

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, March 27, 2018

2:00 PM

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

Council work session

2:00 Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:00 p.m.

Present: 6 - Council President Tom Hughes, Councilor Betty Dominguez, Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Craig Dirksen, Councilor Kathryn Harrington, and Councilor Bob Stacey

Excused: 1 - Councilor Sam Chase

2:05 Chief Operating Officer Communication

Mr. Scott Cruickshank, Chief Operating Officer Pro Tem, announced that Metro received a certificate of achievement award for the twenty-sixth time in a row for excellence in financial reporting for the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. He announced that Metro also received the award for outstanding achievement for popular annual financial reporting for the fifth year in a row. He noted a budget reminder for the electronic version of the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 budget would be sent to councilors for review. He stated the Wednesday, April 4 breakfast at the convention center for the IAM2018, which the Diversity and Equity Inclusion (DEI) team and Ask Me Team had set up in remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther King.

2:10 Work Session Topics:**2:10 SW Corridor Equitable Development Strategy**

Council President Hughes introduced Ms. Elissa Gertler, Planning and Development Director, and Mr. Brian Harper, Senior Regional Planner, to present on the SW Corridor Equitable Development Strategy.

Ms. Gertler announced the theme throughout the work session would be an evaluation of the evolution of programs and projects in the Southwest Corridor areas. She introduced Mr. Ryan Curren, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability Project Manager at the City of Portland, to present updates on the project strategies for equitable housing in the Southwest Corridor. Mr. Curren passed out an overview handout, and thanked Council for the planning grant that the City of Portland received the year prior. He mentioned the project was a partnership between the City of Portland and the City of Tigard. He listed the components of the equitable housing strategy and the goals that guided that strategy. He stated the importance of the public engagement that included the Southwest Community Planning Grants, Advisory Group, October Community Learning and Listening Session, and a planned community gathering in May. He expressed the rental need with Portland and Tigard graphs. He explained how anti-displacement services and protections, acquisition and preservations of existing housing, and new housing construction and

supportive land use would be needed to achieve the housing and transit goals. He listed both government agencies and community groups who had participated in activity on the corridor.

Council Discussion

Councilor Dominguez suggested not spending too much time on speculating land availability in the corridor. Councilors questioned the infographic on affordable housing need and received clarification. Council President Hughes asked for a timeline on the development of the transportation alternative, in which staff summarized a process forecasting a ten year horizon. Councilor Craddick asked about the resources currently available to utilize.

Ms. Gertler introduced the Metro body of work surrounding the SW Corridor Equitable Development Strategy. Mr. Harper described the \$895,000 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Grant received in 2016 to produce a SW Corridor Equitable Development Strategy in fuller detail, stressing the two year implementation timeline. He noted staff's goal was to ensure that the residents of the SW Corridor had access to the opportunities that light rail bring and concurrently address the impacts associated with the major infrastructure investment. He expressed that, as a part of Metro's commitment to advancing racial equity, the project had partnered with both Momentum Alliance and the Coalition of Communities of Color Bridges Leadership program. He stated through these efforts, historically marginalized communities had a voice at the table on the Oversight Committee and shared in the decision making of the group.

He mentioned staff was entering the strategy development phase which was a critical time in the project, and expressed that the Oversight Committee and related advisory groups were going to be very busy over the next six months, while solidifying an approach to building out the corridor-wide strategy. He listed the set of Equitable Development Principles, which were designed by the Project Oversight Committee and the filter through which staff was making decisions. He described the principles as also informing the selection of Pilot Project Proposals. He stated that overall, staff took a new holistic approach looking at household costs that had previously not been considered.

He introduced the early implementation of Pilot Projects, expressing the focus of allowing the community to define the projects. He stated the team had a budget of \$275,000 to allocate to applicants. He announced the selection committee recommended six applications. He stated that the two projects recommended for the Business and Workforce Awards were: Mercy Corps NW and Immigrant, Refugee, People of Color and Others &

the Oregon Health & Science University. He listed recommended Equity and Housing Awards to Community Partners for Affordable Housing, Home Forward, Proud Ground and Momentum Alliance. He summarized that the project introduced real opportunities to help the people in the Southwest Corridor, and ended with examples within the community.

Council Discussion

Councilor Dominguez complimented staff on using the self-sufficiency standard model for measurement opposed to the federal measurement.

3:10 Implementation of New Regional Flexible Fund Policies

Council President Hughes introduced Ms. Elissa Gertler, Planning and Development Director, Ms. Margi Bradway, Deputy Director, Ms. Lake McTighe, Senior transportation Planner, Mr. Daniel Kaempff and Ms. Jamie Snook, Principal Transportation Planners, to present on the Implementation of New Regional Flexible Fund Policies.

Ms. Gertler referred back to a conversation staff had with the regional table at the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) about the 2019-21 Regional Flexible Funds and the work being done. She explained the conversation lead to staff's action of programmatic work into practice, which was the update her team would be providing.

Ms. Bradway described the following policy direction Council had asked for in June of 2016:

- Implement Climate Smart Strategy
- Create Safe Routes to Schools Program
- Fund more (high capacity) transit
- Fund project development to leverage new funding opportunities

She explained the overview for the presentation would be based on new policy initiatives, funding allocations and implementation activities.

She announced the Regional Flexible Funds allocation decisions were for the following:

- Funding for Southwest Corridor and Division Transit Project
- Project development opportunities, addressing freight bottlenecks, active transportation and enhanced transit corridors
- Additional RTO & TSMO funding to implement Climate Smart Strategy
- Created Safe Routes to Schools Program

She explained that project development for highways totaled ten million dollars. She noted the investment was being spent and being moved

forward.

Ms. McTighe identified the Project Development for Active Transportation that totaled 1.7 million dollars, which she explained was a collaborative process. She explained funding for project development activities built a pipeline of projects that were ready to seek funding for construction. She noted that the region's pipeline for active transportation projects was more robust than it had previously ever been. She stated that there were eleven projects proposed to receive funding. She described the project types, including critical connections, safe routes to school, access to jobs and transit.

Mr. Kaempff, addressed the 7.8 million dollars for Regional travel Options (RTO) program, explaining it was used to invest in transportation demand management through outreach and education. He noted the RTO program had resulted in a reduction of six million auto trips/58 million vehicle miles (annually) and 28,000 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions.

He described the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program, which totaled 1.5 million dollars in funding. He explained the SRTS funding opportunity provides regional leadership while meeting a critical need. He noted that common feedback from stakeholders at five workshops was the need for a stronger Metro role in coordination with school districts, focus on Title 1 schools and keep current grant programs while building capacity of partners.

Ms. Snook discussed the Enhanced Transit Concept (ETC) and the five million dollars in funding. She showed a conceptual schedule to identify the enhanced transit concept pilot program. She explained projects identified were projected to be operating in two years, but expressed that they really should have been addressed five years prior. She noted workshops and partners involved, helping to inform the Regional Transportation Plan. She ended by explaining the enhanced transit corridors visually with maps.

Council Discussion

Councilor Harrington questioned how the community members were involved in the ETC, and Ms. Snook clarified that the local jurisdictions were leading in the public outreach. Councilor Craddick questioned how the active transportation projects were chosen and what defined a project as regionally significant.

3:55 Councilor Communication

Councilor Craddick announced that the day prior was the Travel Portland's quarterly meeting, and commented that because the Convention Center Hotel was being built, Travel Portland was able to apply for the first time to host the NBA All Stars in 2022.

4:05 Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Metro Council work session at 3:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sara Seid, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF March 27, 2018

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1.0	PowerPoint	03/27/2018	Equitable Housing in the Southwest Corridor	032718cw-01
2.0	Handout	03/27/2018	SW Corridor Equitable Housing Strategy	032718cw-02
3.0	PowerPoint	03/27/2018	SW Corridor Equitable Development Strategy	032718cw-03
4.0	PowerPoint	03/27/2018	Overview: Regional Flexible Funds	032718cw-04