



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2015
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

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

Councilors Excused: None

Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:03 p.m.

1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

Chief Operating Officer Martha Bennett announced to the Council that the Parks and Environmental Services Department and the Sustainability Center have transitioned into two new departments. This transition goes into effect on July 1, 2015. Property and Environmental Services is a temporary name and may be changed in the future. The department will be run by Director Paul Slyman. The Parks and Nature Department will continue to be run by Ms. Kathleen Brennan-Hunter, who is the current interim Director of Parks and Nature. Metro will be recruiting for a regular status director in the next week. Additionally, Ms. Bennett invited councilors to participate in upcoming events and informed them of her participation in the International City County Management Association Strategic Planning Task Force Meeting in San Antonio, Texas.

2. FY 2015-16 BUDGET DISCUSSION - DISCUSSION OF AMENDMENTS

Mr. Tim Collier, Metro Director of Finance and Regulatory Services, and Ms. Kathy Rutkowski, Metro Budget Coordinator, presented the FY 2015-16 Department Requested Budget Amendments. These amendments will be scheduled for Council consideration and vote at the regular meeting on June 11, 2015. These budget amendments included:

- Thirteen technical amendments that propose recommended changes to the budget as a result of updating projections or carrying over funds from the previous fiscal year for approved but uncompleted projects.
- Nine substantive amendments that request either the approval of additional full time employees (FTE) or additional appropriation for an item that was not previously included in the budget.

Council Discussion:

Councilors inquired about the definition of a substantive amendment. Councilor Dirksen asked for details regarding the FTE of a construction coordinator for the Oregon Zoo and how it is proposed to be funded. Councilor Stacey inquired about the Willamette Falls Locks amendment and if it is

typical practice for the Chief Operating Officer (COO) to initiate funding, rather than the Council. Councilors Craddick and Stacey inquired about the 12-month duration of the Intertribal Cultural Specialist FTE and the associated project.

Councilor Collette proposed a budget amendment to establish a Metropolitan Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) "Speakers Bureau" with the purpose of building more engaging and useful meetings for the committee. Additional funding will allow staff to identify and contract with speakers from around the country who have expertise in issues of regional importance. Speakers would compliment Metro work programs, offer varying perspectives and best practices, boost engagement and participation amongst MPAC members and enhance Metro's ability to solicit constructive and collaborative feedback. Council discussion included:

- Councilors agree with the budget amendment but suggested altering the language to indicate that speakers are available for other programs and not primarily focused on MPAC.
- Councilor Harrington would like to see speakers that target the region while promoting learning and communication.
- Councilor Stacey recognized that speakers of interest will aid our mutual understanding and interactions with Metro policies, as well as overlapping significantly with material the public and Council are learning about.
- Councilor Dirksen spoke to the importance of funding partners to help broaden opportunities and speaker topics.

Councilor Stacey proposed a budget amendment to fund development of a regional Least Cost Planning (LCP) model to inform regional transportation planning. LCP tools permit a comparison of alternative solutions or designs by assessing the costs and benefits for each alternative. In addition, LCP tools allow parallel consideration of monetized costs and benefits with those costs and benefits that can be quantified by have no readily-known monetized measure (e.g. greenhouse gas emissions). To develop this LCP tool, either the ODOT Mosaic tool will be refined or an MPO-specific tool will be developed to make use of the more detailed transportation modeling capacity already used by Metro staff. Council discussion included:

- Councilors enthusiastically supported the proposed development of a regional LCP tool.
- Council Dirksen spoke about the tool's value to JPACT and how it can help make new ideas more justifiable.
- Councilor Harrington raised concerns about the timeline and a possible need for a larger work program to achieve goals.
- Councilor Craddick noted that the Planning and Development department's engagement is essential.
- Councilor Collette spoke to the importance of a precise model and approach to help accomplish goals in the smartest, most affordable, and most beneficial way.
- Council President Hughes spoke to the tool's ability to help answer complex questions and noted there should be a way to compute costs of moving the urban growth boundary using the tool.

3. NATURAL AREAS SYSTEM PLAN RETREAT FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION

Ms. Kathleen Brennan-Hunter, Metro Natural Areas Program Director, and Justin Patterson, Metro Parks and Property Stewardship Program Director, presented the Natural Areas System Plan to the

Council. This work session is a continuation of the May 21, 2015 Council Retreat and the May 26, 2015 follow-up work session. Discussed topics included:

- Identifying key challenges and opportunities.
- Discussing and clarifying Metro's role as a provider of parks, trails, and natural areas relative to other providers in the region.
- Discussing the Metro Council's vision for the future and providing direction so that staff can return with more detailed options of Council consideration in the fall.
- The primary program areas being discussed today were natural areas stewardship, parks and cemeteries operations, and programs (including conservation education, volunteers, recreation, and community partnerships). Each program area is evaluated by current commitments, strategic expansion, and aspiration growth.

Council Discussion:

- **Natural Areas Stewardship:** Councilors inquired about the life of the bond and the assumption of continuous renewal of the levy. Councilor Harrington spoke to the high priority of natural areas stewardship, given the messaging of clean air, clean water, and threats to wildlife. Councilor Harrington also spoke to her desire for a model that will assess maintenance and restoration, as well as identifying current conditions and realistic end goals. Councilor Craddick asked when a discussion will occur regarding future natural areas and how they will relate to the current land conservation strategy. Councilor Collette noted that Metro's regional convener role needs to be clarified for the future and suggested regional funding support for landscape expansion. Councilor Stacey and President Hughes discussed potential revenue opportunities, specifically a greenhouse gas sequestration strategy and mitigation banking with public agency partners. Councilor Chase spoke to prioritizing the protection of natural areas and partnering with organizations to support local efforts that feed into the conservation strategy.
- **Parks and Cemeteries:** Councilors raised concerns about a lack of funding coverage from the bond and discussed the feasibility of revenue generating opportunities. Councilor Harrington raised concerns regarding safety issues and continued deterioration of cemeteries. Councilor Craddick spoke to the value of preserving historic cemetery structures and Metro's commitment to cultural celebration.
- **Programs:** Councilors discussed the necessity for partnership support with the bond to improve efficiency, increase volunteer presence, and expand conservation education programs. Councilors raised concerns about the lack of proper branding and limited community program publicity.

4. COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATES AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Councilor Harrington reminded Councilors that state statute forbids counties from using their General Fund dollars on road maintenance and noted that the Oregon Transportation Commission will meet in July in Hillsboro.

Councilor Craddick attended the first meeting of the ODOT region 1 Area Commission on Transportation (ACT), during which she proposed an amendment to the ACT bylaws to require the inclusion of the JPACT chair on the executive committee. The executive committee will be responsible for setting an agenda, schedule the meetings, and facilitate the development of the work program. Members of the ACT did not approve the proposed amendment.

Councilor Craddick also provided an overview of a recent meeting with Council President Hughes, Councilor Collette, Happy Valley Mayor Lori DeRemer, and city staff and discuss future growth in Happy Valley and issues surrounding the city of Damascus. Council Craddick stated that city authorities believe that Happy Valley can accommodate growth stemming from Damascus annexations.

Councilor Dirksen met with the Natural Areas Oversight Committee to review performance. The Committee is satisfied with the progress made with Natural Areas and inquired about a stabilization report to help confirm that projects are on track in regard to budget.

Councilor Chase spoke about his meeting with Councilor Dirksen and the Equitable Housing Working Group on advising staff on the Equitable Housing Strategy. The meeting included discussion of a future summit, outreach and education around the region, and engaging local jurisdictions. Councilors shared their definition of what equitable housing means, examined the overview of the technical analysis framework, and discussed options for regional focus groups.

Council President Hughes provided an update on legislative issues in the state capitol. Specifically, he noted the progress off the new Connect Oregon program at the level requested by Kate Brown (\$58.6 million). He also informed the Council of his intent to submit a letter opposing HS 3543, consistent with the Council's adopted legislative principles.

5. ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Metro Council work session at 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Giraud". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kate Giraud, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JUNE 9, 2015

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1.0	Handout	06/09/15	Organizational Chart of the Property and Environmental Services (PES) Department	060915cw-01
1.0	Handout	06/09/15	Organizational Chart of the Parks and Nature Department	060915cw-02
2.0	Handout	06/09/15	Additional Draft Budget Resolution (No. 15-4632) for June 18, 2015 Meeting	060915cw-03
2.0	Handout	06/09/15	List of Agency Contracts over \$50,000	060915cw-04
2.0	Memo	06/05/15	Department Requested Amendments to FY 2015-16 Budget	060915cw-05
2.0	Memo	06/05/15	Councilor Amendments to FY 2015-16 Budget	060915cw-06
3.0	Handout	06/09/15	Parks and Natural Areas System Plan: Vision for the Future	060915cw-07
3.0	Handout	06/09/15	Natural Areas Stewardship Chart	060915cw-08
3.0	Handout	06/09/15	Parks and Cemeteries Operations Chart	060915cw-09
3.0	Handout	06/09/15	Programs (Conservation Education, Volunteers, Recreation, Community Partnerships) Chart	060915cw-10