

# **Metro**

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**Metro**

## **Minutes**

**Tuesday, November 21, 2017**

**2:00 PM**

**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, Shirley Craddick, Sam Chase, Carlotta Collette, and Kathryn Harrington

**Councilors Excused:** Councilor Dirksen

Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council work session to order at 2:04 p.m.

**2:05 Chief Operating Officer Communication**

Ms. Martha Bennett, Chief Operating Officer, congratulated Councilor Collette on serving 10 years as a Metro Councilor. Ms. Bennett noted that the ordinance for proposed food scraps policy had been delayed until February 2018. Ms. Elissa Gertler, Director of Planning and Development, introduced Metro's New Deputy Director of Planning and Development, Ms. Margi Bradway. Ms. Gertler, shared the Ms. Bradway would work on regional planning, the Willamette Falls Legacy Project (WFLP), and various other transportation and development projects.

**Work Session Topics:****2:10 Draft Willamette Falls Legacy Project Master Plan**

Ms. Lisa Goorjian, Operations Director for Parks and Nature, indicated that the presentation would cover the Willamette Falls Legacy Project Draft Master Plan. Ms. Goorjian recounted that the project was initiated after the closing of Blue Heron paper mill. She shared that the Willamette Falls was mostly closed off to the public for more than a century, thus, Oregon City, Clackamas County, Metro and the State of Oregon were working with the site's private owners, stakeholders and thousands of community

members to bring people up close to the falls. Additionally, the WFLP would also incorporate Newell Creek Canyon, Canemah Bluff Nature Park, and Willamette Narrows.

Mr. Brian Moore, Project Manager for the WFLP, shared that the preliminary plan for the Riverwalk was introduced to the public in June 2017. Mr. Moore reiterated the main concepts involved with the WFLP: providing the public with access to the Willamette Falls, historical and cultural interpretation, economic redevelopment of the Willamette Falls area, and establishing a healthy habitat.

Ms. Alex Gilbertson, Senior Regional Planner, briefly summarized the framework of the site where the Riverwalk would be developed. Ms. Gilbertson recounted that the WFLP Vision and Master Plan were initiated in 2013.

Afterwards, community events were held in Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, and Spring 2017. Ms. Gilbertson also mentioned that site investigations, community conversations, and online surveys were a part of the concept planning process for WFLP. Moreover, she noted that during the middle phase of 2018, construction would begin. In regard to community feedback, Ms. Gilbertson indicated the conservation priorities, cultural considerations, accessibility for people with mobility constraints, and interpretive services were core priorities.

Ms. Gilbertson provided a breakdown of the four areas that would incorporate the Riverwalk- Area 1: North Riverfront, Area 2: South Riverfront, Area 3: Portland General Electric Dam and Mill E, Area 4: Canemah. In reference to site development, Ms. Gilbertson shared that 'Mill O' would be used as a building to view the falls indoors. The public yard on the South Riverfront would be utilized for events such as concerts and general public gathering purposes.

Additionally, 'Mill H' would provide a panoramic view of the entire site, according to Ms. Gilbertson. 'Mill H' would connect to the Explorer Trail, which would lead to the Hawley Powerhouse Foundation facility- this would provide full public access to the falls. Ms. Gilbertson stated that

phase 1 of the concept plan would involve partial deconstruction of facilities; there was \$19 million for funding phase 1. With Council approval, the Draft Master Plan would be released in late November. On January 4, 2018, the Master Plan would appear before Council for final approval.

*Council discussion:*

Councilor Harrington, in regard to the entire Riverwalk site, wanted clarification on what buildings were privately owned. Ms. Gilbertson explained that the entire site was under Metro-and fellow partner- control with coordination of the property owners. Councilor Harrington thanked staff for their hard work on the WFLP.

**2:40 Councilor Communication**

Councilor Stacey provided a brief overview of the November 20, 2017 Portland Region Value Pricing Advisory Committee meeting.

**2:50 Adjourn**

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Metro Council work session at 2:36 p.m.  
Respectfully submitted,

Amaanjit Singh, Council Policy Assistant