



METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Meeting Minutes
August 2, 2016
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber

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

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 Ms. Martha Bennett provided an update on the results of recent lead testing at the Metro Regional Center, information regarding illegal camping along the Springwater Corridor, and upcoming dates during which she will be out of the office.

2. DRAFT PARKS AND NATURAL AREAS LEVY YEAR FOUR WORK PLAN

Ms. Kathleen Brennan-Hunter, Metro's director of Parks and Nature, presented the Draft Parks and Natural Areas Levy Year Four Work Plan. Ms. Brennan-Hunter provided a brief overview of completed and ongoing levy projects during the previous three fiscal years, and noted that the year three annual report will be coming out soon. She discussed achievements from year three, and highlighted several restoration and maintenance projects. Ms. Brennan-Hunter also noted a number of new contractors who will begin during this planting season which are minority and women-owned businesses. She reviewed year three progress in regards to park operations, access planning, nature education, and volunteering and discussed the grants that were awarded during the previous fiscal year for restoration, trail, and conservation education projects. She also emphasized the importance of developing partnerships, and highlighted the department's efforts to incorporate the Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion into their work. Ms. Brennan-Hunter recounted the lessons learned during year three, reviewed the year four allocation of funds, and briefly reviewed potential risks, including increased construction costs, small jobs that may not receive contracting bids, and land use project timing.

Council Discussion:

Councilors asked clarifying questions regarding discrepancies between estimated and actual project costs, and requested increased communication and transparency on such discrepancies moving forward. Ms. Bennett spoke to the need for a report that falls between project-specific reporting and annual reporting, and in response Ms. Brennan-Hunter noted that the department will begin producing a new report which will include financial information and timelines for levy projects. Councilor Harrington requested increased transparency on Metro's website for reaching out to contractors, inquired about ways that Parks and Nature staff are sharing their lessons learned with their counterparts around the region, and spoke to the ability of place based programs to strengthen the region's economy. Councilor Craddick spoke to the department's work in implementing strategies from the Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, suggested sharing their lessons learned in implementing equity work as well as natural areas work, and requested the opportunity to tour some of the completed natural areas projects. Councilor Collette raised questions about incorporating recent work by the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) team on equity in construction, and suggested developing a certification program for minority and women-owned contractors. Councilor Chase expressed his appreciation for the increases in conservation education and volunteering. Council President Hughes noted that the smaller scale projects are well suited to Minority, Women, or Emerging Small Business (MWESB) contractors, and discussed the need to provide opportunities to minority youth which enhance their ability to get jobs in areas of employment which have historically neglected disadvantaged communities.

3. COUNCILOR LIAISON UPDATES AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Councilor Collette provided an update on the visiting government managers from Japan, Councilor Harrington discussed the Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization (RDPO) Policy Committee Meeting, Councilor Stacey recounted the City of Portland's City Council Hearing on the Powell-Division Transit and Development Project and spoke to the importance of Vision Zero, Councilor Dirksen noted the new glass panel in the chamber and shared the National Night Out event in Tualatin, and Councilor Craddick and Council President Hughes provided an update on the Bi-State Coordination Committee Meeting.

4. ADJOURN

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Metro Council work session at 3:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kyra Schneider, Council Policy Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF AUGUST 2, 2016

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
2.0	PowerPoint	08/02/2016	Parks and Natural Areas Local Option Levy Year 4 Work Plan PowerPoint	080216cw-01