

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

2:00 PM

Revised 03/02

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Council work session

2:05 Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Lynn Peterson called the Metro Council Meeting call to order at: 2:01 p.m.

Present: 7 - Council President Lynn Peterson, Councilor Christine Lewis, Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Councilor Bob Stacey, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, and Councilor Mary Nolan

Work Session Topics:

2:10 Expo Development Opportunity Study

Presenter(s): Andrew Scott, Metro
Paul Slyman, Metro
Alex Joyce, Cascadia Partners

Council President Peterson introduced Andrew Scott, Paul Slyman and Alex Joyce to present on the Expo Development Opportunity Study.

Alex Joyce reviewed the initial findings of the study and the purpose and goal of the study. These are the following goals of the EXPO DOS: to understand stakeholder desires for the site, establish the market value of the site, identify up to five viable future options and evaluate those options and create a decision-making framework. Council President Peterson explained the background of this project and why Metro is interested in understanding how to make the Expo Center more viable for future use.

Mr. Joyce explained that the community engagement efforts were concentrated on specific stakeholders that have a history and economic interest around the site. He explained that they just completed the first step of their community engagement plan. Furthermore, he reviewed the questions staff wants Council to review: First, whether or not to sell or develop the property? And what could be the potential future uses of the site if they decide to keep the property?

Second question, of whether or not to include formal proposal step in vetting process?

Council Discussion

Councilor Lewis told staff that she wants to prioritize hold options for now so that they can continue having discussions with community stakeholders specifically with culturally specific and historical stakeholders of the site.

Councilor Craddick asked staff to review what the actual community need or desire is for event centers like the Expo Center. Additionally, she expressed her desire for staff to prioritize hold options for now. Councilor Craddick expressed her support of including the formal proposal step in the vetting process and asked staff to look for ways to incorporate the regional needs in their future research.

Councilor Gonzalez expressed his support for this study and the potential for impactful future development.

Councilor Stacey thanked Alex Joyce for acknowledging the sites historical connection with the Japanese internment camps during World War Two and he supported prioritizing hold options.

Councilor Nolan asked staff to expand their community engagement to include actual community members instead of just specific stakeholders because the goal of the study should be on who would come to the Expo Center and what the overall regional need and desire is for further development of the property. Furthermore, she told staff that she needs to know more information about the project and the study in order to give an appropriate response. She expressed her support of including the formal proposal step in the vetting process.

Council President Peterson explained to Council that including the formal proposal step in the vetting process offers up an opportunity to answer some of the questions Councilors brought up about community and marketplace desire.

Seeing no further discussion on the topic, Council President Peterson moved on to the next agenda item.

2:55 117th Congress Federal Legislative Agenda

Presenter(s): Tyler Frisbee, Metro

Council President Peterson introduced Tyler Frisbee, Andy Shaw, Hal Hiemstra and Michelle Giguere to present on the Federal Affairs Agenda Update.

Mr. Shaw reviewed metro's roles and policy strategies and Ms. Frisbee reviewed the impact of federal policy and why it's important that Metro is engaging with Federal Legislative decisions and efforts. Furthermore, she explained the agenda building process and what next steps are once the agenda has been approved by Council.

Additionally, she introduced Michelle Giguere and Hal Hiemstra from Summit Strategies who helped staff develop and promote this agenda. Ms. Giguere reviewed the current legislation being discussed in DC and the potential projects that Metro can gain support on in the new political climate. Mr. Hiemstra summarized the legislation on the federal agenda for the next few months.

Council Discussion

Councilor Nolan asked fellow councilors to consider the following edits to the agenda: First, under the racial equity and inclusion priority to explicit language demonstrating support for bills of reparations. Second, see if staff can

include a priority of reversing climate change and expressing explicit support of the Green New Deal. Third, she asked staff to rethink the language used to describe the Willamette Falls section in order to properly represent the indigenous history of the falls.

Councilor Lewis thanked staff for their work and asked staff whether earthquake and bridges funding or legislation is on the federal agenda.

Councilor Craddick thanked staff for their work and explained the importance of having a united regional front in DC in order to accomplish transportation and other regional goals and priorities.

Councilor Rosenthal asked staff to highlight the importance of incorporating private industry in discussions with the federal government.

Councilor Gonzalez asked staff to share a comparison between the relief package from 2020 vs the current relief bill, learning more about how the federal government can support Metro's infrastructure needs and for staff to include the issue of using certified international markets with recycling.

Councilor Stacey asked staff to explore incorporating federal funds to support regional affordable housing development.

3:40 Chief Operating Officer Communication

Marissa Madrigal shared that by May 1, 600 metro employees will be eligible for the Covid-19 vaccine.

3:45 Councilor Communication

There was none.

3:50 Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Council President Lynn Peterson adjourned the Metro Council work session at 4:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pilar Karlin

Pilar Karlin, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MARCH 2, 2021

Item	Topic	Doc. Date	Document Description	Doc. Number
1.0	PowerPoint	03/2/2021	Expo Development Opportunity Study	030221cw-01
2.0	PowerPoint	03/2/2021	117 th Congress Federal Agenda	030221cw-02