



METRO

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Memorandum

Date: July 11, 1991
To: Metro Council, Executive, Staff, Interested Parties
From: Betsy Bergstein *B*
Regarding: Charter Committee - Public Meetings in Clackamas and Washington Counties

The Charter Committee held two subsequent public meetings this week in Clackamas and Washington counties.

The Committee had fairly good attendance at both meetings. There were roughly 35-45 people and 9-12 committee members at both meetings.

Councilors DeJardin, Van Bergen, Devlin, Buchanan, McClain, Bauer attended one or both of these meetings. I did not see any press although I did receive a call from an Oregonian reporter who covers Clackamas county.

These meetings were considerably more acrimonious than the Multnomah County meeting. Common themes included:

- o Regional government should be a coordinator of service, not a direct provider;
- o Metro's functional planning power gives it an "unaccountable, unresponsive power" that undermines local government;
- o Desire to hold the implementation of the regional urban growth goals and objectives in "abeyance" until the Charter process is completed;
- o The consensus model exemplified by JPACT should be continued and replicated;
- o District councilors should be elected but the Executive should be appointed by the Council;
- o Regional services and government should be a "bottoms up" process rather than "tops down."

(The former is from the Clackamas County public meeting which focused consistently on a discussion of the RUGGOs and a functional plan for the Greenspaces programs.)

- o The Charter should be clear and give Metro specific authority in particular areas, not general authority;
- o Metro's authority should be limited to duties which require regional action;

- o Some of Metro's officials should be accountable to the entire region;
- o Financing should be more fiscally accountable than it is now through dues and interfund transfers;
- o Local government officials should have some voting seats on the Metro Council;
- o Separation of powers is critical at the national level but fosters inefficiency at the regional level; Council-Manager form is most appropriate for Metro.

The above is from the Washington county meeting which focused more on Metro, its structure, powers, financing than Clackamas county, which was very preoccupied with Metro's planning functions.

Councilor Devlin and former Councilor Mike Ragsdale testified at the Washington County meeting and both did a really good job.

Copies of the testimony that were available and a list of those speaking is attached.

Please phone me (220-1540) if you have any questions.

