

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

July 16, 1992
Council Chamber

Committee Members Present: Tanya Collier (Chair), Richard Devlin (Vice Chair), Lawrence Bauer, Edward Gronke, Judy Wyers

Committee Members Absent: none

Other Councilors Present: Roger Buchanan, Jim Gardner, Sandi Hansen, Susan McLain, George Van Bergen

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

1. Consideration of Resolution No. 92-1650, For the Purpose of Submitting to the Voters the Question of whether Legislation should be Adopted to Authorize the Voters to Abolish Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas Counties, the Metropolitan Service District, and Tri-Met, and Create a Single Consolidated Government

Casey Short, Council Analyst, summarized the purpose of the resolution. He noted the resolution was first heard and a public hearing was held on July 2, 1991. He noted proposed amendments were distributed, copies of which are included in the record of this meeting. He noted all written testimony received was distributed to the Council.

Chair Collier opened the public hearing.

Dan Saltzman, candidate for Multnomah County Commissioner, testified in support of the resolution. He summarized written testimony, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Tom Simpson, Lake Oswego, OR, appeared to testify in support of a regional government. He stated he was supportive of Metro. He said he was concerned about the population growth and the future of the region. He discussed his interest in study of government. He stated he completed his masters thesis on regional government. He said patience was necessary. He said perhaps Metro should wait until the Metro Charter was completed. He said the issue should definitely be examined in the very near future.

Jaqueline Tommas, Estacada, OR, appeared to testify in opposition to the resolution. She expressed concerns about the rural areas of the region and those areas outside of the Metro boundary. She felt services would suffer and she did not feel cost savings could be

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found. She said the location of the government might create problems. She discussed concerns about the court system.

Robert Stochosky, Sandy, OR, appeared to testify in opposition to the resolution. He summarized written testimony, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Charles Stoudt, Milwaukie, OR, appeared to testify in support of the resolution. He summarized written testimony, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Frank Gearhart, Gresham, OR, appeared to testify in opposition to the resolution. He discussed how expensive Metro was to operate. He said the definition of ten percent savings was vague. He said people were too uninformed to decide on the matter.

Bob Robinson, Portland, OR, appeared to testify in opposition to the resolution. He said the resolution would be a mistake. He said he supported abolishing Metro and expelling the Executive Officer and the Council.

Easton Cross, Portland, OR, appeared to testify in support of the resolution. He said the issue has been discussed informally for over thirty years and the voters should decide to address it formally. He noted Metro had no authority to place it on the ballot outside of the boundary and should not be criticized for the lack of authority. He said his only criticism of the resolution was the direction to the Legislature to abolish the entities. He said the Legislature should be asked to study the issue of consolidation and make its own recommendations. He noted the Metro Charter Committee members had a vested interest to oppose the resolution. He stated the smaller jurisdictions historically resisted these types of proposals.

Hardy Myers, Metro Charter Committee Chair, appeared to testify. He said the resolution should not be acted upon until the Charter process was complete. He discussed the timing problems as they related to other issues being placed on the ballot.

Steve Larrance, Washington County Commissioner, appeared to testify in opposition to the resolution. He summarized written testimony, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Leslie Like, City of Beaverton Councilor, appeared to testify in opposition to the resolution. She summarized written testimony, which is included in the record of this meeting. She noted the City of Beaverton Council adopted a resolution opposing the consolidation issue, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

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Richard Brownstein, Portland, OR, appeared to testify on the resolution. He discussed the history of the issue of consolidation. He referred to a City Club study that favored consolidation of government. He expressed no opinion on the resolution.

Alan James, Candidate for Clackamas County Commission, appeared to testify in opposition to a massive consolidation resulting in one government. He said he favored placing the item on the ballot because he felt it would fail. He discussed national examples of consolidation. He noted some services were best provided on a large scale while others were not.

Sherry Patterson, Lake Oswego, OR, appeared to testify on behalf of the Rosewood Action Group of Clackamas County. She said the ballot measure may be politically correct, but it needed to include fiscal impact information. She said it lacked analysis and terms were not properly defined.

Muriel "Sam" Tamura, Portland, OR, appeared to testify. She discussed her community activity background, particularly those with the City Club. She informed the Committee that the City Club would be studying Metro measures.

Chair Collier noted discussion and action on the item would take place at the July 21, 1992 meeting.

Dan Cooper, General Counsel, noted that a handout was distributed discussing deadlines for placing a measure on the ballot, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

With no further business before the Committee, Chair Collier adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Lee
Committee Clerk

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