

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE  
OF THE METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

August 23, 1988

Committee members present: Councilors Jim Gardner (Chair),  
Tanya Collier (V. Chair), Tom  
DeJardin, David Knowles and Richard  
Waker

Committee members absent: None.

Chair Gardner called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

1. Consideration of Minutes:

Motion: Councilor DeJardin moved approval of the Planning  
& Development Committee minutes of May 17, 1988  
and the Intergovernmental Relations Committee  
minutes of July 26, 1988.

Vote: All committee members present voted in favor of  
the motion. Councilors Knowles and Waker were  
absent.

The motion carried.

2. Consideration of Resolution No. 88-973, for the Purpose of  
Supporting State Legislation for Metro Taxing Authority

Greg McMurdo, Government Relations Manager, said Presiding Officer Ragsdale's August 17, 1988 memo to Council regarding proposed financial legislation adequately summarized the draft bills referred to in Resolution No. 88-973 as Exhibits A, B and C. He said Exhibit A (a bill for an act regarding dues assessment) extends Metro's present authority to assess local government dues by removing the sunset clause. He said some consideration had been given to extending the sunset clause, however, Senator Glenn Otto, Chair of the Interim Task Force on Regional Government, had recommended the clause be removed. He also said the proposed legislation would index the dues to respond to changes in the economy, and he agreed with Presiding Officer Ragsdale's recommendation to use the U. S. All Cities Average index rather than the Portland SMSA consumer price index. Mr. McMurdo also suggested adding a statement that fractional percentages would be rounded upward.

In response to questions raised regarding the level of local support Mr. McMurdo said he had met with two Multnomah County commissioners who told him Multnomah County would not be disturbed by extending Metro's dues assessment authority. He said he would meet with the lobbyist or commission chair for each

county, the City of Portland, Port of Portland and Tri-Met to discuss the proposed legislation.

Mr. McMurdo said Exhibit B (a bill for an act regarding excise tax authority) could be more precisely defined as tax on use and would eliminate the fund transfers that finance the general government functions of Metro. He said the tax could not be used to fund expansion of Metro services but could be used to fund studies of present and future functions.

Exhibit C (a bill for an act regarding levying an income tax), Mr. McMurdo explained, would authorize the Council to levy an income tax without prior voter approval. Mr. McMurdo said Council had existing authority to levy an income tax, however voter approval of the measure was mandatory. He said he had researched the issue of mandatory voter referral and was not aware of any other elected government that had that requirement.

Motion: Councilor DeJardin moved to recommend Council adopt Resolution No. 88-973 as amended.

Council Administrator Carlson suggested editorial changes to Resolution No. 88-973 for consistency to which the committee agreed.

The committee discussed proposing legislation for a tax base. They agreed that this issue should not be considered during the 1989 Legislative session.

Vote: The vote was unanimous with all Committee members voting aye.

The motion carried.

Council Analyst Jessica Marlitt announced Ethan Seltzer had been hired in the Planning and Development Department as a regional planner and Patrick T. Lee had been hired as regional planning supervisor, with both starting September 12, 1988.

There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Gwen Ware-Barrett  
Council Committee Clerk