

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

July 21, 1992  
Council Chamber

Committee Members Present: Tanya Collier (Chair), Richard Devlin (Vice Chair), Ed Gronke

Committee Members Absent: Larry Bauer, Judy Wyers

Other Councilors Present: Roger Buchanan, Ruth McFarland, George Van Bergen, Ed Washington

Chair Collier called the special meeting to order at 4:10 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

Dan Cooper, General Counsel, explained the amendments included in the record of this meeting. He said amendment one was prepared to clarify the intent of the resolution and includes an explanation of the thirty-three elected officials mentioned in the resolution. He stated amendment number two includes reference to the Oregon Revised Statutes that allows Metro to adopt policy and refer matters to the voters. He said amendment number three clarified the ten percent reduction was a reduction in operating expenditures. He explained that amendment number four gives more historical background on the discussions of the issue.

Councilor Van Bergen questioned why the courts are identified as being separate. Mr. Cooper said the intent of the resolution was to identify that the court system, as a state system, would not be consolidated into one large court.

Mr. Cooper explained his July 16, 1992 memorandum on deadlines for ballot measures. The Committee discussed the timing.

Ken Gervais, Senior Management Analyst, discussed amendment number three relating to the ten percent reduction in expenditure. He said the total operational budget for the five entities was approximately \$652 million, excluding carry-overs, reserves, and debt service. He said 8,400 employees were included. He said a ten percent reduction in expenditures would be approximately \$65 million.

Chair Collier asked if the ten percent reduction was achievable. Mr. Gervais said among the five governments \$72 million was spent in support administration, \$7 million in executive/policy making, \$3 million in finance administration, \$24 million in personnel, \$2

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF JULY 21, 1992  
Page 2

million in assessment and taxation, \$12 million in public health, and \$22 million in corrections. He said many of these areas would have direct consolidation and immediate reductions. He noted the obvious reduction in the number of paid elected officials would result in large savings. He said the three counties pay \$195 million in municipal services, some of which are directly paid by other jurisdictions. He said some of those services could be reduced. He noted many services are provided through state funding and those areas would likely be cut as a result of Ballot Measure Five.

Councilor Devlin said if a municipal service was cut, it did not mean the need was not present. He said some agencies would need to find another method of providing their services.

Councilor Buchanan said in his experience with consolidations or reorganizations, it was not realistic to expect a reduction. He said the ten percent should be a goal, rather than an expectation.

Chair Collier and Executive Officer Cusma discussed Ballot Measure Five. They both agreed that the issue of consolidation was discussed prior to the passage of Ballot Measure Five. They said the consolidation was a way to reduce spending as mandated by the State as a result of Ballot Measure Five.

Councilor Devlin noted that disparity existed between spending and services provided in each county. He said each county assessed different levels of taxation. Mr. Gervais said no provision was made for cost savings to individuals through the resolution. He said that Multnomah County was bearing greater burden for some issues that were regional problems such as homelessness.

The Committee discussed the Legislative process that might occur if the issue were placed on the ballot and passed.

Chair Collier opened the meeting for public testimony. No citizens appeared to testify. Chair Collier closed the public hearing.

Councilor Devlin expressed concerns about recommending the resolution for adoption at Council. He said the Council should discuss the resolution as a whole.

Motion: Councilor Devlin moved to forward the Resolution to Council without a recommendation.

Motion to Amend: Councilor Gronke moved to adopt amendments one, two, three, and four prepared by General Counsel.

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF JULY 21, 1992  
Page 3

Vote on Motion to Amend: All those present voted aye. The vote was unanimous and the motion to amend passed.

Vote on Main Motion: All those present voted aye. The vote was unanimous and the resolution was forwarded to Council as amended, without recommendation.

UNSCHEDULED ITEM - Consideration of Resolution No. 92-1660, For the Purpose of Determining that the Charter Proposed by the Metro Charter Committee be Included in the State Voters' Pamphlet

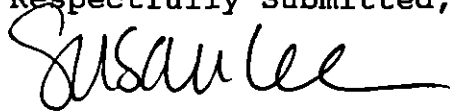
Mr. Gervais explained that the resolution was to allow the Metro Charter to be included in the State Voters' Pamphlet.

Motion: Councilor Devlin moved to recommend Council adoption of the resolution.

Vote: All those present voted aye. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

With no further business before the Committee, Chair Collier adjourned the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Lee  
Committee Clerk

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