Regional Policy Advisory Committee

Minutes Meeting of April 8, 1992

Members and Alternates In Attendance:

Larry Cole, Darlene Hooley, Dick Benner, Jerry Arnold, Gretchen Kafoury, Alice Schlenker, John Godsey, Sharon Cohen, Jim Zehren, Pauline Anderson, Susan McLain, Bob Liddell

Others Present:

Ethan Seltzer, Chris Foster, Larry Bauer, Peter Fry, John Reeves, Gail Ryder, Mark Turpel, Larry Shaw, Peggy Lynch, Brent Curtis

The meeting was called to order at 5:17 pm.

- I. Susan McLain asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the previous meeting, and whether there was a motion for their approval. Larry Cole moved and Darlene Hooley seconded that the minutes be approved as written. The motion passed unanimously.
- II. Susan McLain asked if there were any communications from the public. Peter Fry, member of the Multnomah County Planning Commission, asked for and was granted time to speak to the urban reserves issue. Mr. Fry lives in the country and opposes the proposed urban reserves rule. He stated that he believes in the UGB and thinks that it shouldn't be moved if it is going to work. He stated that moving the UGB would damage the real estate market and would put NE Portland at risk. He stated that the UGB provides a framework to equalize the market and the proposed urban reserves rule would tamper with that. He is also concerned about Metro's proposed urban reserves study and what he perceives to be a bias towards believing that living in the country costs the public. He believes that it is just the opposite. Finally, he is concerned that science is being submerged. He stated that an LCDC study has found that small farms are highly productive, and that those findings needed to be incorporated in policy discussions. He reminded RPAC that Multnomah County is not just urban.
- III. Ethan Seltzer then provided an update on Region 2040 activities. The conference is attracting a lot of interest, with over 300 already signed up. The governor will be speaking at noon. Fifteen out of 60 stakeholder interviews have been completed. The telephone survey is done. The "kits" for securing input from elected bodies and other groups are almost done and RPAC will have its chance to provide its input to Phase I of 2040 through the "kit" exercise at its next meeting.

Alice Schlenker commented that in recent polling for the Lake Oswego planning levy, the City determined that the term "growth management" was a real negative.

- IV. Ethan Seltzer then introduced the Metro proposed forecasting process. He explained that Metro was now starting the process that would lead to population and employment projections to 2015 and 2040. He noted that these projections were integral not only to Region 2040 but to Metro's conclusions about the adequacy of the urban land supply. Dick Bolen then explained the forecasting process, and he and Doug Anderson explained the way in which Metro's forecasting and modelling program was proposed to be changed. Two features of the forecasting process were of particular importance to RPAC:
 - 1) Both RPAC and RTAC are proposed to have specific roles in the process, advising the Metro Council on the adequacy of the urban land supply. This is a major change, since the land use supply portion of the growth allocation process was previously not treated as a policy issue on this level.
 - 2) The forecasts and growth allocation, when adopted by the Metro Council, will be important policy decisions that will affect all aspects of regional planning, including urban reserves, urban infill, Region 2040, and the RTP.

Doug Anderson stated that the process is currently open for discussion and urged RPAC members to let him know if they had comments. Ethan Seltzer then explained the urban reserves study methodology. He noted that the process would look at all land outside of and adjacent to the UGB. He stated that more information on the pilot for the methodology would be available at the next meeting.

V. Ethan Seltzer quickly described the state of LCDC's proposed urban reserves rule, and reminded RPAC members that LCDC would conclude its work on the rule at the April 17 meeting in Beaverton.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm. Respectfully submitted by Ethan Seltzer.