percent higher than baseline. Ms. Garmon noted how visitor attendance at venues impacted this figure; venue attendance was greater, so while waste per individual may have remained the same or lowered, overall waste generation had increased.
4. Recycling rate. The 2020 target was a 90 percent recycling rate. At the time of the presentation, the Oregon Zoo had an 85 percent recycling rate and the Oregon Convention Center (OCC) had a 65 percent recycling rate; on aggregate, however, Metro's recycling rate was 57 percent.
5. Water consumption. Water consumption the previous year was 23 percent less than baseline. Ms. Garmon noted that upgrades like the Oregon Zoo pool filtration system had aided in water conservation efforts.
6. Enhancement of habitat and storm water. Ms. Garmon explained that Metro had 79 percent impervious area, which indicated that untreated storm water was able to flow directly into waterways. She informed the Council that slow progress had been made in this area. She stated that Metro would have to invest in retrofits in order to improve. Doing so at the Expo Center, Oregon Zoo, and the OCC would reduce impervious area to 31 percent.

Mr. Rob Hamrick, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Coordinator at Metro, spoke about reducing the use of pesticides in his work. He provided the Council with examples of IPM solutions, including the Zoo fly light, mobile trail cameras which record pests, and the installation of door sweeps to keep pests outside. Mr. Hamrick informed the Council that he had helped eliminate the use of rodenticides at Metro facilities. He also shared that he and colleagues were working on a web based application which would allow Metro to centrally track and report pesticide use across its properties.

Mr. John Sterbis, Oregon Zoo Facilities Manager, discussed sustainability at the Oregon Zoo. He highlighted that preventative maintenance was key. He discussed many of the practices that the zoo engaged in to enhance sustainability: building automation and a controls engineer who could manage temperature and flow of water; looking for Energy Star and Energy Trust certification

when making purchases; utilization of water, gas, and electric metering; new building designs; use of reusable kegs for wine instead of bottles.

Ms. Garmon spoke about the Sustainability Program moving forward. Actions that were planned in the coming years included, but were not limited to: deep energy retrofits; creation of a “do not buy” toxics list and the development of purchasing guides; a transition to reusable and recyclable materials e.g. reusable takeout containers; smart irrigation; storm water improvements; and the integration of equity into internal operations.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Harrington acknowledged that there were going to be financial challenges over the upcoming budget cycles, and asked how budget constraints would impact the amount of sustainability work that staff could accomplish. Councilor Craddick inquired about waste reduction options at venues; she suggested that for waste connected to the supply chain, Metro could develop policies and contracts around what the agency purchases to assure that sustainability is a factor considered. Councilor Dirksen noted that some efforts to increase sustainability would save the agency money, while others would come at a high cost. Councilor Chase asked about Portland’s Centers for the Arts capital improvements; Deputy Metro Attorney Nathan Sykes indicated that it was unclear in the existing contract whether or not Metro was responsible for making improvements to those facilities. Council President Hughes noted that he had received concerns from constituents about replacing lights with LEDs, and was pleased that reducing electricity use was part of the sustainability plan.

4. URBAN GROWTH READINESS TASK FORCE UPDATE

Mr. John Williams, Metro’s Deputy Community Development Director, shared with the Council a memo that included Urban Growth Readiness Task Force (UGRTF) recommendations. The Task Force’s recommendations were to: clarify expectations for cities requesting urban growth boundary (UGB) expansions, require cities to make the case that there was a need for expansion, and seek additional decision-making flexibility for the Metro Council. The consensus recommendation from the Task Force was to cap expansion proposals from cities to 1,000 acres at the three-year mark of every six-year cycle. Mr. Williams informed the Council that the Task Force’s recommendations would require changes to Metro’s decision-making processes, to Metro code, and to state law.

Mr. Andy Shaw, Metro’s Regional Affairs Manager, announced that he had been working with a regional lobby group. He told the Council that a legislative draft had been submitted in the fall and was currently being modified. He hoped to return to the Urban Growth Readiness Task Force in January with a clear strategy for moving forward.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Craddick asked what legislation needed to be changed at the state level. Mr. Shaw clarified that changes to the state law would allow the Council, upon request from a city, to make expansions to the UGB by up to 1,000 acres at the mid-cycle. Councilor Craddick suggested to make it explicit that the UGRTF recommendations were about housing and not industrial or other kinds of land. Councilor Harrington had recommendations for changes to language in the proposals put forth for by the Task Force. Additionally, she stated that she would like to see a resolution related to the Task Force’s work come before the Council, to make Metro’s commitment visible. Councilor Stacey proposed that they seek only as much state legislation as was necessary. He expressed

uncertainty about the relationship between the six year cycle, the three year mid-cycle decisions, and the determination of regional need for expansion. Councilor Chase felt that language in the memo placed focus exclusively on the factor that people were moving out of the region to live, but that there were other factors to be considered. Council President Hughes stated that the goal was to prevent additional growth outside of the region and that targeted, limited expansions within the region could achieve the goal, hence why such language was used in the memo to Council.

5. GAPD UPDATE

Mr. Andy Shaw, Metro's Regional Affairs Manager, spoke about defining the roles played by members of the Government Affairs and Policy Development (GAPD) program. Mr. Randy Tucker, Metro Policy Advisor, explained that GAPD members represented Metro before state, regional, and local governments. Mr. Tucker expressed interest in knowing when the Councilors were communicating with legislators. Mr. Shaw explained to the Council that GAPD members collaborated with staff in the agency and then with the Council to bring to fruition goals laid out by the Council. GAPD's purpose was to develop a clear strategy for achieving policy goals.

Mr. Noah Siegel, Metro Policy Advisor, introduced a draft chart which informed the Council of which staff members to contact for information about various projects. The chart divided GAPD into three broad sections, and then subdivided it into more specific projects and areas of focus:

1. Strategic policy development: working with the Council to implement policy goals
2. Strategic services to departments: working with Metro departments to ensure that their goals aligned with larger Metro Council goals before implementing a strategy
3. Partnerships and special projects: individual strategic projects that required ongoing GAPD support

Council Discussion:

Councilor Craddick noted that she would like to speak to legislators before legislation was far along in the process, but did not want to interfere with the GAPD process. She sought clarity on what her role as a Councilor should be. Mr. Tucker explained that in the future, GAPD should provide the Councilors with talking points to share with legislators. Councilor Craddick believed efforts to achieve legislative goals would be more successful if the councilors were able to speak about legislative issues at a high level with other elected officials. Councilor Harrington discussed some of her concerns with being the Metro liaison on the Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization Policy Committee.

6. COUNCILOR LIAISON UPDATES AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Councilor Craddick provided an update on Ordinance No. 16-1390, coming before the Council on December 1. Councilor Craddick announced that she would make a motion to amend the ordinance with an emergency clause, and requested the Council's support. Councilor Chase announced that the Low Income Fare Task Force (LIFT) would meet the following day to view research from TriMet on programs being implemented in other communities around the country. He also discussed a Central Enhancement Committee meeting. Councilor Stacey introduced the Regional Leadership Forum 3 agenda to the Council. Council President Hughes reported that the meetings during his stays in Vietnam and China had been beneficial.

7. ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Metro Council work session at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Taylor Unterberg", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Taylor Unterberg, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 29, 2016

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT NO.
3.0	PowerPoint	11/29/2016	PowerPoint: Sustainability Report	112916cw-01
6.0	Handout	11/29/2016	Regional Leadership Forum 3 Agenda	112916cw-02