

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE

August 3, 1993

Council Chamber

Committee Members Present: Roger Buchanan (Chair), Ruth McFarland (Vice Chair, Susan McLain, Ed Washington, Judy Wyers

Councilors Also Present: Richard Devlin, Mike Gates, Sandi Hansen, Jon Kvistad, Terry Moore

1. Consideration of April 15, 1993 and July 20, 1993 Solid Waste Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion: Councilors McLain and McFarland moved to approve the April 15, 1993 and July 20, 1993 Solid Waste Committee meeting minutes as submitted.

Vote: Councilors McLain, Washington, Wyers, McFarland and Buchanan voted aye.

The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

2. Solid Waste Updates

- General Staff Reports

Bob Martin, Director of the Solid Waste Department, referenced a report entitled, "Summary of Waste Delivered to Facilities Serving the Metro Region, Historical 1988-June 1993, Projections July 1993-2000," dated July 1993. This document was distributed to the Committee and has been made part of the permanent meeting record. He indicated the document was relevant to items on this meeting's agenda; e.g. the Flow Control Enforcement and Illegal Dump Site Cleanup and the Wilsonville Transfer Station discussion and public hearing. Councilor McLain suggested the possibility of returning to the document following the public hearing should further questions arise.

- Waste Reduction Program Activities

Debbie Gorham, Waste Reduction Manager, presented the staff report, and said Rasmussen Paint Co. had developed a color selector brochure for recycled paint, which included a number of colors from which to choose. Ms. Gorham distributed copies of the color selector brochure to the Committee, and a copy of this brochure has been made part of the permanent meeting record.

Ms. Gorham referenced a memorandum and report located in the agenda packet regarding the Yard Debris Evaluation Report.

Lauren Ettlin, Associate Solid Waste Planner, presented a summary of results on the "Demonstration Project Using Yard Debris Compost for Erosion Control," and she introduced Bill Stewart, W & H Pacific, consultant on the project. A copy of the Final Report dated June 30, 1993 has been made part of the permanent meeting record. Ms. Ettlin and Mr. Stewart felt the project would aid increasing markets for yard debris compost in the future, and noted photographs of the project were available in the rear of the chamber for viewing purposes.

In response to Councilor Wyers, Mr. Stewart said he felt the next step would be to do larger scale test plots, such as covering an entire slope, and he noted the Oregon Department of Transportation was interested in follow up.

3. Public Hearing Relating to the Proposed Wilsonville Transfer Station

Councilor McFarland indicated she favored, should the opportunity arise, moving the matter out of Committee for the purposes of discussion at the full Council.

Members of the Washington County Steering Committee including Bonnie Hays, Washington County Board of Commissioners and Steering Committee Chair; Delyn Kies; and Steve Stolze, Mayor, City of Tualatin, appeared to testify before the Committee. Commissioner Hays noted members of the Steering Committee in attendance at tonight's meeting included: Forrest Soth, City of Beaverton; Dave Kanner, City of Wilsonville; Richard Kidd, Mayor, City of Forest Grove; and, Bob Peterson, Buzz Walker, and Don Hamburg, Washington County Haulers Association. Commissioner Hays indicated discussion in recent meetings of the Steering Committee had only confirmed the need to build the Wilsonville Transfer Station, and she urged Metro to build. She discussed the franchise agreements, land use permitting, safety issues in terms of trucking over Hiway 26, and said a decision not to build must be an issue open for policy discussion.

Mr. Stolze addressed the Committee and referenced a document containing testimony from the Steering Committee to the Solid Waste Committee, dated August 3, 1993, and containing a Comparison of Metro Staff Reports dated June 22, 1993 and July 13, 1993. This document has been made a part of the permanent meeting record. Mr. Stolze urged Metro to build the Wilsonville Transfer Station and noted that although much discussion had occurred up to now, no discussion regarding the decision not to build had occurred with all the parties involved. He said the Steering Committee was not satisfied with the decision by the Executive Officer to change direction without offering a specific alternative plan. He said the Steering Committee suggested another look at the final assumptions underlying the Washington County Plan, and, if found to be valid, to proceed with building the transfer station.

Ms. Kies addressed issues of cost, capacity and recycling. She said haulers in Washington County paid more due to greater traveling distances. Ms. Kies noted although it was true that per capita waste was decreasing, that waste was increasing overall due to increases in population, with even greater populations increases occurring in Eastern Washington County, the site of the Wilsonville Transfer Station. Ms. Kies believed the next gains in recycling would be in commercial recycling and in demolition recycling, which would help in reaching the recycling goals. She noted these types of waste were not included in waste projections for transfer stations, and should not impact a decision to build or not to build the Wilsonville Transfer Station.

Councilor Gates said he felt time for consideration should be taken, and felt modifications to Metro South should be explored. He raised other questions regarding mileage issues, materials recovery issues, and changes in packaging technology, and indicated these questions should be given consideration as well.

Ms. Kies indicated haulers would experience cost savings due to mileage saved should the Wilsonville station be built. She noted as a member of the board of the National Recycling Association, she did not see packaging technology changes as being imminent, and said she would be pleased to see the information.

Commissioner Hays noted Washington County haulers were currently in violation of the intent of the agreement with Metro South: to seek reduction of the tonnage going to Metro South to 255,000. She noted Metro South was currently operating at about 350,000 tons, and even at a maximum capacity of 400,000 there was no growth potential at the facility.

In response to Councilor Gates question regarding the use of smaller trucks and more miles generated, Ms. Kies noted loads would be lighter, less gas would be used, and off loading to larger trucks with greater compaction would occur.

Commissioner Hays said some franchised haulers currently used the Forest Grove facility, and said it was part of the Washington County plan to hold Forest Grove harmless, and not take tonnage away from Forest Grove to

make good the contractual agreement with the proposed Wilsonville site. She said the facility that would best serve the growing eastern portion of Washington County in the western portion of the region would be the Wilsonville site.

Councilor McFarland asked regarding a difference in mileage for transportation to Arlington from the proposed Wilsonville Transfer Station as opposed to the transportation from Metro South, and what was the cost differential.

Mr. Stolze responded to Councilor Devlin's question regarding the process involved in reaching consensus agreement concerning the decision whether or not to build on the Wilsonville site. He said the Steering Committee had met numerous times over a number of years with Metro Staff and other interested parties in which consensus was reached regarding building at the Wilsonville site. He commented a change occurred suddenly between the time of the June 22, 1993 Metro Staff report and the July 13, 1993 Metro Staff report without a recommendation for an alternative plan. Councilor Devlin commented further analysis had not yet been done.

Councilor Hansen cautioned the parties testifying to refrain from using safety as an issue or suggesting that truckers could not handle their trucks.

In response to Councilor Washington, Mr. Stolze said the Washington County Plan was in process for seven years and as late as June 1993 was in an approval mode, and he said the changes made for the wrong reasons included unfounded recommendations made by the Metro Executive Officer without substantiation.

Councilor McLain indicated issues were still on the table, and said the final decision had not yet been made. Mr. Stolze said the question from the Steering Committee was, what conditions existed that caused the change in direction in a month's time.

Judie Hammerstad, Clackamas County Commission, addressed the Committee and introduced written testimony into the record. This document has been made a part of the permanent meeting record. She urged support for building the Wilsonville transfer station, noting three issues: 1) commitment, 2) need, and, 3) need.

In response to Councilor Moore, Commissioner Hammerstad said, based on the neighbor aspect of Metro South to the End of the Oregon Trail, retrofitting Metro South was not advisable unless the contractual goal of 700 tons per day could be accomplished. She discussed transportation issues involved in the Oregon Trail neighbor relationship as well, and the hoped-for reductions in tonnages to the facility.

Estl Harlan, Tri-County Council, addressed the Committee, and presented written testimony for the record signed by 10 members of the Tri-County Council. This document has been made a part of the permanent meeting record. She said the Tri-County Council continued to support the building of the Wilsonville Transfer Station. Ms. Harlan pointed out issues of flow control, the plan for a series of multi-county transfer stations, and introduced into the record a letter from H. Palmer Kellum, Jr., President of Kellum Motors, dated August 3, 1993, also in support of building the transfer station at the Wilsonville site. Ms. Harlan commented regarding recycling plans for the Wilsonville site, which she said were considerable.

Ms. Harlan and Councilor Devlin discussed cost issues involved in utilizing the Metro Central and Metro South facilities.

John Walker, Walker Garbage Service and member of the Steering Committee, testified before the Committee, apologized to Councilor Hansen, and discussed the need for the Wilsonville Transfer Station, commenting on safety factors involved. Mr. Walker indicated he'd had personal experience with an accident with tragic results on the Hiway 26 hill, and said experience proved equipment could be in first class shape one day and that brake linings could be faulty by the time a driver reached the bottom of the hill. Mr. Walker urged support for the building of the Wilsonville Transfer Station.

Forrest Soth, Beaverton City Council member, testified before the Committee, and declared the City of Beaverton, population 60,000, and seven franchise haulers for the city, urged support for building the Wilsonville Transfer Station. Mr. Soth noted no recycling program was better than the markets it served, and said Washington County was assured, through participation in the Five Year Plan and the siting process, that a transfer station site in Washington County would be provided.

In response to Councilor Moore, Mr. Martin said Metro was committed to deliver 90% of acceptable waste in the region to the Arlington landfill. He said no specific commitments were made regarding the remaining 10%, but, said it was currently going to Forest Grove and Riverbend.

David Knowles, Attorney-at-Law, representing Willamette Resources, Inc. (WRI), testified before the Committee, and distributed a notebook to the Committee containing a document entitled, "Presentation to Metro Council Solid Waste Committee," dated August 3, 1993. Mr. Knowles said WRI was a subsidiary of Waste Control, Inc., and its principal shareholder and president were present, Richard Brentano and Dwayne Sorenson respectively. Mr. Knowles referenced documents in the notebook, discussed the company, the franchise agreement with WRI, and presented charts and graphs concerning tonnage to Metro's transfer station system, facility capacities, Metro Staff reports and memorandums, the 1993 Spring Budget projections, transportation issues, legal issues concerned with agreements made, land use permitting issues, and Resolution No. 90-1355 adopted November, 1992. Mr. Knowles indicated the Comparison of Metro Staff Reports had been prepared by representatives of WRI, and he discussed the differences found in the Draft Staff Report dated June 22, 1993, and the Final Staff Report dated July 13, 1993. He said WRI did not believe anything had changed that warranted a decision not to build, and urged Metro to proceed with the building of the Wilsonville Transfer Station. Mr. Knowles introduced Merle Irvine, Vice President, WRI, who responded to a question regarding construction time frames posed by Councilor Devlin. Mr. Irvine said once the building permit was issued, construction should be completed in approximately 12 months, and said a contingency of \$150,000 had been placed in the budget to account for inclement weather.

In response to Councilor Moore, Mr. Irvine indicated he would provide a copy of the Conditional Use Permit for the Committee.

Robert Peterson, Beaverton resident, testified before the Committee, and said he opposed the building of the Wilsonville Transfer Station. Mr. Peterson said if the figures were inaccurate, another study should be undertaken. He suggested taking the matter to a vote of the people. He felt the cost savings could be utilized in other areas, such as recycling, discussed transportation and mileage issues, and suggested the possibility that a small transfer station be built in the eastern portion of the region.

The Committee commented they felt encouraged by citizens coming forward to present testimony, and expressed their appreciation to Mr. Peterson. In response to Councilor Devlin, Mr. Peterson said he had not been approached by any solid waste vendors and encouraged to oppose the building of the transfer station.

Councilor Gates and Councilor Wyers asked that information regarding increased costs pertinent to handling of Household Hazardous Waste and Materials Recovery be included as concerning Metro South and any renovations planned thereof.

4. Resolution No. 93-1792. For the Purpose of Authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement Between Metro and the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office for the Purpose of Providing General Investigative Services, Assistance in Solid Waste Flow Control Enforcement and Illegal Dump Site Cleanup

Mr. Martin said two changes should be noted: 1) the budget for the contract work had been revised downward slightly, and 2) the deputies to be used would be exclusively Multnomah County Sheriffs.

Councilor McFarland clarified the contract was subject to review by the Committee, and Mr. Martin gave assurance that was so.

Motion: Councilor McFarland moved to recommend Resolution No. 93-1792 to the full Council for adoption.

The Committee discussed work to be done under the contract and anticipated costs.

Chair Buchanan opened a public hearing. No citizens appeared to testify. Chair Buchanan closed the public hearing.

John Houser, Council Analyst, noted an amended version had been distributed and the new budget figures were included in Resolution No. 93-1792A. Chair Buchanan asked the amended version be accepted as a friendly amendment.

Vote: Councilors McLain, Washington, Wyers, McFarland and Buchanan voted aye.

The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Marilyn Geary-Symons". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name of the signatory.

Marilyn Geary-Symons
Committee Recorder