



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2016

Oregon Zoo, Skyline Room

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

Councilors Excused: None

Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:01 p.m.

1. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION

Chief Operating Officer Martha Bennett distributed a handout highlighting information about the new Metro logo and discussed various reasons for brand reimaging, including improved identity and enhanced connections with projects and the community. Ms. Bennett noted that the legislative session has completed and Mr. Randy Tucker, Metro policy advisor, will present a final report at a future Council work session. Ms. Bennett discussed a request to Metro from Multnomah County to help evaluate air quality feasibility and co-convene conversations to find a better way to manage air toxin issues in the region. Ms. Bennett invited Ms. Sue Malone, Oregon Zoo training program manager, to update Council on a new training initiative called Coaching for Awesome Performance. Ms. Malone spoke to taking advantage of conversations among staff and peer coaching to connect and engage talent. Ms. Malone introduced Ms. Peggy Bodner, Oregon Zoo service supervisor, to discuss her experience with the implementation of the training initiative. Ms. Bodner spoke to connecting with guests at the zoo and encouraging staff to take the lead with decision making.

2. OREGON ZOO BOND CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Ms. Heidi Rahn, Oregon Zoo Bond Program Director, Mr. Bill Kabeiseman, Oregon Zoo Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee Chair, and Ms. Ruth Shelly, Oregon Zoo Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee Vice Chair, presented Council with the Oregon Zoo Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee Annual Report. Ms. Rahn spoke to the thoughtfulness and diligence of the Oversight Committee and noted that staff will respond to recommendations throughout the year. Mr. Kabeiseman spoke to the Oversight Committee's mandate to ensure a report is presented and specifics are accomplished, including assessing progress on program implementation, reporting on project spending and cost reductions, and recommending project modifications to help counter increased costs. Ms. Shelly acknowledged being at the halfway point of the bond program and highlighted elements the region's citizens wanted from the bond, including enhanced animal welfare, conservation education, improvement in infrastructure and sustainability, and added diversity in contracting. Ms. Shelly discussed findings on the sustainability of improvised structures in various portions of the zoo and spoke to conservation education. Ms. Shelly highlighted the procurement processes to optimize minority, women, and emerging small business (MWESB) participation to increase the

diversity of the workforce and noted that staff will move forward with alternative procurement for the polar bear exhibit. Mr. Kabeiseman spoke to the finances of various zoo bond projects, discussed trends and cost projections, and noted that projects are being completed on time and on budget. Mr. Kabeiseman discussed forming a subcommittee to review unallocated funds and construction cost escalation to confirm that the bond can fulfill its promises. Additionally, Mr. Kabeiseman noted that the Oversight Committee has asked staff for a report discussing the impact of Elephant Lands on operating costs at the end of the year.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Collette spoke to the capacity at the Oregon Zoo and the escalating costs of construction. Councilor Chase inquired about operating costs, discussed MWESB recommendations, and spoke to the importance of keeping zoo ticket prices low so all community members can attend the public facility. Councilor Dirksen conveyed his appreciation for the Oversight Committee's desire to go back and inspect recommendations made in the previous year. Councilor Harrington spoke to two areas of concern, including details related to the zoo's new education center and long-term framework. Councilor Harrington discussed the importance of a focus on conservation education and ensuring that the facility is transformative and collaborative to all communities around the region. Councilor Harrington noted that two new councilors will carry through the 2020 project timeline and recommended highlighting topics to the new councilors to set the stage for longer term framework. Councilor Craddick spoke to the importance of a focus on MWESB and thanked the Oversight Committee for their support. Councilor Stacey conveyed his gratitude for the report and spoke to the great work accomplished by management, the construction teams, and volunteers. President Hughes noted that this report is Mr. Kabeiseman's last as Chair of the Oversight Committee. President Hughes acknowledged Mr. Kabeiseman's leadership and thanked him for his service to the zoo, the Metro Council, and the community.

3. COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATES AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Councilor Craddick spoke to the annual Oregon Zoo Annual Volunteer Recognition event and congratulated Ms. Rahn and Mr. Kabeiseman for an award for Elephant Lands from the Daily Journal of Commerce (DJC) of Oregon. Additionally, Councilor Craddick updated Council on the recent Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council and Powell-Division Steering Committee meetings. Councilor Dirksen highlighted the Region 1 ACT meeting and noted that he will distribute and discuss a letter related to FAST Act funding at the next Council work session and Joint Policy and Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) meeting. Councilor Harrington spoke to the Commercial Association of Brokers Night of Excellence award dinner, where a Nature in Neighborhoods capital grant and Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) grant both received sustainability awards.

4. ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the Metro Council work session at 3:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kate Giraud, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MARCH 8, 2016

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
1.0	Booklet	03/08/16	2016 Oregon Zoo Bond Program Progress Report	030816cw-01
1.0	Handout	03/08/16	March 2016 Metro Identity Project Update Handout	030816cw-02