



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Meeting Minutes
November 24, 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 2:06 p.m.

1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

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

- The Metro Regional Center will be closed on November 26 and 27. The Oregon Zoo will remain open. Most solid waste operations will be closed on Thanksgiving Day except for the Metro Central and Metro South transfer stations. Ms. Bennett thanked Metro employees for working over the holiday and encouraged the Metro Council to do the same.
- Metro Employee Night at ZooLights was a great success. Ms. Bennett explained that the night included an array of enrichment activities and noted that it was exciting to see visitors exploring the new Forest Hall building.
- The deadline for feedback on the master plan for Blue Lake Regional Park has been extended until November 29.
- Ms. Bennett gave an overview of the activities that had taken place as part of the annual Metro Charitable Giving campaign. She expressed support for employees' widespread participation in the campaign.

2. SOLID WASTE ROADMAP: LANDFILL CAPACITY POLICY

Mr. Paul Slyman, Metro Director of Property and Environmental Services, Mr. Bryce Jacobsen, Metro Senior Solid Waste Planner, and Mr. Ken Ray, Metro staff, provided Council with a staff recommendation on approaches for evaluating the region's landfill capacity and an update on other elements of the project. Mr. Slyman introduced the topic by providing a background on the Solid Waste Roadmap. He explained that the project was initiated by Metro Council Resolution 14-4589 which directed staff to "evaluate the disposal capacity of waste at new, existing, or expanded landfills and to recommend changes to the Metro code to implement the policy." He noted that the purpose of the project was to develop a complete and explicit policy to guide Metro's future decisions about which landfills shall be eligible to receive the region's waste. Mr. Bryce Jacobsen then provided Council with an overview of three potential approaches to evaluating the region's landfill capacity. He shared benefits and challenges of the approaches and conveyed to Council that

staff recommended the third option which utilizes the sites already existing Site Development Plans (SDPs). Mr. Ken Ray shared an overview of public engagement efforts related to the landfill capacity project that would occur in the beginning of 2016. He gave examples of potential engagement efforts such as public meetings, an Opt In survey, and Let's Talk Trash events.

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Dirksen inquired about ongoing litigation related to the Riverbend Landfill and how it could affect the Solid Waste Roadmap.
- Councilor Harrington spoke to the importance of making it easy for constituents to understand the costs of such policy options. She noted that with a SDP focused approach, it would be important to include flexibility for updates.
- Councilor Stacey inquired about possible implications that could arise in terms of diverse ownership and provision of services to haulers and operators of transfer facilities. He asked if the different policy options would help strengthen or weaken such diversity.
- Councilor Chase expressed support for the third approach, but noted there was an appeal to an approach that made its decisions on a case by case basis.
- Councilors spoke to the importance of engaging homeowners and businesses in the policy decisions.
- Councilor Collette cautioned against an approach that could create ultimatums for facility operators.
- Councilor Craddick expressed support for the creation of a policy focused on the region's landfill capacity. She noted that she was also interested in maintaining flexibility in the process.

3. SOLID WASTE ROADMAP: TRANSFER SYSTEM CONFIGURATION PROJECT

Mr. Tim Collier, Metro Director of Finance and Regulatory Services, and Mr. Dan Pitzler, CH2M, provided Council with an update on the Solid Waste Roadmap Transfer System Configuration project. Mr. Collier explained that the purpose of the project was to determine what model of the public-private transfer system best serves the public interest. He gave an overview of progress to date and noted that following extensive discussions with staff, the public, and interested parties, staff drafted evaluation criteria based on public benefits and developed potential alternatives to the current system. Mr. Pitzler then gave a background of the existing system before providing an overview of five system alternatives. He demonstrated how the alternatives were developed and shared initial conclusions from staff evaluations. Mr. Collier highlighted upcoming important dates for the project leading up to the final Council action in spring 2016.

Council Discussion:

- Councilor Stacey inquired about the overall recommendation to maintain the status quo.
- Councilor Dirksen shared concerns about programs such as self-haul and hazardous waste round-ups costing more for some suppliers than others. He expressed interest in exploring different cost options such as requiring operators to either provide the services or pay for them elsewhere.
- Councilor Harrington spoke to concerns about costs to businesses. She also encouraged staff to continue useful and popular programs such as household hazardous waste round-ups and self-haul opportunities.
- Councilor Collette commended the work and noted she agreed with the conclusions presented.

- Councilor Craddick agreed with the recommendations regarding self-haul and household hazardous waste.
- Council President Hughes expressed support for continuing self-haul programs for household hazardous waste in order to provide more opportunities for recycling.

4. COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATES AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Councilor Chase spoke to a recent press conference concerning the Oregon Convention Center's rooftop solar array project. He noted that no upfront costs were borne by Metro due to an innovative lease purchase agreement with installer Solar City and grants from Energy Trust of Oregon and Pacific Power. The Councilors discussed details of the contract and manufacturing concerns.

Councilor Dirksen updated the Metro Council on the Road User Fee Task Force, noting that the group last met on November 18 in Salem. He explained that the group was working on creating a western states consortium in order to coordinate road user fees across state lines. He gave an overview of other topics discussed including the future of the task force, policy considerations, and rate structures.

Councilor Collette notified the Metro Council that Rediscover the Falls, the non-profit organization committed to advancing the Willamette Falls Legacy Project, was working on expanding its board of directors. She encouraged the Council to pass along any board recommendations. She noted that the application form was available on the Willamette Falls Legacy Project website and explained the selection committee would be formed soon.

5. ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the Metro Council work session at 4:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Nellie Papsdorf
Recording Secretary

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 24, 2015

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
3.0	Handout	11/23/15	Metro Transfer System Configuration Draft Strategy Table	112415cw-01
3.0	PowerPoint	11/24/15	Transfer System Configuration Project	112415cw-02