

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

10:30 AM

Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber,
https://www.youtube.com/live/HN_o6FiwKgg?feature=share,
<https://zoom.us/j/615079992> Webinar ID: 615 079 992 or
888-475-4499 (toll free)

Council work session

Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Peterson called the Work Session to order at 10:30 a.m.

Present: 7 - Council President Lynn Peterson, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Councilor Mary Nolan, Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Councilor Duncan Hwang, Councilor Christine Lewis, and Councilor Ashton Simpson

Work Session Topics:

10:30 Oregon Zoo Campus Plan Update

Presenter(s): Heidi Rahn (she/her), Metro
Kristin Solomon (she/her), Metro

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)

Council President Peterson introduced Heidi Rahn (she/her), Metro and Kristin Solomon (she/her), Metro to present on the Oregon Zoo Campus Plan Update.

Staff pulled up the *Zoo Campus Planning Powerpoint* to present to Council.

Rahn began the presentation by discussing the background and the promises fulfilled from the Oregon Zoo Bond Program. She noted the goals of the campus plan. Solomon mentioned the timeline of the Campus plan and the tasks of the work plan. She noted the engagement efforts for the plan, including the Community Advocacy Council. Solomon explained what is in the Campus plan and the target areas. Staff mentioned the next steps.

Council Discussion

President Peterson asked about the value statement and who had authority over the process. She also asked if they added the last goal on the slide.

Rahn noted that the values came from their strategic plan. She mentioned that last goal also came from the strategic plan and Council goals around Climate resiliency.

President Peterson asked about the Community Advocacy Council.

Rahn explained that the Community Advocacy Council do not have oversight or approval, but they make sure that communities of color are being engaged.

Councilor Lewis asked what liabilities they see for land use. She also asked about the former Children's Museum and if they were consulting with the Tribes if there is ground disturbance.

Solomon mentioned that for land use, they will go to the City of Portland with a draft for feedback. Rahn noted that they are working with the City of Portland to assess the Children's Museum.

Councilor Lewis suggested they think about the value of the land rather than the building. She also suggested that if there is ground disturbance, the Tribes should be consulted.

Solomon noted that there will be another process to engage the design team. The engagement they are doing now is through community groups about site development.

Rahn noted that they will be getting cost estimates and the sequencing of the plan.

Councilor Gonzalez asked where they get the funding for the plan and what would be coming to Council, like a

recommendation or approval. He also asked about Washington Park.

Rahn stated that the development funding is coming from their reserves and from the Shuttered Venues grant.

Rahn mentioned that staff are getting community feedback to address that and then seeking the Council's feedback. They are working on a sustainable business model and the animal population at the Zoo. She noted that they will need approval of the plan from Council.

Rahn mentioned that they are on the board of explore Washington Park and they work with the city about the venues in the park. She mentioned that they work together on fundraising and that the board approves major capital projects.

Councilor Gonzalez suggested they focus about the research and conservation that the Zoo does.

Rahn mentioned that they are trying to make a Pacific Northwest conservation hub at the Zoo. She mentioned they are working on sea otter conservation.

Councilor Nolan asked when Council approve the guidance, in terms of goals.

Rahn noted that the strategic plan was adopted in 2019 or 2020 and the plan is for three years.

Councilor Nolan suggested that the Council have a conversation about these goals before more work is done.

President Peterson suggested the Council have a discussion

on priorities and outcomes, instead of how staff wants to engage with Council.

Rahn noted that they will pause, so they can have the conversation.

Marissa Madrigal, Chief Operating Officer, mentioned that to keep the Zoo's AZA accreditation, there needs to be some independence between the Zoo Director and the Council.

President Peterson commented that they want to be supportive, but they need to have conversations to have oversight.

Councilor Nolan mentioned the cost estimates. They suggested to have projects in priority tiers to help guide decisions. Councilor Nolan also suggested staff provide them a memo of anticipated land use issues.

Councilor Rosenthal commented on the community visions, conservation vision and the requirements of the AZA. He asked when condors will be back in the Gorge.

Rahn noted that there are several issues that are impacting the condor population but hoped they will be back in the next decade.

Councilor Hwang mentioned that most of the engagement is from local partners. He asked about engagement with tourists and transportation methods for people to get to the zoo.

Rahn mentioned that every two weeks they get feedback from their visitors that they use to make changes.

Solomon noted the parking challenge and that are working with a traffic engineer. She noted that they will be counts of the visitors and how they use the site. She mentioned that time ticketing has made a positive impact on parking issues.

Councilor Hwang asked if there was an attendance goal.

Rahn stated that they are working on a goal, but they can take more people to support their operating expenses.

President Peterson suggested that the community engagement plan should have a racial equity perspective. She mentioned that all the stakeholders and community should feel like they are being heard.

Councilor Lewis noted that they have a public zoo, but they do not have land use control. She asked if they have colleagues in similar situations that give them best practices.

Rahn summarized the feedback from Council.

Councilor Rosenthal suggested that staff also focus on ADA compliance.

Rahn mentioned that there was an ADA Advisory body that created a plan for them.

11:00 2023 RTP: Report on project list input and draft system analysis: mobility, safety, equity, economy and climate outcomes

Presenter(s): Kim Ellis (she/her), Metro
Tom Kloster (he/him), Metro
Eliot Rose (he/him), Metro
Molly Cooney-Mesker (she/her), Metro

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)
[Attachment 1](#)
[Attachment 2](#)

Council President Peterson introduced Kim Ellis (she/her), Metro, Tom Kloster (he/him), Metro, and others to present on the 2023 RTP: Report on project list input and draft system analysis: mobility, safety, equity, economy, and climate outcomes.

Staff pulled up the *2023 RTP update: Draft evaluation results and project list input Powerpoint* to present to Council.

Staff explained what the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is and the timeline for the update. Ellis noted the community feedback they received and how those concerns could be addressed. Eliot Rose (he/him), Metro discussed the system analysis, the needs assessment, and the project list overview. He mentioned that the RTP includes \$73 Billion in investments. Rose discussed ten projects that made up 50 % of the capital spending and the TriMet and SMART transit projects. He explained the draft results of mobility.

Council Discussion

Councilor Nolan asked about the triple transit, bike, and pedestrian mode share and if they have looked at the prime commute times.

Rose noted that the goal is for all trips and all day. Staff does produce results for commute and non-commute mode share.

Rose continued by explaining the draft results of safety, equity, economy, and climate. Ellis mentioned the key themes, observations, and feedback from the 5/11/23 workshop. Staff gave recommendations of what JPACT and the Council could do to better align the RTP with regional

goals. Ellis also noted the next steps.

Council Discussion

President Peterson asked Tom Kloster the Council's role in the decision-making process.

Tom Kloster (he/him), Metro stated they are going to JPACT and the Council to release the draft to the public. MPAC will give the Council a recommendation on the RTP. He noted that JPACT and MPAC will need to have the same RTP plan before going to the Council. He mentioned that there are Councilors on the JPACT and the Council role is advocating for their preferences and concerns.

Councilor Gonzalez commented that there are projects that prioritize safety and transit that can be pulled forward. He suggested that they have a strategy to approach the legislature for investment in projects.

Councilor Hwang commented about future trends in transportation, such as tolling and new technology. He asked about how the plan to deal with these trends. He also commented on increasing automation and changes in work.

Rose mentioned the working from home trend that need to be incorporated in their planning. He noted that there are on technology policies in the 2018 RTP. Staff has principles of how to interact with and evaluate new technology for public agencies.

Councilor Rosenthal asked for a breakdown of the \$73 Billion projects by the three categories. He also wanted clarification of why they are doing good with economy, but not with mobility. He commented on the emphasis on projects, instead of a vision for the complete regional transit system.

President Peterson noted that they need a land use plan before they have a complete transportation system. President Peterson mentioned that its difficult to have long-term regional vision when the RTP gets updated every five years

Councilor Nolan asked for staff to make a project list that optimizes safety and total greenhouse reduction. Councilor Nolan raised concerns about most of the projects maintaining the current system.

President Peterson asked staff what of prioritization were they planning to present to JPACT and Council.

Kloster noted that the RTP projects are mostly funded from local jurisdictions or from the State of Oregon. Staff recommended that the Council talk to ODOT, TriMet about spending the regional funds. Staff also suggested that the Council try to get local jurisdictions to work harder to meet outcomes.

Ellis mentioned that staff can categorize the projects as Councilor Rosenthal or Councilor Nolan suggested. She added that 50% of the operating and maintaining spending is for transit service.

President Peterson summarized next steps for staff and how to prioritize key outcomes. She suggested that staff come up with scenarios based on their feedback.

Councilor Simpson suggested having a strategy on land use and including neighboring governments in Washington in conversations. He also commented on the need to make age-friendly communities.

President Peterson suggested having an investment strategy based on land use.

Councilor Lewis suggested that they use an equity perspective for moving freight in the region. She mentioned the tolling pause and having conversations about how it affects their plans.

President Peterson commented about conveying to move forward and to negotiate the impacts.

12:20 Chief Operating Officer Communication

Marissa Madrigal provided an update on the following events or items:

- The new Planning Director will start soon and there is a new DEI Director
- The annual performance evaluation has started
- Employee usage of the Metro Regional Center and that more conference rooms will be available

12:25 Councilor Communication

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events:

- There were none

Adjourn

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Work Session at 12:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jemeshia Taylor, Legislative Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 16, 2023

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1.0	Powerpoint	05/16/2023	Zoo Campus Planning Presentation	051623c-01
2.0	Powerpoint	05/16/2023	2023 RTP Update: Draft Evaluation Results and Project List Input Presentation	051623c -02