

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Thursday, February 27, 2020

2:00 PM

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

Council work session

2:00 Call to Order and Roll Call

Deputy Council President Juan Carlos Gonzalez called the Metro Council work session call to order at 2:03 p.m.

Present: 6 - Councilor Sam Chase, Councilor Christine Lewis, Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Craig Dirksen, Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, and Councilor Bob Stacey

Excused: 1 - Council President Lynn Peterson

2:05 Safety Briefing

Work Session Topics:

2:10 FY19-20 Budget Note Report Back: DEI

Deputy Council President Gonzalez introduced Ms. Raahi Reddy, Director of Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) to report on the FY19-20 Budget Note Report Back.

Ms. Reddy stated the work session would focus on the agency-wide community capacity to support racial equity budget note. She shared her appreciation for staff within and outside of Metro.

Ms. Reddy reminded the Council that the budget note was sponsored by Councilor Chase and called on staff to propose a program that would advance Metro's racial equity work by deepening partnerships with community-based organizations (CBO). The budget note also addressed the capacity issues CBOs were experiencing due to increased demand of their time, skills, connections and community expertise.

The key questions included in the budget note summary included: What's the need? Where are the gaps? What could a program look like? What are the possible outcomes?

Ms. Reddy explained the process of the budget note for the

department. Staff convened with partners from eleven CBO's who served communities of color to co-create the pilot program proposal. The eleven CBO's were: Coalition of Communities of Color, Vision Action Network, Adelante Mujeres, Latino Network, OPAL Environmental Justice Oregon, Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO), Portland African American Leadership Forum, Unite Oregon, Centro Cultural de Washington County, Basic Rights Oregon, and Verde.

Ms. Reddy presented three major findings to the Council. When Metro's efforts continued to expand, staff was asking more from CBO partners. The second finding concerned the need for a new model of partnership, since Metro's current relationship with CBO's do not span more than a year in length. To address the issue, staff created a pilot agency-wide partnership. It served as a starting point to adjust to the new demands and growing needs from CBO's to connect staff with long term across the region. The last finding concerned the ability to build trust with communities of color Metro served and the organizations that represent staff values.

Ms. Reddy reported on two different case studies that explored the issue of not having relationships built with partners or communities across the region as well as the issue of funding. The first case study Ms. Reddy reported was the Clackamas County Transfer station, wherein Waste Prevention and Environmental Services (WPES) staff were unable to reach and engage community for a request for proposal (RFP) in Clackamas County. The second case study concerned the Southwest Corridor Equitable Development Strategy (SWEDS) in the Southwest corridor, wherein funds fell short due to lack of planned investments. Ms. Reddy stated that the two examples showcased the threat of lack

of capacity for Metro's goals.

To address the gap, Ms. Reddy proposed the following program ideas:

- Capacity building grants: would offer three-year cycles to fund capacity building for civic and community engagement with flexible usage and would have co-created outcomes and metrics.
- Program resources: would support a cohort of grantees in meetings with support shared learning and reached collective needs.
- Department support: would leverage Metro's expertise as well as advance knowledge and skills.

Ms. Reddy also offered three options for consideration provided by the Program Design Committee (PDC) that would invest in a community capacity building program for racial equity:

- Option one included grants only to five partnerships with an ongoing annual cost of \$500,000.
- Option two included grants and program resources to five partnerships and \$100,000 in program resources with an ongoing annual cost of \$600,000.
- Option three included high investment to seven partnerships and \$100,000 in program resources with an ongoing annual cost of \$800,000.

Additionally, the PDC recommended re-assigning one FTE to the program to support continued design, administration and improvement, manage relations and community engagement, and recruit for advisory and oversight committees.

Ms. Reddy stated the potential outcomes of the program. It included the potential engagement with Metro from people

of color in Clackamas, East Multnomah, and Washington Counties. CBO staff and community members would expand knowledge and expertise around Metro issues. CBOs would meet Metro's needs for community engagement, consultation, etc. More CBOs and people of color would see Metro as a trusted partner with a shared vision, and new community leaders would sit on Metro advisory and oversight committees.

Ms. Reddy reminded the Council that staff were discussing with partners like the City of Portland, Multnomah County, Washington County, Meyer Memorial Trust, and Northwest Health Foundations about the potential to work together to build capacity for CBOs who served communities of color.

Ms. Reddy provided the Council with the following questions: Should Metro implement a pilot capacity building program? Does the proposed program meet Council's expectations and desired outcomes? What level of investment would Council direct the COO to pursue?

Council Discussion

Councilor Lewis voiced her support for re-assigning one FTE to the potential program. She also supported the idea of reaching out to communities in certain parts of the counties, such as Clackamas, that were lesser recognized.

Ms. Jenny Lee, Advocacy Director of Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO) spoke to the effort given by the organization to reach out to Asian Pacific Americans in Clackamas and how creating ongoing relationships is critical to those who are lesser recognized.

Councilor Craddick inquired what the next step would be if the program was approved as well as the sustainability of

the program.

Councilor Chase requested comments from the Chairs of CBOs that took part in the PDC to help the program move forward.

Mr. Marcus Mundy, Executive Director at the Coalition of Communities of Color, spoke on Metro's current process for capacity building with CBOs that he thought would make the program sustainable.

Mr. Glenn Montgomery, Executive Director of Vision Action Network, stated that his main take-away during his time in PDC, that there was a fundamental shift to relationships. The shift was to recognize those who had been disenfranchised and marginalized in conversations would now be recognized as a valuable partner.

Councilor Dirksen inquired what the actual budget requested would entail.

Councilor Stacey stated the importance of including the community in policy decisions as well as his overall support in the potential pilot program.

Deputy Council President Gonzalez voiced his appreciation for staff and the CBOs.

2:40 FY2021 Budget Discussion: Department Budget - Support Services

Deputy Council President Gonzalez introduced Ms. Heidi Rahn, Interim Deputy Chief Operating Officer, to report on the FY2021 Budget Discussion.

Ms. Rahn stated that the work session would focus on setting the context for overall agency-wide growth in

services and programs, how support services kept up with constant changes, discuss what support services would propose to align with Council priorities and the tradeoffs considered as it proceeded, and it would provide a summary of key themes in the budget proposal for eight departments with the support of Julio Garcia, Director of Human Resources.

Ms. Rahn provided a list of Support Services departments and they included: Capital Asset Management, Communications, Finance, Human Resources, Information Services, Office of the COO, and the Research Center. She also mentioned the potential creation of a coordinated approach to manage the life cycle of Metro's capital assets.

Ms. Rahn reported on how Support Services in the past eight years had not grown in capacity. Support Services had been able to maintain a steady, consistent budget and staffing level. She stressed the importance of an assessment of whether staff would be able to provide the level of support that programs needed.

Ms. Rahn discussed the results of uneven growth: limited knowledge of capital asset risk, reduced resilience and innovation, and recruiting and retention challenges.

Ms. Rahn mentioned how Support Services had provided the foundation to complete Council priorities such as climate and resilience, equity initiatives, Regional Investment Strategy, core Metro support, employer of choice.

Mr. Garcia expanded on employer of choice, stating that employees sought learning and development opportunities as well as tools and resources.

Mr. Garcia mentioned how an employer of choice should operate with an equity lens that would include a diverse workforce, transit passes, email accounts, and benefits on day one. Additionally, it is just as important to work on retention of staff.

Mr. Garcia mentioned the considerations of the budget proposal would include the challenge to find the right balance of identifying priorities and investing in the appropriate resources to achieve staff goals.

Ms. Rahn reminded the Council that policy guidance would be needed over the next twelve months for the Regional Investment Strategy, emergency operations plan, clean air construction standards, regional barometer, and budget adoption.

Ms. Rahn stated the overall budget modification proposal would come to \$2M in staffing and \$2M in materials and services. Due to the proposal, it was necessary to discuss tradeoffs.

Ms. Rahn posed the following questions for Council: Scope - what can staff stop doing to focus on new priorities and needs? Schedule - how can staff phase new efforts to leverage existing resource capacity? Budget - how can staff leverage existing resources vs. adding new FTE?

Ms. Rahn called on Support Services Directors Jeff, Brian Kennedy, Rachel, Raahi Reddy, and Jim for comment.

Council Discussion

Councilor Stacey inquired if Support Services would have a joint proposed budget.

Councilor Craddick inquired what programs would be reconsidered due to the modified proposed budget.

Councilor Lewis requested to have information on potential departmental overlap. She mentioned her support for Core Metro support.

Deputy Council President Gonzalez reminded Council how many departmental budgets will overlap, so it would be helpful to see where the funds derive from and what the tradeoffs would be.

Councilor Dirksen voiced his concern on the feasibility of the proposed budget.

Deputy Council President Gonzalez inquired on the capacity for the budget.

3:40 Regional Investment Strategy Update

Deputy Council President Gonzalez introduced Mr. Andy Shaw, Director of Government Affairs and Ms. Sebrina Owens-Wilson, Regional Impact Program Manager to report on the Regional Investment Strategy Update

Mr. Shaw stated that the work session would provide an update on recent analysis of the job creation potential in the Tier 1 corridor investments. Additionally, they would discuss how the investments would advance Council and Task Force desired outcome in regard to racial equity.

Mr. Shaw reported on the employment impacts of the Get Moving 2020 Tier 1 corridor investments provided by EcoNorthwest's preliminary analysis. According to the report, \$4B was estimated for total construction spending for Tier 1 corridor projects, 37,500 estimated total jobs

created, and \$98,000 was the average annual income per construction job.

Mr. Shaw stated the reason for the analysis was to address the Task Force and Council values to see how people were served through the measure and to connect it to the Racial Equity Strategy.

Ms. Owens-Wilson mentioned the three phases for how the measure would advance racial equity and what strategies were needed to achieve the goals that staff wanted. The first phase was an impact and benefit analysis, the second phase was a racial equity outcome, and the last phase was racial equity strategies and accountability mechanisms.

Ms. Owens-Wilson briefed the Council on the question staff sought to answer with their analysis: how does Get Moving 2020 prioritize racial equity?

Ms. Owens-Wilson stated that the equity focus areas, which included high racial diversity, low English proficiency, and low income, guided the selection of the Tier 1 corridors. It was also shaped by racially diverse Local Investment Teams (LIT).

Ms. Owens-Wilson reported on the key finding of the analysis: Get Moving 2020 Tier One project investments were strongly weighted toward areas where people of color (POC) live.

Ms. Owens-Wilson mentioned that 39 percent of census tracts in the region had an above-average concentration of people of color within the POC Equity Focus Areas. Within the census tract, there were high POC areas slated for the Get Moving 2020 investment.

Ms. Owens-Wilson reported on the key finding of the analysis: Get Moving 2020 safety investments were strongly weighted toward areas where people of color live.

Ms. Owens-Wilson expanded further on safety and transit projects that would be included in the Get Moving 2020 Tier 1 corridor investments. The analysis showcased that a portion of Get Moving 2020 safety infrastructure investments would be in areas of high POC concentration. It included 55 percent of new sidewalk miles, 50 percent of new safe marked crossings, 60 percent of new street lights, and 55 percent of improved bikeway miles.

Ms. Owens-Wilson provided the Council with percentages of estimated crash reductions resulting from Get Moving 2020 in areas of high POC concentration: 77 percent of estimated reduced injuries and fatalities, and 78 percent of estimated reduced injuries and fatalities for people walking and biking.

The third key finding, Ms. Owens-Wilson stated, was that Get Moving 2020 investments in transit access are strongly weighted toward areas where people of color live, with 80 percent of transit signal priority additions and 55 percent of new bus lane miles.

Ms. Owens-Wilson mentioned how the Tier 1 corridor investment would positively impact TriMet lines heavily used by POC: 42 percent of riders on the Get Moving 2020 bus lines were people of color.

Ms. Owens-Wilson noted the regional demographic profile for the Get Moving 2020 investment area: of the 480,000 people of color residing in the metro area, 62 percent of the

region lived in the investment area.

Ms. Owens-Wilson concluded that the Get Moving 2020 Tier 1 investments demonstrated intentional investment in areas where people of color live. She recommended the following next steps: corridor level analysis, racial equity outcomes - further engagement, equity strategies and accountability mechanisms, and project refinement and implementation.

Ms. Owens-Wilson and Mr. Shaw posed the following questions to Council: Does Council have questions about these analyses? Does Council have initial thoughts on setting goals and mechanisms to advance racial equity outcomes through measure implementation?

Mr. Shaw provided a timeline update for Council work sessions and Task Force meetings for the months of March, April, and May.

Council Discussion

Deputy Council President Gonzalez inquired if the \$4B was the Metro Bond measure as well as leverage dollars.

Councilor Stacey stressed the importance of investing in low-income and diverse areas especially in terms of walkability and creating bike-friendly environments.

Councilor Lewis supported the notion of including some Tier 2 corridors to the Tier 1 corridor investment. She mentioned the importance of utilizing a diverse workforce.

Councilor Craddick voiced her appreciation of staff including a breakdown of the percent of corridor population who were people of color.

Councilor Dirksen noted the importance of providing multimodal forms of transportation for all residents to encourage less vehicle dependency.

Councilor Chase requested more information on the stakeholder process.

Councilor Craddick questioned how the funds would be distributed.

Deputy Council President Gonzalez voiced his appreciation for the staff analyses.

4:40 Chief Operating Officer Communication

Mr. Andrew Scott mentioned the annual compliance report as well as provided an update on COVID-19 protocols.

4:45 Councilor Communication

Councilor Lewis reported her attendance of the Annual Oregon Zoo Volunteer Recognition Dinner. She also mentioned that volunteer participation had increased.

Metro Council Attorney Carrie MacLaren explained why the Oregon Metro Attorney (OMA) budget was not presented as support services. Additionally, she reported on two new law clerks who would begin working in May.

Deputy Council President Gonzalez highlighted the Regional-Barometer that occurred during the MPAC meeting.

4:50 Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Deputy Council President Juan Carlos Gonzalez adjourned the Metro Council work session

at 4:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diadira Pedro-Xuncax".

Diadira Pedro-Xuncax, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 27, 2020

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1.0	Handout	02/27/2020	Meyer Memorial Trust Letter of Support	022720cw-01
2.0	PowerPoint	02/27/2020	DEI Budget Note Report Back	022720cw-02
3.0	PowerPoint	02/27/2020	Support Services FY21 Budget	022720cw-03
4.0	PowerPoint	02/27/2020	Transportation Funding Measure Update	022720cw-04