

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Tuesday, August 7, 2018

1:00 PM

Conservation Hall in the Education Center, Oregon Zoo

Council work session

1:00 Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Tom Hughes called the Metro Council work session to order at: 1:05 p.m.

Present: 7 - Council President Tom Hughes, Councilor Sam Chase, Councilor Betty Dominguez, Councilor Shirley Craddick, Councilor Craig Dirksen, Councilor Kathryn Harrington, and Councilor Bob Stacey

1:05 Chief Operating Officer Communication

Ms. Martha Bennett, Metro Chief Operating Officer, announced that she would be out of the office from August 13th to the 24th.

Work Session Topics:**1:10 Oregon Zoo Director Report and Zoo Foundation Update**

Council President Hughes introduced Mr. Don Moore, the Oregon Zoo Director. Mr. Moore explained that the bound construction was close to an end. He added that construction had been going on for over a year. Mr. Moore announced that the Black Rhino exhibit construction would start in the Fall of 2018. He informed the Council that tariff had caused an increase in the cost of materials used in the construction. Mr. Moore shared that policy and budget direction from the Council helped unallocated contingency to ensure that project stay within budget of the bond measure. He added that Oregon Zoo staff would request for the Councils direction when designs were finalized.

Mr. Moore updated the Council on the Conservation action plan. He announced that in June, staff was sent to Bolingo, Asia to help preserve the elephants and orangutans. He noted that there would be documentation of the work staffers would do.

Mr. Moore discussed that from June 2017 to July 2018, 1.7 million people came to the zoo due to outreach and zoo for all. He shared that program zoo for all, had help low income families attend the zoo whenever for five dollars. He added that zoo for all and Twilight Tuesday had encouraged more attendees. He shared that the Oregon Zoo gave tickets to community organizations so more people could have access.

Mr. Moore introduced Mr. Raimund Grube the chair of the Oregon Zoo foundation. Mr. Grube noted that he would give an update to the Oregon Zoo foundation. He shared an update on the Oregon Zoo's members. Mr. Grube informed the council that in 2014, the Oregon Zoo foundation gave three 1 million dollar endowment funds that were distributed around the world. He announced that educational internships were given to teens. Mr. Gube added that Animals welfare for several animals within the zoo had helped various animals within the Oregon Zoo. He shared an update on the Asian elephant endowment fund.

Council Discussion

Councilor Dominguez expressed her excitement for the Oregon zoo. Councilor Harrington shared her appreciation for staff's efforts. Councilor Craddick asked what the target was for how many members. Councilor Dirksen admired the teamwork between the Zoo foundation and the Oregon Zoo. Councilor Dominguez recognized that membership was fairly low in east county and district two.

1:30 Oregon Zoo Financial Update

Council President Hughes introduced Oregon Zoo staff, Ms. Sarah Keane. Ms. Keane shared that she would give an overview of the finances. She discussed the breakdown of generated money from the Oregon Zoo, Metro and the Zoo

foundation. Ms. Keane added that the staff created a structural balanced budget, aligned spending with the mission priorities, operating reserves and infrastructure investments. Ms. Keane noted that there was an estimation that the Oregon Zoo would close the year with \$3 million. She shared that there was a demand for interacting with the animals. Ms. Keane explained that marketing had happened in the airport and on social media. She noted that the Zoo Bond would end in the year 2020.

Council Discussion

Councilor Harrington admired the information provided. Councilor Craddick admired a graph that shows the support that each animal needed.

2:00 How Elephant Lands Enhances Welfare

Ms. Keane introduced Ms. Nadja Wielebnowski and Ms. Sharon Glaser, Oregon Zoo Staff. Ms. Wielebnowski shared that staff had been conducting animal based welfare assessments. She shared that the assessment was a collective of physical, mental and emotional status over a period of time rated between poor to excellent. Ms. Wielebnowski noted that staff looked for responses and behaviors of the animals. She added the welfare indicators were behavioral, physiology and physical appearance and health.

Ms. Wielebnowski introduced Ms. Glaser to discuss the evaluation of the Elephant welfare. She added that the evaluation timeline was from September 2012 to December of 2016 with three phases of transition. Ms. Glaser shared that the elephant welfare based design focused on the physiological, psychological and social needs 24 hours a day. She added that the goal was to encourage activity throughout a day and create a variety of natural behaviors.

Ms. Glaser informed the Council that the evaluation was based on walking distance, reproductive and adrenal hormone analysis and behavior assessments.

She highlighted methods used to track welfare data on a weekly bases were:

- GPS Monitoring
- Multi-institutional study used for distance
- Reproductive hormones in serum are measured for routine management
- Adrenal hormone metabolites in fecal samples
- Behavior video was recorded each individual elephant

Ms. Glaser announced that the elephants used to entire habitat. She recalled that the elephants had indoor and outdoor access during every season. Ms. Glaser added that the elephants were self-directed.

She highlighted the walking distance from the individual elephants in the Elephant lands:

- Chendra averaged 10.9 miles a day
- Sung-Surin averaged 9.6 miles a day
- Samudra walked at least 6 miles a day

Council Discussion

Councilor Harrington shared her thought on the data found.
Councilor Stacey shared his thoughts on elephant welfare.
Councilor Dirksen shared his thoughts.

2:15 Education Center Partnerships

Council President Hughes introduced Mr. Grant Spickelmier, Ms. Jennifer Payne, Oregon Zoo staff and Ms. Leah Schrodt, U.S. Fish and Wildlife staff. Mr. Spickelmier shared that the education center service partnership goals were inspire, raise visibility and advance conservation education in the

region. He shared a list of 28 education center partners. Mr. Spickelmier introduced Ms. Payne. Ms. Payne announced that staff added ten new partners. She noted that an estimation of 30,000 people had interacted with partners in the Nature Exploration Station (the Nest). She shared that themed days attracted more people. Ms. Payne emphasized how the goal was to reach a more diverse range of people. She added that an equity plan was being finalized. Ms. Payne introduced Ms. Schrodt.

Ms. Schrodt announced that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services partnership with the Oregon Zoo with a focus on endangered species. She acknowledged that more people are moving to in urban settings. Ms. Schrodt recommended that urban population should stay informed on Wildlife habitat. She shared that her job was to tell conservational stories and provide hands on learning. Ms. Schrodt added that the staff were scientist. She explained how important it was to stay with the time and keep people in the urban area engage. Ms. Schrodt shared that the staff had engaged with around 20,000 people. She explained the salmon exhibit. Ms. Schrodt announced that there will be a lamprey exhibit. She noted that at the end of the year her staff would evaluate the progress.

Council Discussion

Council President Hughes shared his thoughts on Metro and the Oregon Zoo relationship and lamprey. Councilor Harrington added her thoughts around wildlife and in her district. Councilor Dominguez shared her thoughts on lamprey in the Native American traditions.

2:45 Councilor Communication

Councilor Dirksen shared his thoughts on Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) changes to the transportation rule

and overviewed the experience at the GLEAN art exhibit.
Councilor Harrington announced Tonga Day on August 18th.

3:00 Adjourn

Seeing no further business, Council President Tom Hughes adjourned the Metro Council work session at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



ShaToya Bentley, Council Policy Assistant