

# **Metro**

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**Metro**

## **Minutes**

**Tuesday, April 25, 2017**

**2:00 PM**

**AGENDA REVISED 04/19/17**

**Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber**

**Council work session**

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**2:00 Call to Order and Roll Call**

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

**Councilors Excused:** Kathryn Harrington

Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:02 p.m.

**2:05 Chief Operating Officer Communication**

Ms. Martha Bennett, Metro Chief Operating Officer, provided the following updates and announcements:

- She requested the Council's permission to send a Levee Ready Columbia letter. The Council gave a thumbs up.
- She invited Council members to the Metro All Staff meeting on Thursday, April 27.
- She introduced Mr. Matt Korot, Property and Environmental Services staff, who asked if the councilors were interested in giving staff direction regarding the undertaking of a solid waste facilities grant program. Mr. Korot provided a brief overview of what the program would entail. The Council provided a thumbs up.
- She introduced Mr. Don Moore, Oregon Zoo Director, and Ms. Sheri Horiszny, Deputy Zoo Director. The zoo directors discussed Oregon Zoo elephant "Shine", who had recently tested positive for tuberculosis. Ms. Horiszny outlined the steps that had been taken and new protocols that had been put into place to protect elephant, other zoo animal, and human health, including increasing the frequency of testing for the disease.

**Work Session Topics:**

2:10 Technical Elements of the Metro Land Use Analytic Toolkit

Mr. Jeff Frkonja, Research Center Director, introduced the Metro Land Use Forecasting toolkit. Mr. Frkonja discussed the tool's underlying analytic principles, and highlighted that analytic integrity derived from Metro's values of public service, excellence, and teamwork. He explained to the Council the respective roles that decision-makers, planning staff, and Research Center analysts played in maintaining analytic integrity. Mr. Frkonja outlined where analysis informed the regional land use process. He provided the Council with a Land Use (LU) toolkit overview, explaining that the LU toolkit was composed of the Regional Economic Model, the Buildable Lands Inventory (BLI), the MetroScope, and the Distributed Forecast. Mr. Frkonja introduced the enhanced BLI and its methodology. Mr. Frkonja discussed re-validating the MetroScope model by observing the key variable of price. He informed the Council of Metro staff's planned technical outreach, and explained that experts were to review the BLI enhancements, the MetroScope model, and the Range Forecast for validity. Mr. Frkonja discussed ongoing stakeholder engagement leading up to the 2018 Urban Growth Report (UGR) and subsequent urban growth management decision. He informed the Council of forecast information that was likely to appear in the 2018 UGR. Mr. Frkonja discussed definitions of the terms "scenario" and "alternative".

***Council Discussion:***

Councilor Collette asked about the order of steps in the process, and why the urban growth boundary (UGB) amendment preceded the regional forecast distribution to cities and counties. Councilor Dirksen had a question about the process, related specifically to efficiency measures. Council President Hughes spoke about the complicated issue of deciding whether the region was in need of more designated industrial lands. The Council discussed the way in which large-scale industrial needs were idiosyncratic and difficult to forecast. Councilor Chase sought to clarify his understanding of scenarios, alternatives, and forecasting.

Mr. Frkonja explained to the Council that the RC based its forecasts on real world data and projections, not aspirations. Council President Hughes asked if there was a way to incorporate the Economic Value Atlas information into the analytic process. Councilor Craddick highlighted that geography and topography were factors that limited industrial land development. Mr. Frkonja noted that land accessibility played a role in the desirability of land.

### 3:00 Legislative Update

Mr. Andy Shaw, Policy Advisor, provided an update on the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) lobby day. He discussed elements of the proposed state transportation package, including: a request for 150 million dollars of lottery funding for the Southwest Corridor light rail project, a .1 percent employee payroll tax, and the three proposed uses of payroll tax money. The proposed uses included TriMet funding for the Low Income Fares Task Force (LIFT) program, bus service enhancement, and service enhancement to businesses that contributed large amounts of money to the payroll tax but had underserved employees. Mr. Shaw informed the Council that an analysis of the impact that a payroll tax would have on low income individuals was being performed. Mr. Shaw went on to discuss the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)'s Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) and Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

### ***Council Discussion:***

Councilor Craddick noted that the Southwest Corridor project request for 150 million dollars of lottery funding seemed to be the weakest part of the transportation package, and inquired about what else they could do to fund the project if the lottery funds could not be secured. Councilor Chase addressed concerns he had heard from unions about payroll taxation. Councilor Stacey discussed active transportation safety as part of a 2018 ballot measure package. Councilor Craddick commended staff for their

JPACT lobby work. Councilor Dirksen spoke about an upcoming discussion between elected officials throughout the region regarding the structure of a regional bond measure and the governance of transportation funds; Councilor Stacey inquired whether a City of Portland representative would be present at the discussion, and noted that the outcome of the conversation would be questionable if it took place without a Portland representative. Councilors discussed how best to engage the Portland City Council. Councilor Dirksen stated that surcharge funds would preferably be governed by the current MPO, the Metro Council, and the Metro advisory committee JPACT. Council President Hughes noted that many states utilize sales tax to fund transportation projects; Mr. Shaw clarified that states utilize sales tax for transit projects, but most rely on a gas tax to fund highway projects. Councilor Craddick asked if there was any resistance to the concept of a surcharge. Mr. Shaw stated that there was debate surrounding how the surcharge should be governed and allocated, but not resistance to the surcharge itself.

**3:45 Councilor Communication**

On behalf of Councilor Collette, Ms. Martha Bennett informed the Council that the Army Corps of Engineers would be opening a Willamette Falls Locks public comment period.

**4:00 Adjourn**

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Metro Council work session at 4:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Taylor Unterberg, Council Policy Assistant

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