

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Thursday, May 24, 2018

2:00 PM

Metro Regional Center, Council chamber

Council meeting

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Present: 6 - Council President Tom Hughes, Councilor Betty Dominguez, Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Craig Dirksen, Councilor Kathryn Harrington, and Councilor Bob Stacey

Excused: 1 - Councilor Sam Chase

2. Public Communication

Sharon Nasset, City of Portland: Ms. Nasset spoke about the region's housing needs. She encouraged the Metro Council to use vacant properties as rooming/boarder houses to help address the need for more affordable housing.

3. Presentations**3.1 Financial Condition Report (FY2007-08 - FY2016-17)**

Attachments: [Financial Condition Report](#)
[PowerPoint](#)

Council President Hughes introduced Metro Auditor Brian Evans to provide a brief presentation in Metro's Financial Condition Report for FY 2007-08 - FY 2016-17. Mr. Evans discussed financial trends and the causes of the changes in trends. He shared the financial trends for the ten year period, and discussed trends in revenue expenditures, economic and demographic trends, and the overall financial health of Metro.

Mr. Evans conveyed that Metro's diverse revenue sources, good financial management and an improved economy allowed Metro to be in strong financial health. He highlighted areas for concern, including declining grant revenue, growing employee costs and increased expenditures for risk management. Mr. Evans noted that some of these factors were out of the agency's control. Mr. Evans spoke to specific revenue indicators and areas

where revenue had grown, and the causes for this growth.

Mr. Evans recalled the specific changes in expenditures, and noted that expenditure had declined over the last ten years.

He added that this was the result of fewer land purchases.

Mr. Evans highlighted debt trends, and shared that 87% of Metro's debt was around general obligation bonds. He discussed general indicators of financial health, and noted that economic and demographic trends were strong and positive over the past ten years.

Mr. Evans thanked Mr. Tim Collier and staff for their assistance in the audit.

Mr. Collier thanked Mr. Evans and his staff for the work they had done on the report. Mr. Collier discussed employee costs and concerns that they were growing at a rate that was higher than revenue growth. He noted that the risk management fund had been adjusted in order to make up for a bad fiscal year in 2016. Mr. Collier discussed grant spending, and shared that they had been working on balancing the spending with adequate reserves.

Mr. Collier thanked the council and chief operating officer for their support of Metro's fiscal policies.

Council Discussion

Councilor Stacey congratulated Mr. Evans on doing a good job of keeping revenue sources in balance and building the reserves necessary to ensure that balance. He thanked Mr. Evans, Mr. Collier and their staff.

Councilor Craddick asked Mr. Collier to discuss the risk management funds, and the plans to prevent imbalance of these funds in the future. Mr. Collier explained that there were three significant events that required spending risk management funds. He conveyed that the general fund had

to be used to supplement the risk management fund, and that they had since been working to re-balance these funds. Mr. Collier emphasized that they had sufficient capital to ensure that they could weather other unexpected events in the future.

3.2 Third Quarterly Financial Report

Attachments: [Quarterly Financial Report](#)

Council President Hughes introduced Mr. Tim Collier to provide a brief presentation on the quarterly financial report. Mr. Collier explained that the report showed that they were starting with the right projected fund balances necessary for the 18-19 fiscal year. He conveyed that there was nothing from the previous fiscal year that was concerning, and that the upcoming fiscal year looked positive.

Mr. Collier shared that the Oregon Zoo was on track to finish at the \$2 million fund balance. He explained that this was short of the target, but it was a \$1.2 million increase in a year which was in the right direction. Mr. Collier added that the other venue were on track and appeared to be finishing above budget.

Mr. Collier shared that excise taxes were on budget and construction excise taxes continued to be at a good level. He noted that Metro had had a positive fiscal year. Mr. Collier explained that there were some small areas of concern, but that Metro was in a strong position finishing the fiscal year and moving into the 18-19 fiscal year.

Council Discussion

Councilor Craddick asked how much construction was occurring around the region, and the policies around construction excise tax funds. She asked if there was the

flexibility with these funds. Mr. Collier explained that the construction excise tax was a part of the general fund program, and that in recent years the planning and development department had recommended that Metro change how funds were distributed. He shared that this change shifted how funds could be distributed. Mr. Collier reminded council that local jurisdictions were paid after the construction work was done, which was important to remember even if revenue increased or decreased. He added that the challenge of construction excise funds was that local jurisdictions had capacity to do long range planning process was when Metro was getting the highest revenue.

4. Consent Agenda

4.1 Consideration of the Council Meeting Minutes for May 3, 2018

Attachments: [Council Meeting Minutes for May 3, 2018](#)

Aye: 6 - Council President Hughes, Councilor Dominguez, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Dirksen, Councilor Harrington, and Councilor Stacey

Excused: 1 - Councilor Chase

5. Resolutions

5.1 Resolution No. 18-4886, For the Purpose of Adopting the 2018 Regional Travel Options Strategy

Attachments: [Resolution No. 18-4886](#)
[Exhibit A to Resolution No. 18-4886](#)
[Staff Report](#)
[PowerPoint](#)

Council President Hughes called on Ms. Margi Bradway and Mr. Dan Kaempff for a presentation on the Regional Travel Options Strategy. Mr. Kaempff provided background on the program. He explained that this program had been in place

for over 20 years in the region, and that the purpose was to reduce the number of drive alone automobile trips in the region, and to increase use of transit, cycling, ride sharing, and walking. He added that the RTO was a part of the federally required congestion management process and their response to Climate Smart Strategies.

Mr. Kaempff shared the funding sources of the program. He conveyed how the program had changed over the years to reflect the changing needs of the region. Mr. Kaempff discussed the stakeholder engagement process and how the RTO was engaging with partners to gain an understanding of their results. He shared the funding of the Safe Routes to School education program, and how the program had been built with TPAC and stakeholders.

Mr. Kaempff conveyed that there was a need to take a new program direction, one of continuing support to local partners that were already involved in the program, while extending the program to reach citizens not served by the program.

Mr. Kaempff recounted the four goals of the program, and the changes being made to how they were awarding grant funding throughout the region. He explained that they were creating two new categories called Core Partners and Emerging Partners. Mr. Kaempff conveyed that Core Partners were historically served partners, and they were taken out of the competitive grant process as long as they were meeting performance thresholds. He discussed that the Emerging Partners category was focused on working with parts of the region that had not yet done much RTO work.

Mr. Kaempff discussed the Safe Routes to School Program, and the three core elements to the program. He explained

the allocation of funds from ODOT and other partners and how these funds impacted the three core elements of the program. Mr. Kaempff explained the outreach and engagement of the program, and how partner feedback had been incorporated into this component.

Council Discussion

Councilor Dominguez asked if outreach was being done to non-Title I schools that lacked infrastructure. Mr. Kaempff confirmed that non-Title I schools were still eligible for RTO programming in spite of the focus on Title I schools.

Councilor Craddick asked how performance would be measured in Core Partners. Mr. Kaempff explained that they had begun meeting with those partners to understand their goals and objectives, and to develop an evaluation standard for each. He noted that they were taking a partnership approach to the Core Partners.

Councilor Dominguez asked about performance standards for Core Partners. Mr. Kaempff hared that they had a robust way of measuring their program outcomes, which they had been doing for the last 15-20 years. He noted that they were working on refining it to make it easier for partners to measure their programs.

Councilor Harrington asked if the partners would go through the grant process every three years. Mr. Kaempff confirmed that Core Partner grants were for three years. He explained that they would do a check-in each year with them, with the hopes that their programs would be continually improving.

Councilor Harrington asked how often the strategic plan was reviewed. Mr. Kaempff confirmed that it had historically been reviewed every five years, but that this was

a ten year strategy in order to set a broader foundation for the program. Councilor Harrington noted that the process had always been efficient, but that staff was working on the program to make it more efficient. She noted that the program was strong and very impressive. She encouraged Mr. Kaempff to come to council often to present the progress of the program.

Councilor Dominguez asked if there would be an equity focus. Mr. Kaempff shared that they were still developing the program, but that that was a part the focus that had gone into the funding in the region. He explained that they were focused on understanding how the RTO could benefit underserved communities and communities of color.

Councilor Dirksen thanked Mr. Kaempff for his work on the program. He asked what kind of review process the RTO went through before being brought to council. Mr. Kaempff recounted the review processes of the RTO from 2016 to the present.

Councilor Dominguez asked if partners were always jurisdictional entities. Mr. Kaempff clarified that they could be non profits, local jurisdictions or educational institutions.

A motion was made by Councilor Stacey, seconded by Councilor Craddick, that this item be approved. The motion passed by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Council President Hughes, Councilor Dominguez, Councilor Craddick, Councilor Dirksen, Councilor Harrington, and Councilor Stacey

Excused: 1 - Councilor Chase

6. Chief Operating Officer Communication

Ms. Martha Bennett provided an update on the following events or items: an upcoming Jordan Peterson event at

Keller Auditorium, the Memorial Day ceremony at Lone Fir, Vanport Flood commemorations at Expo Center, and the return of endangered Western Pond Turtles to the Columbia River Gorge.

7. Councilor Communication

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings or events: the proposed Metro housing bond, Levee Ready Columbia, the Rose Festival, the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC), and a recent Regional Mayors meeting.

8. Adjourn

There being no further business, Council President Hughes adjourned the Metro Council meeting at 3:24 p.m. The Metro Council will convene the next regular council meeting on June 7 at 2:00 p.m. at the Metro Regional Center in the council chamber.

Respectfully submitted,

Nellie Papsdorf, Legislative and Engagement Coordinator

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 24, 2018

ITEM	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOC DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT No.
3.1	PowerPoint	05/24/18	Financial Condition of Metro	052418c-01
4.1	Minutes	05/03/18	Council Meeting Minutes for May 3, 2018	052418c-02
5.1	PowerPoint	05/24/18	2018 Regional Travel Options Strategy	052418c-03