

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
OF THE METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

March 5, 1992
Council Chamber

Committee Members Present: Tanya Collier (Chair), Tom DeJardin
(Vice Chair), Larry Bauer, Richard
Devlin

Committee Members Absent: Judy Wyers

Other Councilors Present: Roger Buchanan, Ed Washington

Chair Collier called the regular meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. Update on discussions with Multnomah County on regionalization
of certain County services

Don Rocks, Executive Assistant, reported he had met with Multnomah County administrative services staff to identify areas of consideration for consolidation. He said a final report would be forthcoming on or about March 19, 1992.

Councilor Devlin asked if a determination had been made. Mr. Rocks said no determination had been made. He said if a determination was made, an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) would be drafted for Council consideration.

Dick Engstrom, Deputy Executive Officer, distributed a handout and asked for Councilors to provide feedback.

Casey Short, Council Analyst, noted Expo funds were separate from the other funds.

Don Carlson, Council Administrator, said he was reformatting the Multnomah County Parks and Recreation budget to the Metro format for comparison. He said he would distribute the handout when it was complete. He said a page of assumptions would be included and discussion of those assumptions might be necessary.

Councilor Devlin asked if the parks program would come out of the general fund. Mr. Carlson said it would. Councilor Devlin expressed a concern that some services may not be reflected in the budget. He cited the example of the Exposition-Recreation Commission (ERC) and overhead transfers for support services. Mr. Carlson said he was sensitive to the issue. He said some services had been historically provided such as grounds maintenance and landscaping and the issue of continuance of these services would need to be addressed.

2. Status Report on Metro's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program

Neil Saling, Regional Facilities Director, noted members of the task force were encouraged to attend the meeting and were in the audience. He then summarized his February 26, 1992 memorandum, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting. He noted no legal review or recommendation from the Executive Officer had been made.

The Committee discussed the program. Mr. Saling noted while no past discrimination existed on behalf of Metro, particular trades or crafts that have been discriminated against could be identified. Chair Collier supported the former program and wanted any future program to capture the good faith and outreach to women and minority owned businesses. Councilor DeJardin suggested a program that would encourage contract participation by women and minority owned businesses. Mr. Saling noted a program used by the City and County of San Francisco might offer an alternative program. He said he would supply further information on that program to the Committee. Councilor Devlin said a program needed to be put in place.

Clifford Freeman, 155 Cottage St. NE, Salem, OR, testified. He offered a case history of the events leading to the State Emerging Small Business program (ESB). He noted the State had not removed their Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women Business Enterprise (WBE) programs entirely. He said public works contracts in excess of \$100,000 had been modified. He noted government entities could not use race base preferences unless there is compelling state interest. He said past experience of the use of tax dollars into industries where discrimination existed was the exception. He noted the State continued to make good faith efforts to include MBE and WBE contracting. He said under the new program, more non-minority female firms were receiving contracts. Mr. Freeman distributed a handout, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Bruce Broussard, 1863 N. Jantzen, Portland, OR, testified. He described the program Metro was using in cooperation with Hoffman Construction on the headquarters building to promote MBE and WBE participation in the project.

Henry Pelfrey, citizen, testified to his dissatisfaction with the new State program. He noted that formerly, MBE's received ten percent of contracts. He said the DBE program now received twelve percent of contracts. He said of that twelve percent, seventy percent went to non-minority WBE's, lowering participation by minority contractors.

Chair Collier said outreach to MBE's and WBE's needed to continue. She said Metro needed to continue to act in good faith. She requested Casey Short, Council Analyst, continue the work with the task force that Mr. Saling initiated, to ensure Council interests were focused on. She noted a response had been received from Senator Mark Hatfield's office and Dan Cooper, Legal Counsel, was following it up.

3. Update on Metro Charter Committee Activities

Betsy Bergstein, Senior Management Analyst, reported on the Charter Committee activity. She said Mr. Cooper and Washington County General Counsel prepared a separate draft Metro Charter. She outlined the contents of the draft charter.

Ms. Bergstein said the finance subcommittee of the Metro Charter Committee would meet that evening, March 5, 1992 to discuss finance issues.

4. Committee review of Budget Schedule

Mr. Short referred the Committee to the Budget Committee schedule included in the record of this meeting. He encouraged the Governmental Affairs Committee to attend the relevant Budget Committee meetings. He noted the first Phase I meeting would be held March 16, 1992.

With no further business before the Committee, Chair Collier adjourned the meeting at 5:35.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Lee
Committee Clerk