

Metro

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



Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, April 28, 2020

2:00 PM

This meeting was held virtually.

Council work session

2:00 Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Lynn Peterson called the Metro Council work session call to order at: 2:02 p.m.

Present: 7 - Council President Lynn Peterson, Councilor Sam Chase, Councilor Christine Lewis, Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Craig Dirksen, Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, and Councilor Bob Stacey

Work Session Topics:**2:05 Regional Investment Strategy: Transportation Investment Measure**

Council President Peterson introduced Mr. Andy Shaw, Director of Government Affairs and Ms. Margi Bradway, Deputy Director of Planning to present on the Regional Investment Strategy Transportation Update.

Mr. Shaw provided a brief overview of the work session agenda, which included a task force update, proposed timeline for the referral decision, implementation preparation for the Get Moving measure, and time for Councilor questions.

Mr. Shaw reported on the final Task Force meeting, which was held on April 15, 2020. He mentioned that President Peterson as well as Congressman Blumenauer were able to participate and that each Task Force member provided final recommendations for the Council. Mr. Shaw spoke to the level of commitment each member provided to the Task Force to ensure the measure moved forward. They advised Council not to lose sight of equity, climate, safety and jobs as the Council moved forward in their decision. He mentioned that staff would continue to engage the Task Force members by sending emails, occasional calls with group members, giving an oversight survey and provide time for celebration.

Mr. Shaw gave an overview of a proposed timeline for referral. Mr. Shaw listed the timeline in three phases: coming together, recommendations, and Council decision. The first phase would occur on May of 2020 and would include work sessions, CORE discussion, finalizing project definitions, and external presentations to stakeholders. The second phase would occur on June of 2020 and would include work sessions, final project and program recommendations, partner adoption on letter of commitment, and further public outreach. The last phase would occur on July of 2020 and would include a finalized package, referral materials, hearings, and a Council referral decision.

Ms. Bradway reviewed the expenditure plan that would take place prior to the referral. The plan was broken down into three different stages. Stage one included the final project list and final program descriptions. Stage two included the Get Moving 2020 measure and expenditure plan. Stage three included financial management, terms and schedules, and oversight and accountability. She emphasized the importance of the following key documents: letters of commitment, final project and program recommendations, and the expenditure plan. Ms. Bradway then discussed the project implementation program of expenditures (PIPE) management.

Ms. Bradway described the difference between internal and external roles in fiscal management and project delivery between Metro and agency partners. A few roles included reimbursement, final project recommendations, requesting project amendments, and following expenditure plan and IGA terms.

Ms. Bradway shared the shaping of the oversight and accountability recommendations from staff. She reported

that staff would work on recommendations that would be an important part of the expenditure plan and process. She informed the Council that the work included was listening to community voices, Task Force and CORE discussions, close collaboration with DEI, and lessons learned from affordable housing and parks and nature bonds. Ms. Bradway then mentioned that the oversight committee had four main functions: accountability, transparency, change management, and communication. She concluded with reviewing a draft oversight concept.

Ms. Bradway posed the following question to the Council: How can implementation ensure accountability and advance Council's investment outcome direction?

Council Discussion

Councilor Lewis inquired where workforce goals and levers relationship stood in regard to project delivery agencies and jurisdictions.

Councilor Stacey stressed the importance of compliance within partners regarding workforce goals. He also voiced the need to have a discussion on anti-displacement.

Councilor Dirksen asked for clarification on hiring policies for the measure and the draft oversight committee structure.

Councilor Gonzalez requested more information on the project oversight committee structure in regard to finding balance in the member selection process. He also inquired if there would be a stipend for members that would serve in the committee.

Councilor Craddick inquired on the financial oversight and programming of the projects.

Councilor Chase commented on contingencies in regard to jurisdictional partners. He also recommended the further development of expectations and standards for the workforce. Councilor Chase expressed the importance of providing support for culturally specific organizations.

President Peterson mentioned how project scopes may change over time and the importance of collaborating with jurisdictional partners.

2:50 **FY 2020-21 Budget Discussion**

Council President Peterson introduced Ms. Marissa Madrigal, Chief Operating Officer, to present on the FY2020-21 Budget.

Ms. Madrigal provided a brief overview of the agenda, which included a forecast and updated budget impacts on MERC venues, the Oregon Zoo, the solid waste fund, and general fund. She recommended the Council to accept a close to 10% general fund cut and 20% for solid waste.

Ms. Madrigal introduced Ms. Rachael Lembo, Finance and Regulatory Service Program Director, to provide a MERC venues budget update. Ms. Lembo reported that revenues were projected to decline by almost 50% from the proposed budget for FY2021, and due to this there were difficult budget decisions made. Such decisions included significant layoffs as well as the potential for additional reductions if an event ban were to be continued.

Ms. Madrigal introduced Ms. Sarah Keane, Finance Director of the Oregon Zoo to provide a budget update. Ms. Keane reported that enterprise revenues were down 55% and were projecting a \$2.9 million operation loss. She mentioned how the report is based on the assumption that

the Oregon Zoo would start reopening in the summer. Ms. Keane also noted that budget decisions were made on the basis of maintaining animal welfare and a budgeted \$1.7 million to scale it back up.

Ms. Madrigal introduced Ms. Cinnamon Williams, Financial Planning Director, to provide a budget update on the solid waste fund. Ms. Williams reported that rate increases would be necessary to fund new operations contracts. The budget decisions made within included the pause on new investments and evaluation of time for rate increases.

Ms. Madrigal discussed the general fund forecast which projected a decrease in revenues for FY21 through excise tax, MERC management fees, and property taxes. She reported that staff would aim for 10% reductions to create a small cushion. She then provided an update on departments ranging from capital asset management, communications, Council office, and to human resources. Ms. Madrigal mentioned that the next step would be to work with the Council on policy direction and to provide information prior to the budget approval scheduled for May 07, 2020.

Council Discussion

President Peterson voiced her appreciation to staff who presented at the work session.

Councilor Dirksen voiced his appreciation to staff.

Councilor Lewis stressed the importance of correcting budgets at the correct rate. She expressed her concern for the opening dates for the venues and the need for focus groups concerning the venues in order to seek solutions. She also voiced her appreciation to staff.

Councilor Stacey voiced his appreciation to staff.

Councilor Gonzalez expressed his concern on the budget due to the two measures on the ballot. He also thanked the staff.

Councilor Chase voiced his appreciation to staff presenters. He expressed his concern on revenue regarding the visitor venues. Councilor Chase also reminded staff that difficult decisions would need to be made with long term goals in mind.

Councilor Craddick echoed previous Councilors concerns. She also thanked staff.

3:50 Chief Operating Officer Communication

There was none.

3:55 Councilor Communication

Councilor Craddick reported on a letter written for the Columbia Consortium.

4:00 Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Council President Lynn Peterson adjourned the Metro Council work session at 3:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Diadira Pedro-Xuncax, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF APRIL 28, 2020

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1.0	PowerPoint	04/28/2020	RIS: Transportation Investment Measure	042820cw-01
2.0	PowerPoint	04/28/2020	FY 2020-21 Budget	042820cw-02
3.0	Handout	04/28/2020	Levee Ready Columbia Letter	042820cw-03