



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2014

Metro Council Chamber

Councilors Present: Council President Tom Hughes, and Councilors Sam Chase, Shirley Craddick, Kathryn Harrington, Bob Stacey, Carlotta Collette and Craig Dirksen

Councilors Excused: None

Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:04 p.m.

1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

Chief Operating Officer Martha Bennett updated the Council on events unfolding at the Oregon Zoo. She stated that Metro remains committed to the Zoo's core mission of conservation, education, and animal welfare.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION PROTOCOLS

Metro Attorney Alison R. Kean provided a summary of executive session protocols under Oregon public meetings law. She distributed a memo on the subject titled [Oregon's Public Meetings Laws Regarding Executive Sessions] and a [Quick Reference Guide to Oregon's Public Meetings Law] both of which can be found in the meeting packet. Ms. Kean explained that Oregon's "open government" or "sunshine" laws were originally enacted in 1973. She stated executive sessions are a narrow construct that allows executive bodies to discuss areas that would be hurt if open to the public. Executive sessions are included as public meetings under Oregon Meetings Act, but are exempt from public viewing.

Councilor Dirksen inquired whether the phrase "members of the press" had been updated in light of social media. Ms. Kean explained that members of the press are allowed to attend executive sessions, but cannot report on the meetings. She stated that social media makes it very difficult to tell whether an individual is a member of the press and that penalty for violating disclosure rules has not yet been judicially explored.

Ms. Kean clarified that minutes of executive sessions do not have to be verbatim and a recording is not required for the record. Any violation of any public meetings rule can be filed in a lawsuit within 60 days of action and shared possible consequences.

3. 2014 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) STATUS UPDATE AND PREVIEW OF PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED

Mr. John Mermin summarized updates to Council on the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) since January 2014. Mr. Mermin reviewed comments received from the RTP comment period between March 31 and May 5. He stated that the RTP would be available in clean and redline formats beginning March 31. He provided an overview of the types of comments received.

Councilor Craddick inquired if staff had ever submitted the RTP for air quality evaluation and not complied with standards. Mr. Mermin responded that the RTP had only passed the air quality conformity determination in the past and shared staff confidence in preliminary studies.

Council shared positive feedback heard related to the public comment period and thanked staff for their work.

4. BREAK

Metro Council agreed to work through the scheduled break.

5. COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATES

Council shared liaison updates on the following meetings and events: Oregon Department of Transportation Region 1 Task Force meeting, C4, East Multnomah County Transportation Committee, Washington County Coordinating Committee, meeting with Senator Merkley, Vista Brook Park, the May 8 agenda for the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation, Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization policy committee, Bi-State Coordinating Committee, and the Blue Heron redevelopment site.

Council discussed the Climate Smart Communities Scenarios Project and policy implications in local jurisdictions.

6. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

7. ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Council work session at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jill Schmidt, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 6, 2014

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1.0	Agenda	5/8/14	Council Agenda for May 8, 2014	50614cw-01
2.0	Memo	5/6/14	Oregon's Public Meetings Laws Regarding Executive Sessions	50614cw -02
2.0	Handout	11/07	A Quick Reference Guide to Oregon's Public Meetings Law	50614cw -03