

METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Tuesday, April 18, 1995

Oregon Convention Center
Room 116B

Councilors Present: Ruth McFarland (Presiding Officer), Rod Monroe (Deputy Presiding Officer), Jon Kvistad, Patricia McCaig, Susan McLain, Don Morissette, Ed Washington

Councilors Absent: None

Joe Hertzberg of Decisions, Decisions called the meeting to order at approximately 2:30 PM.

1. MISSION STATEMENT

Mr. Hertzberg distributed a draft handout that outlined Metro roles. Following discussion, councilors decided it would be beneficial to develop a Council mission statement. Councilors drafted individual mission statements and broke out the key components of each (listed below). Councilors were asked to select core elements from the list of key components. The core elements selected were "proactive," "innovative," "planning," "regional," "leadership," and "inter-jurisdictional."

# of Votes	Mission Components
3	Proactive, innovative
4	Planning
0	Unique
3	Regional
1	Quality of Life -- livable community, balance of social, environmental, economic
3	Leadership
3	Facilitator, convenor, consensus builder
3	Service to local governments cannot do on their own, inter-jurisdictional
1	Perspective, linkage, transcend
0	Effective
1	Emerging and maturing issues, time-certain
0	Fairness and equity

A sample mission statement was formulated as follows: "Metro provides planning and innovative regional leadership to confront emerging and present issues in a proactive inter-jurisdictional, effective, problem-solving way."

Mr. Hertzberg was asked to develop a final version of a mission statement for discussion at an upcoming meeting, based upon the input of the Council.

2. METRO ROLES

Mr. Hertzberg asked for a description of Metro's role. There is a general feeling that different roles that are appropriate at different times and situations.

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COUNCIL ROLES	
ROLE	DISCUSSION
Information gathering	Always
Planning	Always
Convenor	Often, when regional perspective is useful
Disseminate information	Often, except when more appropriate for others
Funding	It's essential to fund Metro's core programs Based on priority allocation of scarce resources Sometimes Metro is a conduit -- grants in service of regional goals
Innovate for better government	Always
Coordination	Often, sometimes mandated, requires higher level of Metro commitment of resources than others -- based on Council priority
Regulator	Sometimes, required to make 2040 or other priorities work, (i.e., flow control for solid waste, regional planning framework)
Leader	Very important -- unique regional role and responsibilities of Metro, other roles are tools
Direct Service	Sometimes, when mandated, if it is efficient, cost-effective, helps Metro reach a goal, if regional partners requests Metro do it, and if there is a reasonable chance of success
Quasi-judicial	Sometimes, statutory requirement -- Boundary Commission, UGB
Promote balance among environmental, economic, and social concerns	Issues need to be balanced Should also encompass outreach

Discussion took place regarding the differences between the roles of the Executive and the Council. Projecting Metro to the public (outreach) was seen to be a function of the Executive, the Council, as well as individual councilors. Councilors agreed that development of the Council role should not be driven by the Executive, and that consideration be given to the dual role of the Council as the policy making body and the Executive as a direct service provider.

3. PROCESS ISSUES

Each councilor listed process issues he or she felt need to be addressed:

- What is the role of the Executive and the Council?
- What is the role of the Presiding Officer?
- What is the role of the Council, the lead councilor, or the committee?
- What is the role of the liaison councilor?
- What is the role of the Assistant to the Presiding Officer?
- What is the role of the Council analysts?
- What is the relationship of a Council member to a member of the staff under the Executive Officer?
- What is the relationship of a Council member to a member of the Council staff?

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- Who determines the role of the auditor?
- The role of the presiding officer is to facilitate communication and prioritize the needs of the Council members.
- The Council must define Metro priorities, establish a scope of authority, and place mechanisms to enforce its decisions.
- The Council is responsible to insure that we fully fund our basic government needs and our existing programs before we take on any new or expanded functions.
- We need to build a common solution through teamwork.
- We need to promote timelines that result in reasonable solutions.
- We need to balance economic, environmental, and social needs with all decisions.
- The Council is the preeminent political authority at Metro.
- It is the role of the Executive to carry out the policy directives of the Council.
- How can the Council make decisions with as much support possible of our local partners?
- How can we involve Clark County as an equal partner in Metro? Should we?
- How can Metro achieve a more effective partnership with Tri-Met?
- How do we get closure on issues, and get decisions to hold?
- How can we make the Tuesday work session process more effective?
- How can we use MCCI in the best way for network and reviewer?
- Council needs to start leading with resolutions and ordinances.
- How many committees does Metro need to have?


At the next session, the following relationship roles will be discussed:

Council	and	Executive Officer
Council		Presiding Officer
Council		Asst. to Presiding Officer
Council		Council Staff
Council		Executive Staff
Council		Auditor
Council Staff		Executive Staff

The final session will cover funding, planning, transportation issues.

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:56 PM.

Prepared by,



Lindsey Ray
Council Assistant