

Metro

*600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736
oregonmetro.gov*



Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

2:00 PM

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

Council work session

2:00 Call to Order and Roll Call

Deputy Council President Shirley Craddick called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:01 p.m.

Present: 6 - Councilor Sam Chase, Councilor Betty Dominguez, Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Craig Dirksen, Councilor Kathryn Harrington, and Councilor Bob Stacey

Excused: 1 - Council President Tom Hughes

2:05 Chief Operating Officer Communication

Ms. Martha Bennett, Chief Operating Officer, welcomed Councilor Dominguez. She announced Mr. John Moore would testify on the resolution to accept the Washington Park Master plan and his testimony would be shared with councilors as soon as it was drafted. Councilor Dirksen shared that he would submit written testimony towards the Washington Park Master Plan as well. Ms. Bennett noted updates on the Chehalem Ridge Nature Park. She shared that Mr. Scott Robinson's, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, last day would Thursday. She thanked Mr. Jim Middaugh for covering the deputy chief operating officer position temporarily until the position was filled in June. She invited Mr. Roger Gonzalez, Chief of Staff to the Council President, to give a briefing on the next week's council meeting with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Tribal Council. Mr. Gonzalez explained it would be intended as an introductory meeting between the Tribal Council and Metro Council, and ensured that Parks and Nature staff would be present to answer any questions.

2:10 District 2 Metro Councilor Swearing-In

Ms. Alison Kean, Metro Attorney, introduced her assistant, Ms. Jennifer Villarreal, to swear in Ms. Betty Dominguez, the new Metro Councilor for District 2.

2:20 Work Session Topics:**2:20 Construction Career Pathways Project**

Deputy Council President Shirley Craddick introduced Ms. Raahi Reddy, Program Director, and Mr. David Fortney, Project Manager, to present on the Construction Career Pathways Project.

Ms. Reddy provided an update on the Construction Career Pathways Project, referred to as the "C2P2" project. She noted the C2P2 project was part of the Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) program. She explained that her and her colleague, Mr. Fortney, would be covering a high level of information on the labor market in the construction sector, particularly on

the experience of people of color and women in the trades. She stated that the information provided would be good context for reasoning behind the work, key dynamics and issues at play. She described the project to be addressing racial disparities and being focused on building careers, not just entry.

Mr. Fortney described the Regional Construction Workforce Study, crediting the City of Portland as a key contributor to the study. He explained and presented graphs which indicated that the region's construction trade was booming, but noted certain traits of workers were correlated with much higher incomes. He stated the inventory of public projects being built were worth approximately \$7.8 billion, totaling 81 commercial projects. He expressed employment from people of color was largely driven by Latinos, and noted that apprentice challenges included "out of work too much," lack of mentoring and low-skill tasks, and being successful in program was highly important, yet highly volatile. He ended the data portion of the presentation by noting that women and people of color were more impacted by the lack of steady work and were less likely to advance in the industry.

Ms. Reddy mentioned in September the team held a Best Practices in Workforce Equity presentation in a few Seattle-area agencies. She stated the Seattle-area community workforce agreement had led to dramatic increases of women and people of color participating in the construction trades. She announced more than 75 local jurisdictional staff from the Portland-metro region met with the Seattle-area officials in the Metro-Chambers. She explained the event was instrumental in the agencies' understanding of regional approaches. She described the 2017 Diversity in the Construction Trades Summit at Portland Community College, which held a workshop that focused on construction workforce equity tools and policies that could be deployed on a regional scale. She also mentioned the participation of the Apprenticeship 101, a workshop held by the Bureau of Labor and Industries. She explained that all the events mentioned led to the next big step in project, which would result in a Public Owner Workshop. She then proceeded to list a group of 13 agencies who had already committed to being present at the workshop, and represent 5.5 billion dollars' worth of projects in the next three to five years.

Ms. Reddy announced another large part of C2P2 was managing the community construction training program. She noted the team reached a mile stone the week prior when awarding contracts to five organizations, who would be responsible for greeting, training, providing career council services, job placement services and retention support for new entrances into the field. She expected to be able to support a total of 100 women and people of color through the project.

Council Discussion

Councilor Dominguez expressed the importance of reaching out to the youth. Councilor Harrington questioned the extent to which supporting the diversity and equity goals increase the cost of projects, since she had continued to hear that as reasoning to not be on board with such projects. Councilors requested alteration and clarification with some messaging and charts to better portray costs. Councilors were in agreement with the plan moving forward.

3:00 Refining 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Investment Priorities

Deputy Council President Shirley Craddick introduced Ms. Elissa Gertler, Planning and Development Director, and Ms. Kim Ellis, Principal Transportation Planner, to present on the Construction Career Pathways Project.

Ms. Gertler expressed that her and Ms. Ellis were following up and working together to align Metro partners' investments on a regional scale to create a more equitable system. She announced the plan was nearing an end, where staff's work on the technical, political, policy and community had started to come together. She asked for feedback from Councilors on the Leadership Forum observations.

Council Discussion

Councilor Dirksen voiced the growing realization and dismay people expressed when realizing that the RTP would not achieve any of its goals. He explained, however, by addressing the limitations, people were better understanding those outcomes and the need for more funding. Councilor Harrington hoped the Communications team would put together a newsfeed article or summary on Multnomah County Commissioner Vega Pederson's speech at the forum, which all Councilors appreciated.

Ms. Gertler summarized the following key technical takeaways:

- Safety would be a priority in high injury corridors and communities of color.
- Congestion would not ease, but would be much worse without investments.
- The region would fall short of its adopted Climate Smart Strategy commitment.
- Affordability would improve with increased access to lower cost travel options.
- Not everyone would benefit equitably with improved access to jobs and community places.

She announced staff received more than 2,900 responses from the public across the region, which summarized that safety, reliability and travel options were the priority outcomes. She explained the following takeaways heard from community leaders:

- Lead with equity.
- Address housing and transportation affordability and displacement in an integrated manner.
- Prioritize safety, biking, walking, and transit projects in historically marginalized communities, with a focus on people of color and households of modest means.

Ms. Ellis noted the Regional Leadership Forum takeaway supplemental offered to council, which addressed the following starting points for refining priorities:

1. Make more near-term progress on key regional priorities - equity, safety, travel options and congestion.
2. Reduce disparities and barriers that exist for historically marginalized communities, especially people of color and households of modest means.
3. Prioritize projects that focus on safety in high injury corridors.
4. Accelerate transit service expansion.
5. Tackle congestion and manage travel demand.
6. Prioritize completion of biking and walking network gaps.
7. Continue to build public trust through inclusive engagement, transparency and accountability.

Ms. Ellis shared that the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation expressed disappointment in the plan not accomplishing its goals but recognized the limitations and had offered refinement. She noted changes made as a part of refinement would be submitted by April 27th. She explained the mechanics of how projects could be improvised or refined by adding projects to the constrained list, shifting project timing, updating descriptions and intent and providing more specificity for bundled projects.

Ms. Gertler addressed Councilors continued commitments and goals around value pricing, vision zero and racial equity. She acknowledged staff in their work in analyzing racial equity data and the difficulty involved. Ms. Gertler asked for direction moving forward.

Council Discussion

Councilor Chase mentioned not having the Climate Smart Goals as a part of Council's top three goals, he thought it should be a core priority as well. Councilor Dirksen suggested that addressing access, safety and affordability in health could positively affect the Climate Smart Goal. Councilor Dominguez commented on the urban growth boundary effecting Clackamas County transportation. Councilors considered maps and discussed the policy considerations and approaches to meet the needs of the community. Councilors requested further map reconsideration.

Councilor Dirksen provided updates on the quarterly Transportation Policy Group meeting, which included legislative concepts, implementations of House bill 2017, and discussion of the development on the 2021-2024 State Transportation Improvement Program. He noted the meeting with staff for the Southwest Corridor Plan earlier that morning was well received. He requested \$10,000 for a float in the Rose Festival Parade. Councilors asked to be informed throughout the process and approved the request. Councilor Harrington announced the Community Place Making Grant Review Committee continued to work on reviewing applications to fund.

4:10 Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Deputy Council President Shirley Craddick adjourned the Metro Council work session at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sara Seid, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF March 13, 2018

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1.0	PowerPoint	03/13/2018	Construction and Career Pathways Project	030118cw-01
2.0	PowerPoint	03/13/2018	Refining RTP Investment Priorities	030118cw-02
3.0	Handout	03/13/2018	2018 Regional Transportation Plan Update	030118cw-03