

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL REGIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE  
OF THE METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

September 22, 1992  
Council Chamber

Committee Members Present: Susan McLain (Chair), Tanya Collier  
(Vice Chair), Ruth McFarland, Ed  
Gronke, Ed Washington

Committee Members Absent:

Other Councilors Present:

Chair McLain called the regular meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

1. Briefing on the Zoo Master Plan

Sherry Sheng, Director Metro Washington Park Zoo, presented the Zoo Master Plan. She said the Five-Year Plan related to the Master Plan and the discussion would be held concurrently.

Ms. Sheng discussed the physical layout of the Zoo as it related to the visitor experience. She explained how the current configuration of the exhibits was too physically challenging. She then explained proposed changes in the configuration that would enhance the visitor experience.

Ms. Sheng discussed the proposed changes to the animal collection. She said an educational element was important to the Zoo. She said relating to the State and Region was also a goal. She said utilization of different zones creating an atmosphere of travel would be utilized.

Ms. Sheng showed the proposed physical changes to the Zoo on a map of the Master Plan. She explained that the Cascades Exhibit would be expanded to include an Oregon Exhibit. She said bears and cougars would be moved to the Oregon exhibit area. She said the area currently storing ZooDoo would display a herd of elk. She said the current feline complex would be modified to an Oregon coast exhibit. She said in each exhibit an education element would be included to facilitate a contact experience. She said the train station would double as an Oregon pioneer center giving visitors an experience while they wait for the train. She said connecting the two Oregon exhibits would be a simulated Columbia River Gorge complete with salmon and waterfalls. She noted some funding might be available to examine ways to use waterfalls as energy producing systems within the zoo environment.

Ms. Sheng discussed combining the polar bears and penguinarium with aquarium life to be titled, "The World of Water," as a zone. She said the external appearance of the elephant exhibit would be improved to enhance the visitor experience and the health of the animals. She said other animals of Asian origin would be moved to

the area near the elephant exhibit as an Asian zone. She explained the lions would be moved to the beginning of the Africa exhibits. She said the Alaska Tundra exhibit would not be changed. She said the chimpanzees would be moved to the hill behind the administrative offices.

Ms. Sheng said the Zoo Master Plan team discussed the future of the current Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI). She said the Zoo proposed to create a discovery center at the OMSI site, provided OMSI allows the Zoo to use the site. She said utilization of the OMSI site would require a variation of the vehicular traffic pattern.

Ms. Sheng said the cost was estimated. She said the entry and the Oregon exhibit would be the first phase. She said the second phase was to complete the pedestrian pathway. Asia, Waters, and Discovery would follow in sequence. Ms. Sheng distributed a copy of the Zoo Master Plan brochure, a copy which is included in the record of this meeting.

Ms. Sheng discussed the funding feasibility for the Zoo Master Plan changes. She said the funding issue should be studied separately from the Master Plan development.

Chair McLain asked that the Zoo provide the Committee with budget information as necessary to plan for the proposed changes. Ms. Sheng said alternative means of generating funds would be necessary. Chair McLain discussed the Regional Facilities Funding Task Force and stated the Zoo might be interested in participating in these discussions. Councilor Collier concurred with Chair McLain, stating the Zoo should be included in these discussions.

Don Carlson, Council Administrator, asked if the estimate for the entry cost included the two million dollars in improvements required by the Westside Light Rail project. Ms. Sheng said the two million was not included in the estimate.

Councilor Washington thanked Ms. Sheng for her presentation. He asked how the Zoo compared to other zoos in size. Ms. Sheng said the Zoo was medium size. She said size was relative to services. She said the length of stay of the visitors determines if the facility was a destination attraction. Councilor Washington asked if additional land would be available, if it were needed. Ms. Sheng said the OMSI site would provide additional land. She said adjacent park land was not appropriate. She said the focus would be to provide an experience in the existing space.

Chair McLain commented that the Metro Washington Park Zoo was her favorite. She asked that some of the specifics be further discussed, including budget and light rail related changes.

2. Review of Departmental Five-Year Financial Plans

Ms. Sheng presented the Five-Year Financial Plan concurrently with item number one. Further discussions will be held at a later date.

Neil Saling, Regional Facilities Director, distributed and summarized the Regional Facilities Department Five-Year Financial Plan, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Councilor Gronke asked if the Regional Facilities Department was involved in the St. John's Landfill closure. Mr. Saling said yes, both the Solid Waste Department and the Regional Facilities Department were involved in the closure.

3. Review of RFP for Day-Care Services at Metro Headquarters Building

Casey Short, Council Analyst, noted a handout was provided addressing issues of interest in the draft Request for Proposal (RFP), a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting. He also noted the contract would require a Resolution and further consideration from Committee and Council.

Berit Stevenson, Project Manager, presented the staff report. She said she used several existing RFP's to draft the Metro RFP. She said the RFP was to secure a contractor to operate the childcare center in the new headquarters building.

Ms. Stevenson addressed the questions contained in Mr. Short's September 22, 1992 memo. She said age appropriate means similar age groups would be in area separate from other areas. She stated she would obtain clarification about the accreditation agencies.

Ms. Stevenson discussed enrollment goals. She said as a result of a survey, there was an indication that twenty-five Metro employees' children would attend the daycare. She said when operation was at capacity, a waiting list would be made. She said preference would be given to children of Metro employees first.

Ms. Stevenson said regular operation hours would be from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. She said extended hours would be a negotiable item. Chair McLain said the public might also be able to utilize the facility for evening meetings. Chair McLain requested that a trial period be included in the contract, negotiable at the end of the trial period. Ms. Stevenson said events at nearby Metropolitan

Exposition-Recreation Commission (MERC) facilities might utilize evening daycare facilities also.

Chair McLain said Metro should have the ability to examine and approve rates. Ms. Stevenson said evaluation of benefit rates would be included in the determination process. She said Metro Payroll Department indicated a payroll withdrawal would be easy to implement. She said no background checks were anticipated for daycare employees other than criminal. She explained "Parent Organizations" was a broad term for the parents of the children in the childcare center. She noted USDA food service requirements would be met. She said p. 10, section 3.1(g), "these" expenses would be spelled out.

Ms. Stevenson said representatives from the Union, Council, Executive Officer, parents, and other interest groups would be on the Childcare Committee. Chair McLain suggested the Childcare Committee address only major issues, not day-to-day operations. Councilor Collier noted most daycares have a board for operations. Councilor McFarland said the issue of a Childcare Committee was important and requested further discussion be held on this issue. She said the charge, composition, and other issues needed to be addressed further. Chair McLain requested a member of the Regional Facilities Committee be included in the discussions on this issue.

Ms. Stevenson said the non-discrimination clause would be changed to include sexual orientation. She said the equipment clause was copied from other RFPs. Chair McLain said the question of ownership should be addressed. Councilor McFarland agreed with the present language. She said ownership would remain with Metro.

Ms. Stevenson distributed a list of equipment, toys, and furniture, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting. She noted small toys are the responsibility of the operator. She said some equipment should be maintained by Metro. Chair McLain said a combination sink and drinking fountain was not very sanitary.

Councilor Gronke noted he had many concerns about the RFP. He said due to time constraints, he would reserve comments.

Councilor Collier noted a primary goal in the new facility was to include a childcare center. Councilor Gronke questioned whether it was Metro's charge to provide daycare to employees children. He expressed concerns about liability.

#### 4. Status Report on Metro Headquarters Project

Ms. Stevenson distributed and summarized the Metro Headquarters Project Report No. 15, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Mr. Saling discussed the minority and women participation on the project. He distributed and summarized a handout, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting. He said no minority or women participation requirements were included in the contract. He said the desire to include minorities and women was clearly made to the general contractor, Hoffman Construction. He said Hoffman Construction and Metro made efforts to include participation by both minorities and women. He noted that the project was a union project. He said the representation of minorities and women in unions was reflected at the job-site.

Mr. Saling summarized the participation by sub-contractor as included in the handout.

#### 5. Status Report on Facilities Funding Task Force

Sherry Oeser, Project Manager, presented the staff report. She said the Revenue Strategy Task Force would meet prior to the next regular meeting of the Regional Facilities Task Force. She said she would carry any recommendations from the Committee to the task force.

Councilor Collier reiterated an earlier discussion recommending inclusion of the Zoo in those discussions.

Mr. Short requested that his memorandum dated September 15, 1992 be considered. Ms. Oeser agreed to work with Council staff on the schedule.

Councilor Gronke asked if the task force was going forward with a comprehensive plan. Ms. Oeser said the task force was activity pursuing the issue of how far to extend the program.

#### 6. Review of MERC Resolutions

Mr. Short noted an additional MERC Resolution No. 198 was distributed, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Lee Fehrenkamp, General Manager of Merc, reviewed MERC Resolutions 192 through 197, copies of the resolutions are included in the record of this meeting.

Councilor Gronke asked related to Resolution No. 196, if a budget amendment would be necessary. Mr. Fehrenkamp said enough money was

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originally budgeted. Mr. Short added that the budget manual directed line items for salaries include the projected increase.

Councilor Washington asked when Portland Police would be utilized for events. Mr. Fehrenkamp said certain events required police presence.

Sam Brooks, MERC Commission Chair, discussed Resolution No. 198. He said the Resolution was to accept the resignation of Mr. Fehrenkamp. He said the third paragraph in his memo dated September 17, 1992 summarized the position of the Commission; a copy of this memo is included in the record of this meeting.

With no further business before the Committee, Chair McLain adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Lee  
Committee Clerk