

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE

March 9, 1993

Council Chamber

Committee Members Present: George Van Bergen (Chair), Jon Kvistad (Vice Chair), Richard Devlin, Mike Gates, Rod Monroe, Terry Moore

Councilors Also Present: Roger Buchanan, Jim Gardner, Ruth McFarland, Susan McLain, Ed Washington

Chair Van Bergen called the regular meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

1. Consideration of January 12, 1993 Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion: Councilor Gates moved to accept the January 12, 1993 Planning Committee meeting minutes as submitted.

Vote: Councilors Devlin, Gates, Monroe, Moore, Kvistad and Van Bergen voted aye.

2. Five Year Planning Process, Phase II

► Planning Department

Andy Cotugno, Planning Director, presented the staff report, and highlighted information as presented in the Five Year Financial Plan. This document had been previously distributed at the February 23, 1993 Planning Committee meeting, and has been made part of the permanent meeting record. He noted the Executive Officer's FY 1993-94 proposed removal of the Greenspace program from environmental planning and proposed a merger of the Greenspaces program with Multnomah County Parks. He said he had taken the other two functions currently in environmental planning, meaning water quality planning and emergency planning, and merged those in the land use planning section.

The Committee as a whole and attendant Councilors discussed their concerns regarding the issue of a proposed transfer of Multnomah County Parks to Metro. It was noted discussion at MPAC had occurred previous to the current Planning Committee meeting, and the Committee discussed the timing of future discussions of the matter, and whether the matter should be considered a budget issue or a policy issue.

Councilor Gardner and Councilor Monroe felt both a policy decision and a budget decision were implicated, and felt the policy decision had to be made before the budget implications could be sorted out. Councilor Gardner and Councilor Monroe felt the matter must move forward in a timely manner.

Councilor Gates noted the matter was not on the MPAC meeting agenda for March 24, 1993.

(Continued)

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Mr. Cotugno said the Department Five Year Plan was written before Charter was passed, and did not reflect the last three months of Charter implementations were not included. He said it was not the Department's intent to undo with the Five Year Plan any discussions that had occurred since the plan was written.

He highlighted areas of the plan noting completion of the Interim RTP Update by May, 1995 and plans for increases in staffing FTE for Corridor studies from .5 to 2.6.

The Committee and Staff discussed requirements for a local option vehicle registration fee, and whether or not a state wide vote prior to implementation would be necessary.

Mr. Cotugno described Metro's current roles in Westside LRT and Hillsboro Extension, and said Metro had a role in completing the final environmental impact statement. He said a pre-alternatives analysis was currently underway for resolution of priority corridor selection. He said work was dependent on whether or not Metro obtained the federal authorization necessary.

The Committee and Staff discussed areas of the Five Year Financial Plan including the Travel Forecasting Section (page 28) of the plan, which highlighted travel monitoring and travel model refinement.

Mr. Cotugno referenced the Environmental Planning Section, (page 48) and highlighted the Water Quality Planning and Emergency Planning sections. He felt emergency services planning was a policy decision that needed to be made.

Mr. Cotugno noted the Region 2040 activities under Urban Growth Management.

Robert Liberty, Attorney, said he believed it was important to discover whether the regional framework plan was necessary and how much it would cost. He raised the question of what it would take to develop a binding regional framework plan and felt it should be done over 10 years, not five.

3. Second Quarter Report, FY 92-93

► Planning Department

Mr. Cotugno referenced the Planning Department Quarterly Report, Second Quarter, and he discussed Planning Department programs highlighted in the document. These included, under Transportation, High Capacity Transit Planning and Regional Transportation Planning; under Technical Services, the Data Resource Center and the Regional Land Information System (RLIS); under the Growth Management Division, Land Use Planning, and Environment Planning which included Metropolitan Greenspaces, Water Resources Planning and Emergency Services Planning. This document has been made part of the permanent meeting record.

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4. Resolution No. 93-1744, For the Purpose of Approving a Request for Proposals (RFP) Document for Hearings Officer Services

Ms. Ryder presented the staff report, and said the proposed resolution would approve and release an RFP for the purpose of creating a list of Hearings Officers. She said Metro Code required qualified Hearings Officers be used for contested case hearings on Urban Growth Boundary hearings and amendments, and noted Hearings Officers would also be used on other cases involving land use decisions and relocation benefits. She said it was the responsibility of the Metro Council to, from time to time, approve and provide the Executive Officer with a list of prospective Hearings Officers, and noted the last list was prepared in 1988. She said of the two people on that original list, only one was still available.

She noted the RFP had been prepared by Daniel B. Cooper, General Counsel.

Chair Van Bergen supported the resolution, and felt that one prospective Hearings Officer was not sufficient. He hoped four or five Hearings Officers would comprise the future list.

Motion: Councilor Devlin moved to recommend Resolution No. 93-1744 to the full Council for adoption.

Vote: Councilors Devlin, Gates, Monroe, Moore, Kvistad and Van Bergen voted aye.

The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

5. North/South Transit Corridor Study, Phase I: Priority Corridor Analysis - Briefing

Mr. Cotugno displayed maps of both the North and South Corridor proposed corridors, and discussed the options under evaluation as described in the staff report. He said Priority Corridor selection was the goal of the current process, and said Phase II was intended to evaluate a broad set of modal and alignment options in a Priority Corridor and select a small set of options for the Alternatives Analysis and Draft Environmental Impact Statement stage. He noted the corridor segment between the Airport and Gateway was being evaluated as a stand-alone plan.

Mr. Cotugno briefly described the process, which he said included committees. He said committee were reviewing the question whether the preliminary recommendation for a Priority Corridor should be the focus of public hearing. He said following public hearing, one of which was scheduled for March 30, the matter would go back to the committee process, followed by final recommendation for a Priority Corridor by resolution introduced for Council adoption.

He mentioned an Expert Review Panel co-chaired by former Metro Councilor, David Knowles and Dick Page, from the Seattle area, and Mr. Cotugno said they were appointed to jointly provide information and make recommendations.

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Richard Brandman, Transportation Planning Manager, made a brief presentation to the Committee. Mr. Brandman distributed a document to the Committee, "North/South Transit Corridor Study, Expert Review Panel Biographies" listing the panel members and giving a brief biography of each. This document has been made part of the permanent meeting record.

John Cullerton, North/South Transit Corridor Study Project Manager, referenced a Metro document entitled "The North/South Transit Corridor Study, Priority Corridor Analysis: Findings and Recommendations, a Draft for Public Review" dated March, 1993. This document has been made part of the permanent meeting record. Mr. Cotugno explained that this document superseded the document mailed out in the agenda packet and was an updated version.

Councilor Moore asked regarding public involvement. Staff noted eleven informational hearings had occurred to date as well as 3 open houses in Clackamas, Multnomah and Clark counties with opportunity for feed back in written form and a question and answer period.

Staff noted also a newsletter to 4,000 citizens had been sent out as well as the conducting of citizen advisory committee hearings. In response to Councilor McLain, staff noted a broad range of advertising in the Oregonian and community newspapers as well as other news releases had been done to encourage a broad base of citizen participation, and noted at times participation was approximately one half elected officials and one half citizenry. Staff felt the current citizen response was somewhat small, and could be due to the preliminary stage the process itself was in.

Councilor Monroe commented neighborhood associations deemed the project desirable to their own neighborhoods.

Mr. Brandman outlined the criteria used for priority corridor findings included land use and economic development, traffic and transit ridership, environmental sensitivity, equity, operating costs and efficiencies, capital costs, cost effectiveness and public involvement.

Mr. Cullerton highlighted the findings per study area as found in the referenced report.

In response to Councilor Kvistad, Mr. Cullerton said the analysis identified a representative alignment alternative that would give reasonable order of magnitude costs and ridership estimates. He said the range of alternatives would be examined during the decision making process for the Priority Corridor.

Councilor Moore referenced Section 1.3 of the Introduction, and noted "Public Opinion" had been included as one of nine criteria in the "Evaluation Methodology." Councilor Moore expressed concern that no public opinion findings had been included in the evaluation materials following.

Staff said public opinion thus far indicated wide spread support for both corridors, and said nothing came out of the public opinion process that would dictate one corridor versus another. He said at the time of the report that information had not been pulled together, and agreed with Councilor Moore that the information should be added to the report.

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The Committee as a whole and Staff continued discussion of the report findings. Councilor Monroe inquired whether the airport to Gateway had been the only airport route connection considered, and suggested reviewing the option for an airport connection directly with the new I-5.

In response to Councilor Devlin, Mr. Brandman said the pre-alternatives process was due to be completed and the decision regarding a Priority Corridor should be made between September and December, 1993 with authorization to begin January, 1994. Staff indicated two corridors done simultaneously would not be authorized. The Committee as a whole and Staff discussed funding options and north versus south corridors. In response to Councilor Buchanan, Mr. Cotugno said the process for seeking Section 3 federal funds would not occur for approximately five or six years, and said the current environmental process would enable Metro to be eligible for application for Section 3 funds. Staff indicated the point of identifying the project as one long corridor or two separate corridors had not yet been reached. In response to Councilor Buchanan, Mr. Cotugno discussed the issues leading up to the commitment to do a project to the South, and said the commitment had been reinforced at a meeting the previous day with Presiding Officer Wyers and the Washington delegation in Washington, D.C. as well as discussion of the possibility of allowing concurrent projects. He explained Congress was to adopt a national highway system by 1995, and Metro's goal should be to have something out by 1994.

6. Region 2040 - Update on Concept Modeling and Public Involvement

Mr. Cotugno discussed concept modeling which included growth, density, realistic markets, and the use of RLIS and input from local planners. He said other factors included defining options, cost information, sewer and water providers, air quality information, and producing basic data on density.

John Fregonese, Regional Planning Supervisor, reported to the Committee regarding public involvement for 2040/Future Vision. He said in Phase I Metro used a variety of methods for public involvement, which included 65 meetings, open houses and workshops, and a random sampling survey. He said a tabloid was developed, which was mailed out to approximately 20,000 citizens, or 2% of population of region. He said the goal was reach about 10% of citizenry. Mr. Fregonese said the Phase II Plan included coming to Committee, and said a 2040 tabloid piece was currently being drafted to let people know what happened in Phase I, what happened with passage of the Charter. He noted it would be mailed to about 15,000 citizens. He said Metro was working with Tri-Met on a plan to be launched by May to engage people in malls, television, newspapers, and on an innovative public involvement strategy, and he said in April an update would be available on public involvement.

The Committee as a whole and Staff discussed possible strategies and processes for public involvement including the possibility for an advisory vote, checking mailing lists for duplications, the Metro Committee for Citizens Involvement as well as involvement of high school and college age youth.

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7. Future JPACT Agenda Action Items - Briefing

Mr. Cotugno indicated three agenda items for future JPACT consideration included discussion of the North/South Corridor, a Unified Work Program which needed to be adopted by the end of the month, and discussion of Metro's role toward the adoption of a national highway system. The Committee as a whole and Staff discussed the possible agenda items.

8. Councilor Comments

Councilor Moore commented regarding HB 2832, which she said required drivers to stop and remain stopped when pedestrians are in a crosswalk where there were no traffic control devices, for students entering a crosswalk, drivers stop for pedestrians when driver was making a turn at a red light, as well as required stopping points for marked and unmarked crosswalks, punishable by \$250 fine. She noted the bill was being supported by the Willamette Pedestrian Coalition, and asked the bill be referred to the Governmental Affairs Committee urging support. The Committee as a whole discussed the issues of whether or not the matter was pertinent to Metro business, and whether to forward the matter to the Governmental Affairs Committee for further discussion. Councilor Gates felt discussion of the matter could occur at the time of the legislative agenda item at Governmental Affairs. Councilor Moore advocated for support of the bill indicated she felt Metro would want to take a position regarding pedestrians in the planning and development of a transportation system. The Committee discussed also whether or not a letter should be drafted to support or monitor the bill. Councilor McLain indicated she supported further discussion of the bill.

Motion: Councilor Moore moved that the Planning Committee send to the Governmental Affairs Committee a recommendation to support HB 2832.

Vote: Councilor Devlin and Moore voted aye. Councilor Gates, Kvistad Van Bergen votes no.

The motion failed.

Councilor Moore said a proposal which had been made public information March 3, 1993, was to go before the Washington County Board of Commissioners on March 16, 1993 to amend their Comprehensive Plan and Transportation Plan for the portion of 185th north of Sunset Highway from a two and three lane facility to a five lane facility. She said justification for the amendment was based on the amended UGB for Rock Creek campus and new high school plans. Chair Van Bergen suggested a request of Metro Staff be made to look at and respond in writing to the Committee regarding the matter.

Mr. Cotugno indicated if Washington County's Comprehensive and Transportation Plan was changed, the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) would have to be taken into consideration, and a traffic analysis would need to be done to evaluate the situation.

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Councilor Moore asked that a letter be drafted by Staff to the Washington County Board for the record for their meeting of March 16. Councilor McLain supported Councilor Moore's request of Staff. She recommended should the Committee as a whole not desire to sign such a letter, individual Councilors could sign at will.

Councilor Kvistad expressed concern regarding the lack of documentation on which to vote at this time, and suggested consideration be given to the developing a process with which to deal with short term situations such as the one before the Committee.

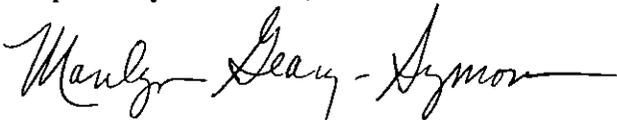
Mr. Cotugno noted the Board could act to amend their Comprehensive Plan and seek an amendment to the RTP. He said if Metro decided not to amend the RTP, Metro could direct the Washington County Board to reverse their action.

Councilor Devlin suggested a staff request for a written report regarding the matter indicating whether or not it appeared Washington County was planning to seek an amendment to the RTP.

Councilor Moore reiterated her request that Staff respond to her questions in a letter prepared to the Washington County Board of Commissioners to be presented at their March 16, 1993 meeting if it were concluded that an amendment to the RTP was planned.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Marilyn Geary-Symons
Committee Recorder

APPROVED
Date 6-22-93