

MINUTES OF THE METRO OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, May 5, 1999

Metro Council Chamber

Members Present: Ed Washington (Chair), Bill Atherton (Vice Chair), Jon Kvistad

Others Present:

Chair Washington called the meeting to order at 3:36 PM.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

None.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

None.

3. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 1999, METRO OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Motion:

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| Councilor Atherton moved to recommend adoption of the minutes from April 21, 1999, meetings of the Metro Operations Committee. |
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Vote:

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| Chair Washington and Councilors Kvistad and Atherton voted aye. The vote was 3/0 in favor and the motion passed. |
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4. RESOLUTION NO. 99-2775, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENDORSING PROPOSED FEDERAL LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD PRESERVE, PROTECT AND ENHANCE PARKS, OPEN SPACES, FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT

Charles Ciecko, Regional Parks and Greenspaces, introduced Claire Puchy, Oregon Fish and Wildlife, who has been tracking the proposed federal Conservation and Reinvestment Act of 1999 (CARA) and would present more information on it. Mr. Ciecko said passage of this resolution would indicate Metro's support for passage of CARA. This legislation would significantly benefit parks and fish and wildlife conservation projects at every level of government nationwide. It would directly benefit two existing programs of interest to Metro, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) program, and one new program, the Teaming with Wildlife Program (TWW). (More details of Mr. Ciecko's summary can be in the staff report associated with this agenda item and contained in the meeting record.)

Mr. Ciecko said passage of CARA would have a large financial impact on Oregon, increasing Oregon's allocation from \$300,000 per year to between \$5.2 and \$7.3 million for the LWCF and UPARR programs combined (depending on whether the Senate or House version of the bill passes). The TWW program, which is new, could bring in an additional \$6 to \$9 million a year. These funds would be made available for local government projects through a competitive grant program. Endorsement by the Metro Council would allow staff to contact the Oregon congressional delegation urging their support. Mr. Ciecko noted that for reasons that are unclear, no member of the Oregon delegation signed on as a sponsor of this bill.

Mr. Ciecko said the concepts and principles Metro would be supporting include local control and flexibility in use of the funds, no offsetting reductions in other federal support or programs, no incentives for increased oil and gas leasing, and no restrictions on geographic locations of land acquisitions with the federal portion of the LWCF. Currently, two-thirds of the federal portion of the LWCF must be spent back east. The resolution also endorses CARA or a comparable piece of legislation. Mr. Ciecko said there are

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three similar proposals, although CARA seems to be the most beneficial. Mr. Ciecko asked Ms. Puchy to talk more about the TWW program.

Claire Puchy, Wildlife Diversity Program Coordinator, Oregon Fish and Wildlife, distributed to the committee copies of a letter to the committee, copies of testimony presented by Governor Kitzhaber to the Senate and the House, and information on the TWW from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). (These items have been attached to the meeting record.)

Ms. Puchy said the ODFW supports this resolution, and she explained the history and implications of the "Teaming with Wildlife" part of the federal legislation. (A written copy of her testimony has been attached to the meeting record.)

Ms. Puchy said that although the funds would be filtered through ODFW, the department envisioned sharing the funds with local jurisdictions, including Metro. She noted that Metro Greenspaces dollars could be used to leverage some of the federal funds that require a non-federal match. She referred to page 11 of the booklet on the TWW program (attached to the meeting record), where partnerships with Metro are specifically addressed.

Ms. Puchy said the Oregon Congressional delegation would play a key role in passage of the legislation, as a number of members sit on key committees that would hear the bill, and all members of Congress would eventually vote on it. She said Metro Council support would be most influential this May and June, as floor votes are expected before the August recess.

Chair Washington asked if a letter from the Council to each to each member of the Oregon delegation would be helpful if it were sent immediately. Mr. Ciecko said yes.

Councilor Kvistad asked for confirmation that this had Republican support in the Congress. Mr. Ciecko said the CARA version of the legislation had been prepared by Republicans, but it has strong bipartisan support.

Councilor Atherton asked what the pass-through costs would be as the funds made their way through the bureaucracy. Ms. Puchy said the funds would pass through existing bureaucracy, so no new costs would be added.

Motion:

Councilor Atherton moved to recommend Council adoption of Resolution No. 99-2775.

Vote:

Chair Washington and Councilors Atherton and Kvistad voted aye. The vote was 3/0 in favor and the motion passed unanimously

Councilor Atherton will carry the motion to a meeting of the full Council.

Chair Washington requested that this resolution be put on tomorrow's Council agenda. He asked for legal verification that 24-hour notice would not be needed and that the Presiding Officer had the power to suspend the order on approval by a majority vote, to take action on this resolution. Pending approval by the Council, he asked that a letter urging the Oregon delegation to support the federal legislation be drafted by Tuesday, May 11.

Jeff Stone, Council Chief of Staff, verified with Metro legal counsel that the a vote could be taken tomorrow if a majority of the Council approved and that 24 hour-notice was not required on resolutions, only ordinances.

5. RESOLUTION NO. 99-2785, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 97-2552A, TO ESTABLISH A REVISED PROCESS FOR CALLING EVENING MEETINGS OF THE METRO COUNCIL

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Motion:

Councilor Kvistad moved to recommend Council adoption of Resolution No. 99-2785.

Chair Washington asked for an explanation of the resolution numbers.

Michael Morrissey said Resolution 97-2552A spelled out specifically what the night meeting schedule would be. Resolution 99-2785 amends that 1997 resolution by deleting references to specific months and leaving the schedule up to the Presiding Officer.

Chair Washington invited Kay Durtschi, Chair of the Metro Committee for Citizen Involvement, to speak to this resolution.

Kay Durtschi, MCCI Chair, said the resolution also contained wording relating to recognition of volunteers. Her change would emphasize that recognition of citizens would be restricted to unpaid volunteers. (A copy of this suggested change has been attached to the meeting record.) She noted that some members of the advisory committees attend meetings as part of their jobs. Those people would not be included in the recognition events. This would reduce the number of invitations from about 500 to about 150. This would put the spotlight on citizen volunteers.

Councilor Kvistad clarified the definition of a citizen, then accepted this as a friendly amendment to the resolution.

Ms. Durtschi, speaking to the larger issue of the resolution, said MCCI supports the resolution. However, the committee would like to have at least four evening meetings a year, and to have those meeting when issues of particular public interest would be considered.

Vote:

Chair Washington and Councilors Atherton and Kvistad voted aye. The vote was 3/0 in favor and the motion passed unanimously

Councilor Kvistad will carry the motion to a meeting of the full Council.

6. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Kvistad said that if the northern extension of the MAX proceeds, as expansion of Expo takes place and the committee would need to discuss certain aspects of phases 2 and 3 of the expansion plan that might be affected by the light rail siting.

Chair Washington asked that there be an informational item on the next committee meeting agenda to provide an update of the Expo project.

Councilor Atherton asked about the potential for the Expo parking lot to become a park-and-ride for the light rail. He suggested charging for the parking.

Chair Washington said Councilor Park was currently addressing Metro Parking policies and provisions.

Councilor Kvistad said Expo already charges for parking. He said there was the potential for structuring tiered rates. There was also the potential for public/private partnerships to manage the parking facilities. He said that because the lot charges now, charging in the future won't cause the same kind of problems the Zoo has been facing by changing its parking policies.

Mr. Morrissey said he was drafting the parking legislation for Councilor Park. He said it would tie the rationale for Metro parking to the facilities' needs and does make reference to paid parking.

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There being no more business to come before the committee, Chair Washington adjourned the meeting at 4:15 PM.

Prepared by,

Pat Emmerson
Council Assistant

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ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 5, 1999

The following have been included as part of the official public record.

| TOPIC | DOCUMENT DATE | DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION | DOCUMENT NUMBER |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|--|------------------------|
| Resolution No. 99-2775 | May 5, 1999 | Written Testimony from Claire Puchy | 050599mop-1 |
| | March 29, 1999 | Background: National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Funding | 050599mop-2 |
| | (no date) | Teaming with Wildlife | 050599mop-3 |
| | May 1999 | Teaming with Wildlife Update | 050599mop-4 |
| | April 27, 1999 | Governor Kitzhaber's oral comments to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources | 050599mop-5 |
| Resolution No. 99-2785 | May 3, 1999 | Recommended changes to Resolution No. 97-2552A | 050599MOP-6 |

Testimony Cards

Claire Puchy