

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, February 21, 2017

2:00 PM

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

Council work session

2:00 Call to Order and Roll Call

Councilors Present: Council President Tom Hughes and Councilors Bob Stacey, Carlotta Collette, Shirley Craddick, and Kathryn Harrington

Councilors Excused: Councilors Craig Dirksen and Sam Chase

Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:03 p.m.

2:05 Chief Operating Officer Communication

Ms. Martha Bennett, Metro Chief Operating Officer, made three announcements. She reminded the Council that the Thursday Council meeting would start at 2:30PM. She announced that Metro's Cary Stacey would be leading a tour of the Oregon Convention Center's "Bilalian Odyssey" mural. She also informed the Council that Left Coast mobile services would be providing on-site bicycle tune-ups to Metro employees.

Work Session Topics:**2:10 Multi-Criteria Evaluation/Least Cost Planning Tool Status**

Mr. Jeff Frkonja, Metro Research Center Director, provided a brief history of the Multi-Criterion Evaluation (MCE) tool. The objective was to enhance Metro's transportation decision support tools. Mr. Frkonja explained that the MCE tool would use a triple bottom line framework, treat travel forecasts and costs holistically, make different measures comparable, focus on equity to understand who benefits, and accomplish all of the aforementioned reasonably quickly and efficiently. Mr. Frkonja discussed coordination between the Research Center (RC) and the Planning and Development department. Principles for the LCP/MCE toolkit that Mr. Frkonja shared with the Council were to: ensure consistency with the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and other policy objectives, ensure wise application that actually helped to inform planning and policy decisions, and structure planning

processes to provide stakeholders with understanding of the tool. Mr. Frkonja reported that phase one of the MCE toolkit work was on schedule and at budget, and the work was scheduled to be completed at end of February 2017. He shared that the triple-bottom line approach of the MCE tool incorporated economic vitality, environmental stewardship, and social and equity values.

Mr. Kyle Hauger, Metro Research Center Senior Modeler, discussed the tool when it was run with two synthesized scenarios. He explained to the Council that staff applied the MCE tool to travel model outputs from test scenarios in order to assess the MCE Calculator, methods, and Visualizer. He shared with the Council graphs that displayed side-by-side comparisons of the two test scenarios in three criteria areas: economic vitality, environmental stewardship, and social and equity values. Mr. Hauger compared the equity benefits forecasted for the two scenarios.

Mr. Frkonja discussed phase two and beyond of the MCE toolkit work. He relayed to the Council that RC staff proposed: a more automated workflow and travel model integration for a more efficient user experience; enhanced travel model features, such as the inclusion of safety and auto ownership benefits; a fully-featured, web-accessible Visualizer; tests of more realistic, real-world scenarios; and technical outreach with Planning and Development staff and Metro Technical Committees. Other potential work on which the RC sought Council feedback included: adding ways to make benefits understandable in stakeholder terms; process outreach to a broader audience, including Metro policy committees and external stakeholders and partners; and weighting the criteria with the Metro Council and JPACT. Mr. Frkonja explained to the Council why they were discussing weighting numbers generated by the tool; weighting would assign decision makers' values to measures and/or criteria. Assigning weights would require the determination of decision makers' values through either a facilitated

discussion or a statistical survey conducted by an outside firm; either process would ultimately convert elected officials' values into numeric values that would be factored into the MCE tool.

Council Discussion:

The Council discussed safety as an equity issue and criterion to consider, and wondered if future MCE developments could address safety issues. Ms. Elissa Gertler, Metro Planning and Development Director, stated that other tools would address some of the Council's safety concerns. Councilor Craddick asked for clarification on the specifics of transportation alternatives A and B. Mr. Hauger explained the two alternative scenarios being presented-A was a large highway project, B was a BRT transit project. Councilor Collette thought it would be helpful to explain what theoretical plans A and B represented before giving the presentation, to make the relative values more tangible and understandable. Council President Hughes offered an alternative perspective; he posited that by keeping the projects non-existent, it forced the Council to analyze the tool and the detail it provided rather than consider the specifics of the proposed projects. Councilors expressed interest in using the MCE tool for the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Ms. Gertler responded that a 2018 RTP had already been approved by Council and the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) and work was underway; the aim was to familiarize regional partners with the MCE tool now before utilizing it for the 2020 RTP. Council President Hughes compared the MCE tool for transportation to the Metroscope tool used for land use. He thought that the tool would provide analysis and data that would be helpful and would eliminate much of the anxiety and uncertainty tied to decision-making. He thought that preliminary applications of the tool would be ideal in order to familiarize local officials and promote acceptance of the tool. Councilor Collette suggested that in order to gain support for the tool, stakeholders and elected officials

should be able to contribute to the way the criteria were weighted. Councilor Craddick thought that the region needed to be included in this discussion as soon as possible, so that they could be involved in building the model; she suggested bringing the tool to the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC), JPACT, and other local elected officials. Councilor Harrington expressed concerns regarding a statistical survey, and wondered how she should approach weighting values. Councilor Collette asked for clarity about the meaning of non-weighted; Mr. Frkonja explained that there was national monetization of the values of criteria such as travel time, carbon emissions, et cetera. Council President Hughes suggested that a discussion about weighting be brought to the region and decisions about whether or not to weight, and what to weight, should be discussed and decided on a larger regional scale. The Council expressed that “weighted” versus “non-weighted” were confusing terms. Councilor Collette suggested using the phraseology “market valuations” versus “weighted to reflect local regional values” to add clarity.

3:00 Metro Attorney Communication

Ms. Alison Kean discussed projects that attorneys in the Office of Metro Attorney (OMA) were currently engaged in, which included but were not limited to: finishing documents for the Oregon Convention Center hotel bond sale; analysis of the spending cap; work for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI); finalizing administrative rules for procurement; property issues for the Expo Center; transportation funding legal research; revising Metro’s worker’s compensation policy; defending Metro on an injunction regarding a procurement award; Urban Growth Readiness Task Force (UGRTF) work on finalizing legislation; reviewing and providing feedback on proposed legislation from Government Affairs and Policy Development (GAPD); defending Metro against multiple claims from Portland’s Centers for the Arts venues; working with the Planning department regarding regional flexible fund allocation;

exploring the option of entering into an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with a Cowlitz County landfill; attending a tour of Coffin Butte Landfill; researching state funding regarding the Willamette Falls Legacy Project; and responding to public records requests related to the death of Oregon Zoo's elephant Packy.

3:10 Councilor Communication

Councilor Craddick discussed her participation in the third Connect to Nature event and an upcoming reception for finalists for the position of Oregon Zoo Foundation executive director. Councilor Harrington discussed a Chehalem Ridge Nature Park event. Councilor Collette discussed her attendance of a Halprin Open Space Sequence event, where she learned that several businesses in the area held an international design competition and had selected a design team to conduct the restoration of the exterior of the Keller Auditorium; Council discussion centered on the financial costs and operational impacts that a restoration project might have on the auditorium, and City of Portland versus Metro responsibility for the venue. Council President Hughes and Councilor Stacey discussed their attendance of the celebration of Packy the elephant's life. Council President Hughes introduced Mr. Andy Shaw. Mr. Shaw provided a legislative update on the following: house bill 2095, a mid-cycle Urban Growth Boundary decision bill; house bill 2094, related to urban land reserves; senate bill 186, related to legislating urban reserves and rezoning land in Clackamas County; senate bill 199, related to household hazardous waste; senate bill 333, related to industrial land; a recreational immunity issue, which would make parks immune from being sued by anyone injured on public or private park land; and work happening within transportation committees, specifically a committee focused on congestion and bottleneck projects.

3:30 Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes

adjourned the Metro Council work session at 4:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Taylor Unterberg". The signature is written in black ink and includes a long, sweeping horizontal flourish at the end.

Taylor Unterberg, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 21, 2017

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
2.0	PowerPoint	02/21/17	Metro's Least Cost Planning/Multi-Criteria Evaluation toolkit	022117cw-01