



**METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION**  
Meeting Minutes  
July 21, 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 2:05 p.m.

**1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION**

Chief Operating Officer Martha Bennett updated the Council on the following items:

- Ms. Bennett reminded Council that the Urban League of Portland president, Nkenge Harmon Johnson, will present the State of Black Oregon 2015 Report at the July 23<sup>rd</sup> Council meeting.
- The July 30<sup>th</sup> Council Retreat will focus on updates regarding the Equity Strategy. Ms. Bennett will receive materials on Thursday afternoon and a pre-retreat briefing will be held next week.
- Ms. Bennett invited Ms. Crista Gardner, Metro management analyst, to provide Council with an update on levy funded trails grants. Ms. Gardner discussed how Nature in Neighborhoods grants support community projects and programs across the region and strengthens public engagement, especially in low income communities and communities of color.
- Ms. Bennett invited Mr. Jim Middaugh, Metro director of communications, to provide Council with an update on the How Metro Works framework. Mr. Middaugh explained that the public enjoys the services Metro provides but they do not recognize Metro as the provider. The How Metro Works framework will bring awareness to the Metro's services and will promote public understanding, engagement, and positive change. Mr. Middaugh noted that he will present more information to Council in August and September.

**2. CONTEXT FOR SOLID WASTE ROADMAP PROJECTS**

Mr. Paul Slyman, Metro parks & environmental services director, and Mr. Tom Chaimov, Metro solid waste planner, provided context for Food Scraps Capacity and Transfer System Configuration and briefly walked through the Solid Waste Roadmap timeline. Metro's Regional Solid Waste Management Plan focuses on protecting the public's health and the environment through a series of operations, while getting good value for the public's money. Mr. Slyman discussed creating a better system to reduce, reuse, recycle, and compost, ensuring that all people can use all services. Mr.

Chaimov described the Solid Waste Roadmap Policy Development timeline chart and noted that the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan will be revised early next year.

***Council Discussion:***

- Councilor Stacey praised the great work being done limiting the amount of trash going to landfills.
- Councilor Collette noted that there has not been a discussion about Metro South in relation to advanced material recovery.
- President Hughes spoke to the benefits of reminding the public about the about the services both the public and private sides provide, making sure to leave profit information out of the discussion.
- Councilor Chase recognized the excellent work with food scrap education efforts and noted that there seemed to be limited information regarding food scrap waste prevention.
- Councilor Craddick conveyed her understanding of the direction of Solid Waste Roadmap projects but is waiting for the missing specifics.
- Councilor Dirksen spoke to the broader context and inquired about options, how Metro will deliver services, and what facilities Metro will need.

**3. SOLID WASTE ROADMAP: FOOD SCRAPS PROCESSING CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT**

Mr. Matt Korot, Metro resource conservation & recycling program director, and Ms. Jennifer Erickson, Metro planner, provided Council with an overview of the work completed to date with Food Scraps Processing Capacity Development and asked Council to examine options from which staff will develop detailed implementation plans and conduct in-depth stakeholder engagements. Ms. Erickson spoke to the project's focus on ensuring adequate and proximate capacity to transfer and process food scraps collected from the region's businesses and residents. In November, staff presented Council with two key barriers to progress in establishing adequate and stable processing capacity, identified as supply and proximity. Council instructed staff to further explore all three paths established to address these barriers. Ms. Erickson discussed three decision trees which relate to decisions about the roles Metro could take with food scraps recovery, identified as generator, transfer service, and processing.

***Council Discussion:***

President Hughes, Mr. Korot, Ms. Erickson invited Councilors to discuss if Council wants to accelerate the recovery of food scraps from the region's waste system.

- Councilors expressed interest in accelerating the recovery of food scraps.
- Councilor Harrington asked for clarification on options two and three and added that closer coordination would be needed to provide the advantage of greater supply certainty. Councilor Harrington noted difficulty understanding cost aspects and inquired about system cost analysis.
- Councilor Dirksen asked if there is a base point to increase from and noted that incentives are useful but coordination will be required.
  - Mr. Korot confirmed there is a program to increase food scraps at a gradual pace and the system is based on voluntary participation by citizens and government entities.
- Councilor Chase discussed the need to engage the public more in the conversation, as it is more important to reduce food scraps rather than managing them downstream.

President Hughes, Mr. Korot, Ms. Erickson invited Councilors to discuss whether existing distant processors should be the primary means of processing metro-region food scraps.

- Councilors were not supportive of relying solely on the private sector to take the initiative to process food scraps.
- Councilors added that there should be a cost differential and innovative rate structure for facilities that choose not to accept and process food scraps.
- Councilor Harrington inquired if service stations will need to vary or completely change operational activities with options two and three. Additionally, Councilor Harrington spoke to hearing concerns with service hours and system efficiency.
  - Ms. Erickson noted that some stations would make operational changes, while others would need to make capital changes. However, there would not be a change in operational hours.
- Councilors Stacey and Craddick spoke to the importance of adequate geographic distribution and discussed biogas facilities.
- President Hughes noted that the decision does not require additional space but rather requires using the space differently. Additionally, President Hughes spoke to the value of maintaining Metro's own facilities, as it allows control over the system enough to guarantee supply.

President Hughes, Mr. Korot, Ms. Erickson invited Councilors to discuss if Council wants to rely solely on the private sector to take the initiative to develop processing capacity for the region's food scraps.

- Councilors agreed on using existing distant facilities as the primary means of processing metro-region food scraps on a short term basis but staff needs to analyze expanding to local facilities.
- Councilor Harrington inquired about Metro building a new facility and noted the need for a fully internalized cost model before direction decisions can be made.
- Councilor Chase suggested creating a set of long-term goals for each option and spoke to the importance of cost to environment benefit analysis.
- Councilor Craddick recommended focusing on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and inquired about the support from the region's cities.
- Councilor Dirksen spoke to his disfavor with Metro building its own public facility and recommended allowing the private sector to manage with Metro's cooperation.
- Councilor Collette requested to see scenarios for each option and added that Metro should not rule out building their own facility to process the region's food scraps.

#### **4. SOLID WASTE ROADMAP: TRANSFER SYSTEM CONFIGURATION PROJECT**

Mr. Tim Collier, Metro director of finance, and Mr. Scott Robinson, Metro deputy chief operating officer, provided Council with a brief update on the Transfer System Configuration Project and progress made to date. The project's purpose is to determine what model of the public-private transfer system best serves the public interest, concentrating on public health, environmental impact, and the best value for the public's money. Mr. Collier spoke to the task force consisting of industry members that has been formed in an advisory capacity to help staff craft recommendations for Council to deliberate on. Mr. Robinson clarified the use of Multi-Objective Decision Analysis (MODA) and described how different scenarios can be weighed with various directions and options.

***Council Discussion:***

- Councilor Stacey inquired about whether Metro wants each transfer station to perform advanced material recovery and noted that there needs to be room on the floor if that option is chosen.
- Councilor Harrington noted that a one-stop shop is valuable for citizens but maybe not for business customers. Councilor Harrington recommended considering disaster preparedness and inquired about the life span of the various stations.
- Councilor Craddick discussed the need for focus on service availability for all citizens, as transfer stations are unequal in both services and geography.
- Councilor Collette recommended building a system to handle all six evaluation criteria, as well as handling any natural disaster.
- Councilor Dirksen noted that any future planning and analysis needs to consider what categories of waste will be included.

**5. COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATES AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

Councilor Dirksen spoke to his attendance at a recent Region 1 ACT meeting and updated Council on the 2018-2021 STIP Funding Allocation Recommendation. Councilors Dirksen and Harrington met with the Oregon Transportation Committee (OTC) and did a tour of several areas of current and future transportation projects. Councilors Dirksen and Craddick attended Zoo La La on Saturday to help raise money for the Oregon Zoo Foundation. Councilor Dirksen will testify in favor of service enhancement plans at the TriMet Board of Directors meeting tomorrow and express the region's support for a needed transit system.

Councilor Collette reminded Council of the joint Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC) and Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) tour with guest speaker tomorrow at the Milwaukie City Hall.

Councilor Craddick spoke to Travel Oregon's decision to include marijuana in promotional materials, recognizing that the public may travel to Oregon because of the new marijuana law. Councilor Craddick and President Hughes attended Troutdale's 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Summerfest, where they were invited to meet Troutdale Council members at the art center in downtown Troutdale. In order to help promote Troutdale's art community, the City is gathering statues and sculptures in celebration of the Columbia River Historic Highway.

**6. ADJOURN**

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Metro Council work session at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kate Giraud, Council Policy Assistant

**ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JULY 21, 2015**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT TYPE</b>	<b>DOC DATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DOCUMENT No.</b>
<b>1.0</b>	Handout	07/21/15	How Metro Works Framework Handout	072115cw-01
<b>3.0</b>	Handout	07/21/15	Solid Waste Roadmap: Food Scraps Decision Trees Handout	072115cw-02
<b>5.0</b>	Handout	07/02/15	2018-2021 STIP Funding Allocation Recommendation Email Handout	072115cw-03